And Yet We Are Not Superheroes - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
Belgium/Portugal/France, French w/ English subtitles
12 minutes
Directed by: Lia Bertels

When you’re a child, there’s this fragile moment where the boundary between fantasy and reality is shattered. This is the testimony of children between the two worlds, to whom the word was given freely.

Screenings:
– AND YET WE ARE NOT SUPERHEROES Ages 13+
– EXPERIMENTAL STATION Ages 13+

Wednesday - Chicago Premiere

Live-action Short
Canada, French
12 minutes
Directed by: Lisa Delhom, Jérémy Paquet

When the school bus doesn't arrive, Iris and Leo decide to take a holiday, exploring Montreal.

Screenings:
– ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
– OUT AND ABOUT Ages 8-10
Hungry Bear Tales: "Truffles" - Chicago Premiere

Animated TV
Czech Republic/Czech/English, French w/ English subtitles
7 minutes
Directed by: Katerina Karhankova, Alexandra Majova

One day while looking for a tasty new treat, two bears might need help from two boars. They find it’s okay to ask for a little assistance.

Screenings:
- FIRST IMPRESSIONS Pre K & K
- PEAS IN A POD Pre K & K
- SO HIGH UP Grades K-2
- BEST INTENTIONS Grades K-2, Ages 2-5
- FINE AND DANDY Ages 2-5
- ANIMAL ANTICS Ages 2-5

Boriya - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, English/French w/ English subtitles
18 minutes
Directed by: Min Sung Ah

During busy farming season, a girl tries to create her own adventure.

Screenings:
- OUT AND ABOUT Ages 8-10
Esperança - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, French w/ English subtitles
6 minutes
Directed by: Cécile Rousset, Jeanne Paturle, Benjamin Serero

In this animated documentary, the character recounts her father’s disappearance in Angola upon arriving in small French city's train station. She sets herself up successfully and doesn't look back. There is more to learn each day.

Screenings:
- AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LEGACIES Ages 16+

Genius Loci - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, French w/ English subtitles
17 minutes
Directed by: Adrien Mérigeau

One night, a loner sees within the urban chaos a mystical oneness that seems alive, like some sort of guide.

Screenings:
- GENIUS LOCI Ages 15+
**Lupin - World Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France, French w/ English subtitles  
12 minutes  
Directed by: Helene Ducrocq

A young wolf ventures out of his burrow for the first time, while his mother is busy hunting. Lost and frightened, he finds a shelter in a garden. Jeanne, Gaston and Louis, the hunters’ children find him, and decide to bring him back to his home.

**Screenings:**  
− ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10  
− NEW FRENCH ANIMATION Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13

**Precious - North American Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France, French w/ English subtitles  
14 minutes  
Directed by: Paul Mas

Julie desperately tries to fit in with her classmates as she is forced to choose between social acceptance and her friendship with Emile, the new student with special needs who is constantly bullied.

**Screenings:**  
− GENIUS LOCI Ages 15+
Salima - North American Premiere

Live-action Short Film
France, French w/ English subtitles
15 minutes
Directed by: Marie Cecile Lucas

Elise is responsible for delivering school assignments to her best friend, Salima, who has a serious illness. Elise struggles to understand how to take care of her friend while dealing with her own emotions of fear and loss. When Salima says that she might die, Elise dreams of their metaphorical journey together.

Screenings:
- TELL ME A SECRET Ages 11-13
- WHEN THE RAIN STOPS Ages 11-13

Shoom's Odyssey - Chicago Premiere

Animated TV
France, French w/ English subtitles
26 minutes
Directed by: Julien Bisaro

Being born during a storm is never easy, much less having to take care of a sibling - and find Mama, as well. One brave baby owl sets off to do just that. Can family be who you make it?

Screenings:
- FINDING MY WAY Grades K-2
- FAMILY TIME Ages 5-8
**Sledge - Chicago Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France, French w/ English subtitles  
13 minutes  
Directed by: Mickaël Dupré

One snowy day, a sister enlists her brother to recreate a childhood adventure.

**Screenings:**  
- NEW FRENCH ANIMATION Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13  
- SIBLING STORIES Ages 15+

**Tuesday from 8 to 6 - Chicago Premiere**

Live-action Short Film  
France, French w/ English subtitles  
27 minutes  
Directed by: Cecilia de Arce

A guidance counselor and student land in the middle of a situation that gets totally blown up when the former had no idea of the consequences of a kind gesture.

**Screenings:**  
- CORE STRENGTH Ages 15+
Umbrellas - World Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, French w/ English subtitles
10 minutes
Directed by: Jose Prats, Alvaro Robles

In a faraway land where the rain never stops, Kyna spends her days playing under the protective "umbrella-beard" of her father. One night, Kyna’s beloved dog Nana disappears. To find her, Kyna will embark on an adventure of self-discovery and face her great fear, the Rain.

Screenings:
- ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5
- TOGETHER TIME Ages 8-10

So High Up - Chicago Premiere

Animated TV
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles
13 minutes
Directed by: Shicong Zhu

A family is spending holidays in an unexpected place, to the annoyance of one resident.

Screenings:
- SO HIGH UP Grades K-2
- FAMILY TIME Ages 5-8
The Cherry On Top - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles
18 minutes
Directed by: Frits Standaert

Once upon a time, a peacock prince seeks solace in eating - but his diet is so unhealthy and his job is so sedentary. One day, inspired by an expert, he changes his lifestyle and the reward is richer than he ever imagined.

Screenings:
- ACTION PLAN Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- TALES WITH TAILS Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- ADVENTURES AWAIT Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- FINDING MY WAY Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- COMPARE AND CONTRAST Grades 3-5
- ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
- NEW FRENCH ANIMATION Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
The Little Red Chick - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles
13 minutes
Directed by: Celia Tisserant

One day, it’s up to the Little Red Chick to get the other farm animals to accomplish a big goal. Is he up for the task? Follow the leader, one step at a time.

Screenings:
- CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS Grades K-2
- ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
The Little Wide-Mouthed Frog - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles
8 minutes
Directed by: Celia Tocco

An inquisitive little frog with a large appetite goes off to discover the river bank in search of new things to eat. On her way, she meets some of the animals that live in the neighborhood—a mole, a rabbit, a deer, a mouse—and asks them what they eat. Well... what do you think herons, foxes and snakes eat?

Screenings:
- TALES WITH TAILS Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- STEM: WORLDS AROUND ME Grades K-2
- ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
- THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA Ages 8-10
**The Tiger and his Master - Chicago Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles  
8 minutes  
Directed by: Fabrice Luang-Vija

Deep in a lush Asian jungle, a Tiger has a rather embarrassing problem: awkward and clumsy, he is incapable of hunting and catching his prey. Until he meets a Cat, a skilled predator, who will teach him the art of hunting.

**Screenings:**  
− DREAMERS WANTED  Ages 8-10

**Worms of Earth - Chicago Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France/Belgium, French w/ English subtitles  
8 minutes  
Directed by: Helen Ducrocq

The work of the humble earthworm is an essential part of our ecosystem. What happens to upset the balance when non-organic practices take place?

**Screenings:**  
− STEM: HUMAN IMPACT Grades 3-5  
− NEW FRENCH ANIMATION Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13  
− STRONG INDEPENDENT SPACE Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
Our Lady of the Nile - Chicago Premiere

Live-action Feature Film
France/Belgium/Rwanda, French/Kinyarwanda w/ English subtitles
93 minutes
Directed by: Atiq Rahimi

Rwanda, 1973. Our Lady of the Nile is a prestigious Catholic boarding school perched high on a hill, where teenage girls are groomed to take their place with the Rwandan elite. With graduation on the horizon, they share the same dormitory, the same dreams and concerns. But throughout the country, as well as within the school, deep-seated ethnic antagonisms are stirring. The story is set during Hutu rule, where there was a quota limit on including Tutsi students. Slow-burning resentments are fueled until one leader makes a terrifying decision that changes these young girls’ lives and the entire nation forever. Based on the acclaimed French-language novel by Scholstique Mukasonga

Screenings:
- Weekend Features Ages 15+
Northern Lights - Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Switzerland, French w/ English subtitles
15 minutes
Directed by: Caroline Attia

Colin has lived with his grandfather, Karl, since his parents died. When Karl goes narwhal hunting, Colin travels as a stowaway in his shelter-sled. He will have to overcome his fears and learn the secrets of the Far North.

Screenings:
− NORTHERN LIGHTS Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
− NEW FRENCH ANIMATION Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
− TOGETHER TIME Ages 8-10
− GRAB MY HAND Ages 11-13
− LIKE HOW I REMEMBER Ages 11-13

Portraitist - Chicago Premiere

Live-action Short Film
Luxembourg, French w/ English subtitles
16 minutes
Directed by: Cyrus Neshvad

A long-lost grandfather kindles a relationship with his ailing granddaughter through their mutual talent for drawing and painting.

Screenings:
− PASSING THE TORCH Ages 11-13
Man Up! - North American Premiere

Live-action Feature Film
France, French w/ English subtitles
88 minutes
Directed by: Benjamin Parents

Tom is an introverted 16-year-old, ready to start at a new high school. Tom plays by the rules and just wants to fit in and not disappoint anyone. As always, he can count on his popular older brother, who’s destined for a sports future. Best of friends, Tom can always rely on Leo for advice and tips. Especially important are his older brother’s social strategies: how to integrate with the “right crowd”, as well as how to navigate difficult situations, both on the basketball court and off. His advice for the long-term and on a daily basis is invaluable, as only a big brother’s can be. However, at some point it becomes clear that Tom must learn to be there for himself and not lean on his mentor. Can he truly “man up”?

Screenings:
— WEEKEND FEATURES Ages 16+
Athleticus 2: “Guides” – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
3 minutes
Directed by: Nicolas Deveaux

Two flamingos find a lone glove on the ski slope. They play a game in which one puts the glove over their head and the other must guide them down the slope.

Screenings:
- EVERYDAY CHALLENGES, EVERYDAY SOLUTIONS Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
Athleticus 2: “Mogul Skiing” – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
3 minutes
Directed by: Nicolas Deveaux

A pair of kangaroos complete an impressive mogul skiing routine. They are followed by a pair of flamingos who make it down the hill on top of rolling hippos in a surprising run.

Screenings:
- LAND HO’! Ages 8-10
Athleticus 2: “One Rink for Two” – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
3 minutes
Directed by: Nicolas Deveaux

When a pair of flamingos are practicing their figure skating routine, several elephants come onto the ice for a game of hockey. The flamingos join the game and gracefully score against them.

Screenings:
- ACTION PLAN Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- LAND HO’! Ages 8-10
Athleticus 2: “Sled” – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
3 minutes
Directed by: Nicolas Deveaux

A group of puffins working the luge track have a little party, but a sea lion steals their box of fish. They chase him down the track, but the sea lion has some accomplices who help him slide off the main track and escape the puffins.

Screenings:
- BEST INTENTIONS Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- SETTING SAIL Ages 5-8
- THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA Ages 8-10
CICFF 2020 French Films

**Athleticus 2: “The Encounter” – Chicago Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France, Nonverbal  
3 minutes  
Directed by: Nicolas Deveaux

During a free skate, a puffin crashes into a small turtle, but they wound up friends. After grabbing a drink, they return to the ice where the turtle teaches the puffin to figure skate. They eventually perform together, perfecting an impressive routine.

**Screenings:**  
- ALL WE NEED IS LOVE Ages 5-8

**Ginkgo – North American Premiere**

Animated Short Film  
France, Nonverbal  
6 minutes  
Directed by: Romain Beuriot

What starts out as an adventure turns out a little scary, but this character will find its place in the world.

**Screenings:**  
- OUT AND ABOUT Ages 8-10
The Kindergarten Show – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
8 minutes
Directed by: Loic Bruyere

In a theater, an owl schoolmaster tries to present the year-end kindergarten show. Unfortunately, the evening does not go as planned, because one unforeseen event after another occurs even before the curtain rises.

Screenings:
- PEAS IN A POD Grades PreK & K
- THE KINDERGARTEN SHOW Grades K-2, Ages 5-8
- ANIMAL ANTICS Ages 2-5
- BEST INTENTIONS Ages 5-8

Maija – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
7 minutes
Directed by: Arthur Nollet and Julien Chen

In the Nordic Islands, Maija, a little girl, waits for the return of her father, away at sea. But the weather is worsening and her father is not coming back. Every day it gets more difficult!

Screenings:
- ARE WE THERE YET Ages 8-10
O28 – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
6 minutes
Directed by: Otalia Caussé and Geoffroy Collin

A pair of tourists go on a thrilling tramcar adventure that is not in the guidebooks.

Screenings:
- LAND HO’! Ages 8-10

Umbrellas – World Premiere

Animated Short Film
France, Nonverbal
10 minutes
Directed by: Jose Prats and Alvaro Robles

In a faraway land where the rain never stops, Kyna spends her days playing under the protective "umbrella-beard" of her father. One night, Kyna’s beloved dog Nana disappears. To find her, Kyna will embark on an adventure of self-discovery and face her great fear, the Rain.

Screenings:
- ALLEZ-OOP! Grades 3-5, Ages 8-10
- TOGETHER TIME Ages 8-10
A Lynx in the Town – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Switzerland, Nonverbal
7 minutes
Directed by: Nina Bisiarina

A curious lynx leaves its forest, attracted by the lights of the nearby town. It has great fun there until it falls asleep in the middle of a parking lot. In the early morning, locals are astonished to find this strange animal covered in snow.

Screenings:
- NORTHERN LIGHTS Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
- STRONG INDEPENDENT SPACE Grades 6-8, Ages 11-13
- ADVENTURES AWAIT Ages 5-8
- THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA Ages 8-10
- OUT AND ABOUT Ages 8-10

Flow – Chicago Premiere

Animated Short Film
France/Netherlands, Nonverbal
14 minutes
Directed by: Adriaan Lokman

A turbulent day, painted by air.

Screenings:
- EXPERIMENTAL STATION Ages 13+
Kid Trails  https://face-foundation.org/programs-festivals/kids-trail/
Face Foundation  https://face-foundation.org/
Cultural Services of the French Embassy : https://frenchculture.org/