

Dear San Marcos City Council,

I am writing to express my support for a proposal before you to name the backstreet across from the Hays County Courthouse "Boyhood Alley."

As you perhaps know, director Richard Linklater's 2014 film "Boyhood" won the Golden Globe for Best Picture-Drama and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture. The film was shot over the course of 13 years such that the viewer witnesses the actual maturation of characters amid an emotionally rich and fulfilling narrative.

It is to San Marcos' credit that our city was selected as one of the locations for this epic film, joining other classic works of cinema partially filmed here like "The Getaway" and "Tree of Life."

In addition to our city's growing reputation as a destination for film-making, Texas State University is investing serious effort and expense into cultivating a new generation of talented filmmakers, as well.

This fall, we will be opening Live Oak Hall, a cutting-edge building for new course offerings in film, video, sound and associated technologies. The building includes a soundstage with green screen, computer lab, recording/sound mix studio with an isolation booth, and a TV studio. Theatre enrollment has risen drastically the past several years, particularly with growing demand for the film concentration.

For these reasons, I encourage Councilmembers to embrace the opportunity to celebrate both San Marcos' film-making legacy as well as its blossoming film-making future by naming the downtown backstreet featured in Linklater's masterpiece film "Boyhood Alley."

Sincerely,
John Fleming



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