

# Sidney Katz Studio symbolizes alumni generosity

**By Alex Miller**  
STAFF WRITER

A large crowd gathered last Thursday, February 17th, to celebrate the rededication of the WIIT studio as the A. Sidney Katz Radio Studio. After making a very generous donation towards the day-to-day operations of the studio, the school decided to honor him through the studio. A brief ceremony included the unveiling of the new studio lettering and an interview of Sid in the WIIT studio itself.

During Sidney Katz' time as an undergraduate at IIT, he worked as an engineering technician, part-time math tutor, and hosted a program on WIIT. At this time, the studio was still located within the basement of a fraternity house of campus. After graduating in 1962 with a degree in electrical engineering, he continued on to work as an engineering technician at Filmo-type Corp. He also acted as a patent examiner within the U.S. Patent Office in Washington D.C. Returning to school in 1966, Katz obtained a law degree from George Washington University and entered his legal career as a law clerk for Hurvitz and Rose. Moving back to Chicago, he became an associate attorney, and then a partner at various Chicago law firms.

For twenty-five years as a co-founder of Welsh & Katz Ltd., Sidney Katz used his knowledge obtained at IIT to fight for the protection of intellectual property, especially that regarding high technology, biotech, and pharmaceutical fields. They merged with Husch Blackwell LLP in 2008, and since then Mr. Katz has been primarily focused on client counseling, licensing, and litigation in all aspects of property law. This means he uses his experience within the U.S. Patent office to help clients with patents,

trademarks, and copyrights. He is especially well known within the business for his "protection of computer programs and video games under copyright laws."

As seen throughout his extensive career, Sid maintains his fond recollections of his beginnings at IIT, using knowledge obtained throughout his undergraduate career to aid in the protection of patents around the nation. As many of our alumni do, he expressed his recognition of the education he received nearly fifty years ago by donating generously to help the students receive the same opportunities he did as an undergraduate.

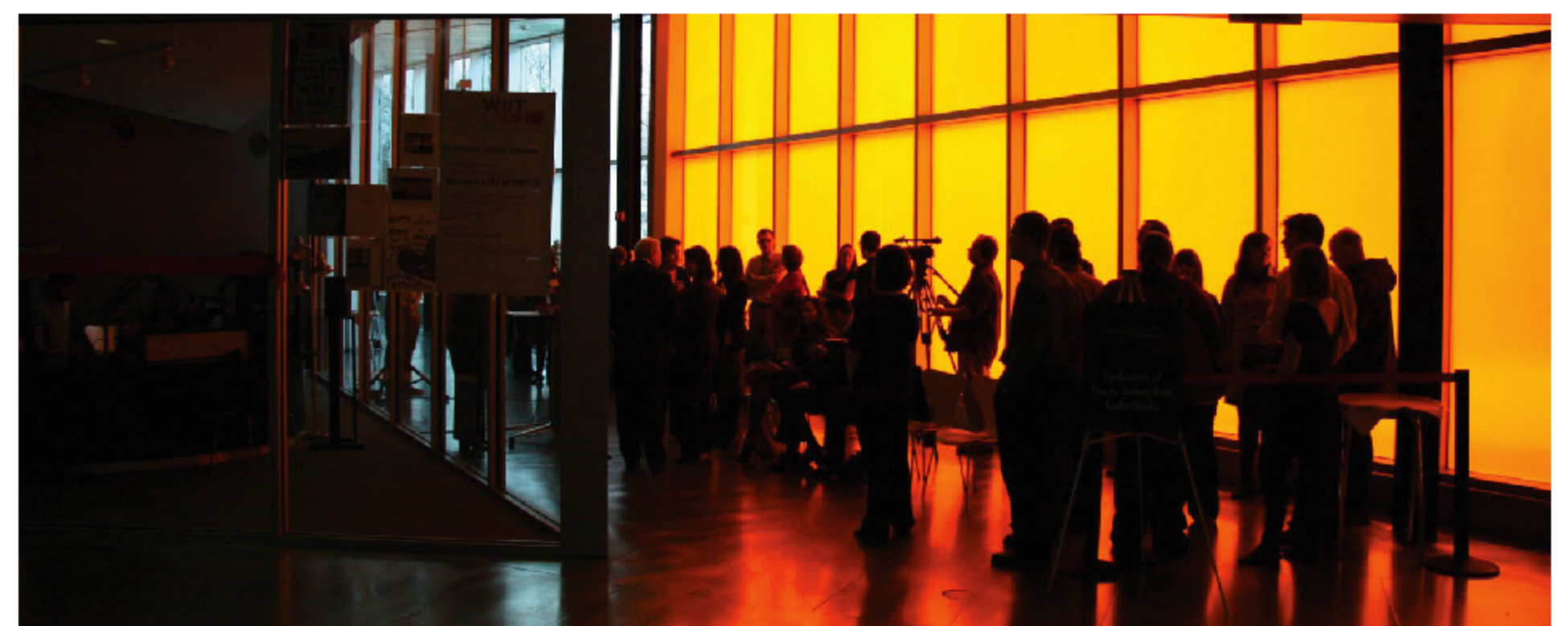
"In the past there's been lab renamings and other such rededications around campus," remarks Lauren Reising, the manager of Development and Alumni Communications. "The biggest gifts coming in are scholarships, and we're always looking for support with that. Every now and then there are generous donations like this, sometimes with a specific thing they want to donate to." In the past year, the lower level of Galvin was renamed after a similar donation from Cheri Schmitt. "In general, there are one or two renaming ceremonies a year." These commend extremely generous donations from alumni, often with the intent of helping a certain specific aspect, such as lab equipment or helping keep the radio station alive.

With the majority of scholarships being provided by alumni donations, the importance of recognizing their generosity and continued support cannot be stressed enough. Small donations combine with other small donations to help students attend this university in hopes of achieving all of their goals.

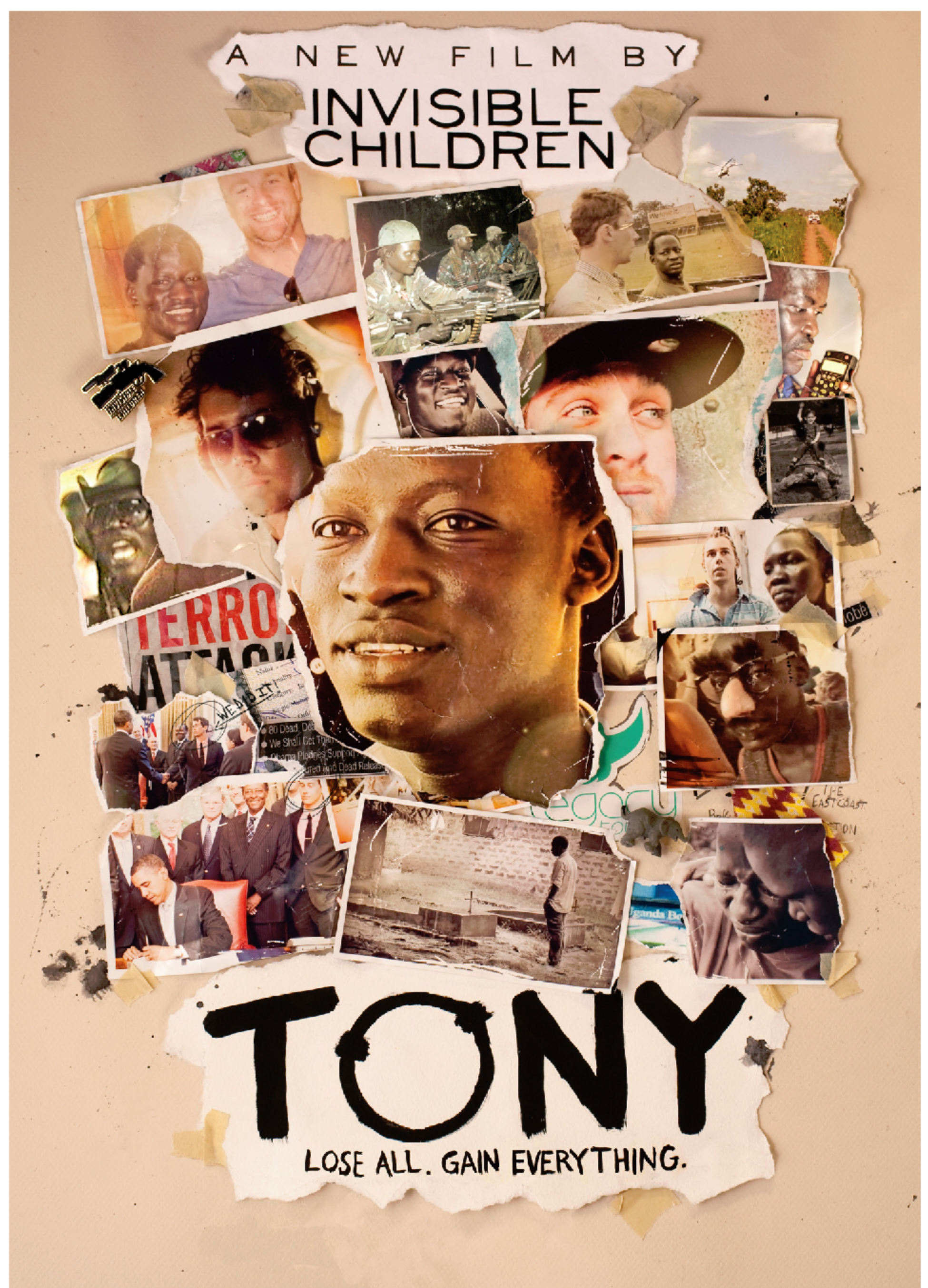
*(Photos courtesy Alex Miller)*



THE A. SIDNEY KATZ (BSEE '62) RADIO STUDIO



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