

Press Kit

35th Annual

Chicago International Children's Film Festival

Children's

Nov 1 — Nov 9

Film Festival

For more info contact Marketing Director, Paul Gonter

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Get Your Press Pass

Our Press Pass gives you access to all Festival screenings and special events.

- Cover the newest international films for kids and teens
- Interview Festival filmmakers, key Facets and Festival players, and audience members
- Promote positive, healthy engagement with media

Apply at festival.facets.org/press

Who We Are

The Festival is a legendary Chicago cultural institution for globally-minded, creative families, educators, and media professionals.

Our mission is to seek out and champion films that represent the best of their kind and can adequately speak to the experience of contemporary kids and teens.

The Festival is run by Facets, a pioneering nonprofit that connects over 30,000 people annually to independent ideas through transformative film experiences.

3 Reasons Why the Festival Rules

High Prestige

We are the oldest and largest children's film festival in North America and the first Oscar-qualifying children's film festival in the world.

Film is a Verb

With our field trips, workshops, and other educational experiences, we move beyond the screen to explore critical thinking, cultural diversity, and film production.

Well Curated

To guarantee the freshest perspectives, our official selection is juried by filmmakers, critics, educators, and even kids.

35th Annual Festival Theme

Build a new world.

This year at the Festival, we're empowering kids and teens to "Build a new world" by constructing bridges across cultural divides, engaging with empathy-driven storytelling, and using creative problem solving to build confidence.

35th Annual Festival Facts

General

Dates: Nov 1 – Nov 9, 2018

Venues: Facets, Music Box Theatre, Davis Theater, U of C: Logan Center for the Arts, Alliance Française de Chicago, Wilmette Theatre, Gorton Community Center, DePaul

Special guests: Filmmakers, actors, jury members, and industry professionals

Audience: Over 20,000 families, teachers, and industry professionals

35th Annual Festival Facts

Films

Official selection: Juried competition with over 250 films

Film types: A wide range of short and feature-length live-action, animation, documentary, and TV

Countries: Films represent over 40 countries

Screenings: 130 screening programs across eight Chicagoland venues

Program strands: Girls POV, STEM, International Perspectives, Refugee and Immigrant Experience, Young Entrepreneurs, LGBTQ+ Pride, and many more

35th Annual Festival Facts

Education

Workshops: Up to 6 hands-on film and technology workshops

Panels and Q&As: Visiting filmmakers and local experts engage with audiences

Field Trips: Over 50 grade-specific field trip screening programs with media education

Schools: Participation by over 150 area schools

35th Annual Festival Highlights

Every year we showcase the best domestic and international films for kids and teens.

Check out some of this year's highlights.



Ploey: You Never Fly Alone

In this beautifully animated film, young golden plover bird Ploey must learn how to be a leader as he braves natural enemies and travels the sweeping Arctic in search of a legendary valley.

Directed by Árni Ólafur Ásgeirsson
Iceland



The Incredible Story of the Giant Pear

When the beloved mayor of Sunnyside goes missing, Elephant Sebastian, Kitty Mitcho, the wacky Professor, and their friends must set sail on their quirky Giant Pear-shaped ship for the Mysterious Island.

Directed by Philip Einstein Lipski
Denmark



Rosie & Moussa

A film about family love, starting a new chapter, and the importance of empathy, *Rosie & Moussa* follows young Rosie as she makes a new friend and adjusts to life in multi-ethnic Molenbeek.

Directed by Dorothee van den Berghe
Belgium



Sing Song

Singer-songwriter Jasmine discovers her roots and inner voice as she joins her guitarist friend Stijn on their way to a song contest in Suriname, South Africa.

Directed by Mischa Kamp
Netherlands



Tito and the Birds

An epidemic is making people sick when they get scared, and so shy Tito must uncover the mysteries behind his missing father's research on bird song to find the cure.

Directed by Gustavo Steinber,
Gabriel Bitar and André Catoto
Brazil



Operation Shadowman

Kid detectives Tiril and Oliver do some super-sleuthing through local lore and historical records as they try to expose whether the Shadowman is behind the puzzling holes in a nearby field.

Directed by Grethe Bøe-Waal
Norway

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