

35th ANNUAL
Chicago
INTERNATIONAL
Children's
Film Festival

The 35th Chicago International Children's Film Festival

The Chicago International Children's Film Festival: Weekday Programs for Grades 6-8

Please join us for programs from the Chicago International Children's Film Festival, the largest film festival for children and youth in North America. The Festival features films from 44 countries. The Festival is Academy Award qualifying. You are cordially invited to see the best in multicultural films for young audiences – films that will open students' eyes and minds to new worlds, new people, and new ideas!

Included in all weekday programs:

- Media education for pre-and-post screenings is included in the total running time for these programs.
- Film curriculum attendant with Common Core standards

Group Screening Agreement

- Groups must arrive at theater 20 minutes before screening.
- Screenings will not be delayed for late groups regardless of size or circumstance.
- *School or organization is responsible for all transportation arrangements.*

Full festival schedule available at <https://www.facets.org/cicff>

Shorts Programs

STANDING TOGETHER

Grades 6-8

Themes: *No Bullies, Please! Inclusivity, collective and individual respect for others' cultures/countries, circumstances, physical abilities*

90 minutes, includes media education

The kids in this collection of short films come together as a group to support each other.

In one short, the 11-year-old boys in a harbor community may be of differing backgrounds, faiths, and families, but they are always there for each other. In another short, a collection of vignettes explores the meanings of physical challenges. In the last short, Fuzzy Mac is a 13-year-old determined to make sense of the National Sorry Day in her class, her community, and her home.

Films from: *France, Netherlands, Australia, Spain*

Languages: *English, Dutch, and Spanish*



AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STORIES

Grades 6-8

Themes: *African and African American Stories*

90 minutes, includes media education

The stories in this collection are woven from many fibers, textures, and complexities from all over the world.

In one animated short, two Senegalese friends come together despite opposition from each other's villages. In another short, local children recreate a Congolese folk tale for each season, so the stories are never forgotten. In the last film, the Sahrawi hero lives in the desert and dreams of swimming in the ocean. What are the borders of his beloved country and are they real or only a memory?

Films from: *USA, Madagascar, Namibia, France, Republic of the Congo, Germany, Netherlands*

Languages: *English, Malagasy, Nama, Lingala, French, Arabic*



Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2018

Weekday screenings for grades 6-8

COURTS DU COLLÈGE

Grades 6-8

Themes: French-based language and culture, books/folklore, good neighbors, adventure, outsiders/fitting in

90 minutes, includes media education

This French-language collection of animated shorts contains tales old and new.

In one film based on folklore, a magic tortoise grants a fisherman and his wife ever-increasingly lavish lifestyle accoutrements, until they get their comeuppance. In another short, the hero is not a typical cut-out character and wants to find his own way in the world. In the last short, the Big Bad Fox looks to prove his hunting mettle with the Wolf, but when he's got an unexpected obstacle in the way of a new brood, can he outwit him?

Films from: France, Belgium, Netherlands

Languages: French, English, and films without dialogue



GENDER GLASSES

Grades 6+

Themes: Identity and learning to be yourself; gender-based bullying; finding support systems

100 minutes, includes media education

Identity is a very significant topic when moving through middle school and into high school. What do all these labels mean?

In one film, a young man has magic glasses that reveal what society designates as “female roles.” In another short, Hannah is ready to start at her new school. Can she bring herself to tell her new friends why she has to use a certain restroom? In the final short, an award-winning documentary highlights different gender pioneers who explore the trans experience.

Films from: Australia, India, Canada

Languages: English



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NO LABELS, NO LIMITS

Grades 7-9

Themes: No Bullies, Please! Rejecting stereotypes; empathy and inclusivity; identity; manipulation of perception; maintaining strong sense of self

90 minutes, includes media education

Just because others try to stereotype the characters in this collection of short films, or exclude them from activities, the heroes find ways to overcome prejudgments other characters try to impose.

In one short, Tis finds his own path when others are just mere look-alike cut-outs. In another film, Wanda overcomes relentless bullying at school and at home by focusing on her new-found passion for sports. With the help of a core group of friends, she can rise above daily setbacks. In the last film, townspeople are either pro-or against the current rulers in Soviet-occupied Estonia. Can Eva make her own judgments on whom to include as a friend?



Films from: Netherlands, Japan, Germany, France, Norway, Estonia

Languages: English, German, French, Estonian, Russian, and films with no dialogue

POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

Grades 7+

Themes: Identity with respect to family legacy and culture

90 minutes, includes media education

The characters in this collection of short films have vivid memories of loved ones recently passed.

Honor the Day of the Dead in celebrating the connections these young people make with lost fathers and grandfathers. In one film, a girl must give a speech at an assembly, but can she bring herself to really connect with her feelings or take the safe route with a speech written for her? In the last film, Ari wants to celebrate the life of her departed grandfather in her own way, recreating memories of times shared together with family in Mexico.



Films from: Canada, Israel, Germany

Languages: English, Hebrew, Spanish, and films with no dialogue.

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TRUE COLORS

Grades 7+

Themes: Gender lens, identity and learning to be yourself; gender-based bullying; finding support systems

90 minutes, includes media education

Moving from middle school to high school, the subjects of straight, gay, non-binary, and gender nonconforming are important conversations to have. But how do we start them?

In one film, a young man has magic glasses that let him see what society deems as "female roles". In another short, the only thing teen Dario wants is to dance in the local celebration of Carnival. If only his mother would quit hassling him about it. Then in the final short, an award-winning documentary spotlights different gender pioneers who analyze the trans experience.

Films from: USA, India, Colombia/Germany, Canada

Languages: English and Spanish



GOING THE DISTANCE

Grades 8+

Themes: Persistence, personal goals, "dare to dream", overcome obstacles, identity

90 minutes, includes media education

The characters in this collection of short films stop at nothing to achieve their dreams.

In one short, mixed-race Esteban proves that, despite obstacles, he can pursue his goal to be an Olympic swimmer. In another short, Romany girl Miruna is tasked with caring for all her siblings while her parents work. She dreams of leaving home to go to the academy and become a police officer. To do so, she must find a way to excel in school while juggling her hefty family obligations. Will she be able to succeed?

Films from: China, Colombia/Germany, Brazil, Belgium, Netherlands

Languages: Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Romanian



Feature Film Screening

SING SONG

Grades 6+

Themes: Connection, appreciation of heritage; pursuit of creative career goal; identity; history and culture of Suriname; honesty; friendship; trust

120 minutes, includes media education

How much is Jasmine willing to risk in order to realize her artistic dreams? Or to meet her estranged family? Or to save a precious friendship? What about all three at once?

Jasmine dreams of being a singer-songwriter, but even more, she desires to reconnect with her mother and her South American culture against her Dutch father's wishes. When Jasmine and her duet partner, Stijn, are invited to participate in a singing competition in her birthplace of Suriname, Jasmine takes the opportunity to search for her mother. Her secret search starts to get more complicated, stressing her relationship with her father and Stijn, until ultimately it jeopardizes her place in the competition. Will Jasmine finally find what she has been looking for, her family, home, and a deeper understanding of her identity?

Film from: Netherlands

Language: Dutch w/ English subtitles



Documentary Featurette Film Screening:

PLANET POWER

Grades 5+

Themes: Energy conservation, environmental long-term sustainability, greenhouse effect and climate change; history of electricity; solar engineering; renewable energy industry; individual's pursuit of dreams and career goals

90 minutes, includes media education

In this film, we watch the journey of one scientist and environmentalist to living his life-long dream of flying without hurting our Earth.

Piccard is an explorer. In 1999, he was part of the first nonstop trip around the world in a hot air balloon. But when he landed, he noticed there was very little fuel left in the tank and the environmental issues that came with that. Piccard vowed to make another trip using no fuel at all. For the next sixteen years, he would work toward the creation of Solar Impulse, a flight powered solely by the sun, to fulfill his dream of a flight without fuel. Piccard was able to make huge strides towards a sustainable earth, but how will we continue to advocate for the preservation of our environment?

Film from: France

Language: English [Dub]



Shown with two related short films:

One Small Step
Stardust

USA
Mexico

English
Spanish w/ English subtitles