

34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
Chicago  
INTERNATIONAL  
Children's  
Film Festival

# The 34<sup>th</sup> Chicago International Children's Film Festival

October 27<sup>th</sup> - November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## The Chicago International Children's Film Festival School Field Trips: Middle School Programs

Please join us on a field trip to the 34<sup>th</sup> Chicago International Children's Film Festival, the largest film festival for kids and teens in North America. Festival dates are October 27 – November 5.

Get more information and book a field trip: <https://festival.facets.org/>

This year we're screening over 280 films from 47 countries and since the Festival is Academy Award qualifying, one of the films your student sees might win an Oscar! Festival filmmakers will also be in attendance at select screenings for post-screening Q&A's.

For your field trip, please choose from short film programs or feature films. We have screenings at 8 venues in the Chicago area, ranging from Hyde Park to Wilmette. The Festival provides media education for all field trips, with curriculum attendant to the Common Core Standards and interactive discussions led by trained media educators.

We hope that your class will be able to come see the best multicultural films for young audiences – films that will open students' eyes and minds to new worlds, new people, and new ideas.

### Multiple Venues

- **Facets**  
1517 W Fullerton, Chicago
- **The Music Box Theatre**  
3373 N Southport Ave, Chicago
- **University of Chicago: Logan Center for the Arts**  
915 E 60th St, Chicago
- **Davis Theater**  
4614 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago
- **Alliance Française**  
810 N Dearborn St, Chicago
- **Instituto Cervantes**  
21 W Ohio St, Chicago
- **Wilmette Theatre**  
1122 Central Ave, Wilmette

Friday, October 27; Monday, October 30; Tuesday, October 31; Wednesday, November 1; Thursday, November 2; and Friday, November 3.

## LOTTE & LUISE – TWINS ON BOARD

Grades 4-6

**113 minutes**, including media education

Friday, November 3

10:15AM – 12:08AM

Davis Theater 2

Live-Action Feature Film

Germany

In German, English subtitles

Directed by: Lancelot von Naso

P (for profanity)



Based on the classic novel of the same name by Erich Kästner, which was the source for the popular *Parent Trap* films, the latest version of *Lotte & Luise* follows the twins on summer break. Lotte is much more conservative and is studying classical piano, while Luise is an adventurer, world traveller and very confident of herself. While their mother is a cautious and careful woman, their father is a hip world music artist, just returning from gigs and tours. Where did each girl inherit her talents and abilities, how will they pull off the switch without a hitch? What's it like to be part of a completely unexpected "blended" family?

Themes: teamwork, identity, family.

## THE LEGEND OF TIMM THALER OR THE BOY WHO SOLD HIS LAUGHTER

Grades 5-7

**122 minutes**, including media education

Friday, October 27

10:15AM – 12:17PM

Music Box Theatre 2

Live-Action Feature Film

Germany, in German with English subtitles

Directed by: Andreas Dresen

P (for profanity)



Timm Thaler may be poor, but he is rich with friends and has a positive outlook. In fact, his laughter is so charming and contagious that the diabolical Baron Lefuet wants it for himself at all costs. Timm found a job working at a swanky hotel, where he meets Baron Lefuet, the world's richest. The Baron makes Timm a sketchy offer: in exchange for his laugh, Timm will win every bet he makes. To help out his father, Timm agrees to the deal. Now, Timm has everything he could dream of, except there is no turning back and the stakes are higher than ever. Only his true friends can help him break away from the Baron's devilish schemes.

Themes: Fantasy/adventure; personal responsibility; friendship/teamwork; greater outcomes of personal bad decisions; greed and its outcome.

## ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Grades 4-6

**94 minutes**, including media education

Friday, October 27

11:45AM – 1:19PM

Facets Theater 1

Thursday, November 2

9:45AM – 11:19AM

Reva and David Logan Center

Chickens for Kimaru

Jesser and the Sugarcane

Tsering: On Top of the World

Spotlight on Merna

Kojo: A Short Documentary

Netherlands

Netherlands

Germany

Netherlands

USA

English, Swahili

Spanish

Nepalese

Arabic, English

English



No matter where they're from, the young people in these films have what it takes to dream big and achieve their goals. In the first film, Kimaru can't afford school in Soweto, even though he really likes it, until he finds he has a hidden entrepreneurial skill. In the next film, Jesser is passionate for plants. He has a talent for bringing out the best in his backyard in Nicaragua. In another short doc, we follow a young Iraqi refugee, the plucky and talented Merna who was a finalist on Voice Kids. Can she continue her dream?

Themes: Dare to Dream/Identity/Persistence/Career goals and aspirations/Manage Expectations

## HALLOWEEN: "REVOLTING RHYMES"

Grades 6-8

**96 minutes**

Monday, October 30

10:00AM – 11:36AM

Instituto Cervantes



Citipati

Tik Tak

Revolting Rhymes: "Part One"

Revolting Rhymes: "Part Two"

Germany

Estonia

England

England

Nonverbal

Nonverbal

English

English

From the creators of the Academy Award nominated *The Gruffalo*, comes a new visionary adaptation of Roald Dahl's wacky retelling of classic fairy tales. Get a new look at *Red Riding Hood*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *The Three Little Pigs*, *Cinderella*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*. These classics will never be the same.

Themes: Dark, updated re-telling of beloved classics, "fractured fairy tales"

*CICFF school field trip schedule 2017 MIDDLE SCHOOL options*

**SPINDRIFT**

Grades 6+  
**89 minutes**, including media education

Monday, October 30  
 11:45AM-1:14PM  
 Music Box Theatre 1

Friday, November 3  
 11:45AM – 1:14PM  
 Wilmette Theatre 2



My Life on Mars  
 Poles Apart  
 Citipati  
 Habitat  
 Au Revoir Balthazar  
 Spindrift  
 The Garden  
 The Burden

France	English
England	English
Germany	Nonverbal
Switzerland	Nonverbal
Switzerland	Nonverbal
Scotland	English
Turkey	Nonverbal
Sweden	Swedish

Animation can have a wild side and can deal with sophisticated themes with edgy approaches to form and format. This program features the best in animation’s varied approaches and style, from stop-motion to hand-drawn documentaries – and everything in between.

Themes: Sci-fi, Fantasy/Identity/Disconnection & Reconnection/Isolation

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE**

Grades 6-8  
**94 minutes**, including media education

Monday, October 30  
 11:45AM – 1:19PM  
 Facets Theater 1



Families and friends are displaced due to many different reasons. The characters in these films, if they are refugees or volunteers, learn a lot from different cultures. Safia, a Libyan refugee, has a bittersweet summer camp experience, when she learns how to treasure new friendships, no matter how long-distanced or short-lived they may be. In a short doc, we follow an Iraqi refugee, the plucky and talented Merna, who was a finalist on Voice Kids. Can she continue her dream? In another doc, two brothers volunteer at a Greek refugee camp and make new friends along the way. In the last film, Syrian-born Ahmad is grateful for his new life in the Netherlands and wants to give back.

Themes: Refugee Life/New Immigrant Perspective/Manage expectations/Paying it forward/Empathy/Standing out, fitting in/Identity/New friends

Scent of Geranium	USA	English
Safia's Summer	Netherlands	Dutch, Arabic
Spotlight on Merna	Netherlands	Arabic, English
Hello Salaam	Netherlands	Dutch, English, Afghan
Ahmad's Hair	Netherlands	Arabic, Dutch

**CLOUDBOY**

Grades: 5-7

**98 minutes**, including media education

Monday, October 30

10:15AM-11:53AM

Music Box Theatre 2

Friday, November 3

11:00AM – 12:38PM

Wilmette Theatre 1



Live-Action Feature Film

Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden,

In Dutch, Swedish, Sami with English subtitles

Directed by: Meikeminne Clinckspoor

Twelve-year-old Niilas has been living with his father in the city and barely knows his Swedish mother. Everything changes when Niilas is sent to live with his mother and her reindeer hearing family in deep in Northern Sweden. Feeling upset and isolated, Niilas does not connect to his new blended family and buries himself in his headphones. But when his new brother's reindeer escapes, Niilas rises to the occasion. Can he disconnect from what he is familiar with and connect with a new way of life?

Themes: Adventure, urban versus natural dwelling/ problem solving/managing expectations/decisions and consequences; bravery, persistence; identity; teamwork, blended family/ empathy and engagement with surroundings and others versus self-imposed isolation/ animals and their habitat/characteristics.

**NO BULLIES, PLEASE!: "HIGHER GROUND"**

Grade 6-8

**84 minutes**, including media education

Monday, October 30

11:45AM – 1:09PM

Reva and David Logan Center



School's Out

Ellee

#WhoWeAre: Bonnie and Myra Brown

Ethnophobia

Medium

Scrap Dolls

USA

China

USA

England

India

USA

English

Nonverbal

English

Nonverbal

English, Hindi

English

Bullying is a constant reality in school and in everyday life. But how we handle bullies and being bullied really makes the difference. In one film, Sharda is the new girl at her private school and gets picked on relentlessly by her popular and privileged classmate Vivaan. Will she let bullying stand in the way of her goals and high standards? In another film, Jason is forced to make a decision that will put him in an awkward position. How can he turn this situation around?

Themes: "No Bullies, Please!" festival edition. Identity/ good decisions and outcomes/ personal and communal situation in turning situation around/ personal reflection, expression/ breaking stereotypes and misconceptions/ whom to reach out to for support.

**BEYOND THE PAGES**

Grades 4-6

**95 minutes**, including media education

Tuesday, October 31  
10:00AM – 11:35AM  
Alliance Française

Friday, November 3  
9:45AM – 11:20AM  
Wilmette Theatre 2



Show with the Mouse:

"The Princess and the Pea"	Germany	German
Beyond the Books	France	Nonverbal
The Little Match Girl	France, Switzerland	Nonverbal
The Unicorn	France, Belgium	French
The Mountain of Sgaana	Canada	English
The Wind in the Reeds	France, Belgium, Switzerland	French

The characters in these films have special powers to leap from book pages to the screen. A new adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Little Match Girl” addresses the somber themes with beautiful animation. We then have an animated adventure adapted from a Pacific Northwest First Nation tale about a heroine who saves her beloved from an evil underwater spirit. Another film is based on a classic French book that tells the story of the medieval Unicorn, full of myth and mystery.

Themes: BASED ON BOOKS - Fairy tales, Myths, Folklore. Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem).

**HALLOWEEN STORIES**

Grades 4-6

**97 minutes**, including media education

Tuesday, October 31  
10:00AM – 11:37AM  
Instituto Cervantes



Little Lunch: "The Halloween Story"	Australia	English
Büi	Iceland	Icelandic
Frogs' Song	France	Nonverbal
Revolting Rhymes: "Part Two"	England	English

The spooky stories in the collection are fun and frightening and include classics from Roald Dahl. Atticus is the star of the school Halloween play, but after he learns his family is uprooting to Malaysia, how is he going to perform on opening night? In another film, Anna is challenged to retrieve a soccer ball from a witch’s house in her new town. In the last film, from the creators of the Academy Award-nominated *The Gruffalo*, we have a new look at Roald Dahl’s re-telling of classic fairy tales.

Themes: Facing Fears, Coming together as friends to stop Monsters; Fractured Fairy Tales

## ODDSOCKEATERS

Grades 5+

**107 minutes**, including media education

Tuesday, October 31

11:45AM – 1:32PM

Facets Theater 1

Animated Feature Film

Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Croatia,

In English (Dubbed)

Directed by: Galina Miklinova



Based on the best-selling books by Pavel Šrut, we're introduced to the lives of the Oddssockeaters, small bandits responsible for socks that go missing when we only have one left from a pair. When the time comes for Hugo to leave home and move in with his uncle 'Big Boss' and his two nutty cousins, he encounters the Professor, who has devoted his life to revealing the existence of these crafty creatures to the world. If this weren't enough, Hugo must rescue his cousin from Sid and his rival greedy gang who live across town. Wacky and weird adventures ensue, as Hugo learns valuable lessons along the way about family, the limits of greed, and the true meaning of loyalty.

Themes: Friendship, loyalty; outcomes of bad deeds (gluttony/greed); adventure.

## LONG AGO TALES

Grades 6-8

**90 minutes**, including media education

Tuesday, October 31

11:45AM – 1:15PM

Music Box Theatre 1



The Mountain of Sgaana

Minotaur

Hedgehog's Home

The Little Match Girl

Revoltin' Rhymes: "Part One"

Canada

Latvia

Canada

France, Switzerland

England

English

Nonverbal

English

Nonverbal

English

Have fun with these animated adaptations of spellbinding literature, from the classic to the modern. A new adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Match Girl" addresses the somber themes with beautiful animation. We then have an animated adventure adapted from a Pacific Northwest First Nation tale about a heroine who saves her beloved from an evil underwater spirit. Then, from the creators of the Academy Award-nominated *The Gruffalo*, comes a new visionary adaptation of Roald Dahl's dark and wacky retelling of classic fairy tales.

Themes: Based on books, fairytales, myths; rhymed verse. Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth).

## FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

Grades 5-7

**89 minutes**, including media education

Tuesday, October 31

11:45AM – 1:14PM

Reva and David Logan Center

The Little Match Girl

Revolting Rhymes: "Part One"

Revolting Rhymes: "Part Two"

France, Switzerland

England

England

Nonverbal

English

English



These films explore the power of adaptation from literature to animation. A new adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Match Girl" addresses the somber themes with beautiful animation. In a two-parter from the creators of the Academy Award-nominated *The Gruffalo*, we have a new look at Roald Dahl's wacky fairy tales.

Themes: Based On Books: Fairy Tales. Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem).

## NEW HORIZONS, NO LIMITS

Grades 4-6

**83 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

9:45AM – 11:08AM

Facets Theater 1

Come along on a journey with no horizons and no limits to see what is in store for the characters. In the first film, after Tarek emigrates from Syria, he struggles to find birthday gifts for his mother. In another short, a child recounts the differences growing up in East versus West Germany during the Cold War. In the last film, while on holiday two brothers help out at a Greek refugee camp, and make new friends along the way.

Themes: Refugee, immigration adaptation/comparison of experiences growing up in different countries/Dare to Dream/Identity/Self-expression/Persistence



The Gift

The Butterfly

Giant Sweet & Chocolate Marshmallows

Bango Vassil

Spotlight on Merna

Hello Salaam

Germany, Turkey

Canada

Germany

Germany

Netherlands

Netherlands

Arabic

Spanish

German

Bulgarian

Arabic, English

Dutch, English, Afghan

## WINDOW HORSES

Grades 7+

**110 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

10:00AM – 11:50AM

Alliance Française

Animated Feature Film

Canada

In English

Directed by: Ann Marie Fleming



A film about the love of family, history, and culture, *Window Horses* uses poetry to cross cultural lines and break down xenophobic barriers. Stuck flipping burgers, Rosie Ming is secretly a self-published poet. One day, she's invited to a prestigious international poetry festival in Iran. Her over-protective Chinese grandparents don't tell her that her long-gone father might be in Iran. Can she find her own poetic voice and embrace her never-before glimpsed heritage? More imminently, can she carry her own in the big poetry slam? Featuring the voices of Sandra Oh (*Grey's Anatomy*) and Ellen Page (*Juno*). Based on the graphic novel, *Window Horses: the Poetic Persian Epiphany of Rosie Ming*

Themes: poetry, multi-cultural cross-discipline exploration in the arts, immigration, Iranian history in the 1970's; cross-cultural marriage, search for patrilineal connections, grandparents, finding artistic/literary voice; Persian poetry, history, culture; identity, travel & adventure, female roles in traditional culture vs modern Canada, losing preconceptions, co-artist support, bravery.

## HERE'S THE PLAN

Grades 5-7

**94 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

10:00AM – 11:34AM

Instituto Cervantes



Odd is an Egg

Little Mouse

Rouff

Jubilee

The World's Middlest Fish

Kukuschka

Here's the Plan

Norway

Hungary

Germany

France

Norway

Russia

Chile

Norwegian

Hungarian

Nonverbal

Nonverbal

Norwegian

Nonverbal

English

The characters in this program will stop at nothing to pursue their passions. No matter what comes in their way. A Hungarian girl is training for a big qualifying meet. But can she reach the far-off finish line by harnessing her skills of mind and body. In another film, two unfinished sketches are abandoned by The Artist. After they join together, they end up inspiring his best creation. In the last short, Corgi and Cat want to open a bakery, but they get sidelined by her career. Will their plans come true, in the end?

Themes: teamwork, persistence, creative problem solving, personal goals

## GOODBYE TO ALL THAT

Grades 8+

**91 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

10:15AM – 11:46AM

Music Box Theatre 2



Poles Apart

Not Just Another Commute

I Am Here

Kukuska

Au Revoir Balthazar

The Shelter

The Burden

England

France, Belgium

Canada

Russia

Switzerland

Norway

Sweden

English

Nonverbal

English

Nonverbal

Nonverbal

Norwegian

Swedish

The characters in this collection of animated shorts are looking forward to moving on with their lives. This program features the best in animation's varied approaches and style, from stop-motion to hand-drawn documentaries – and everything in between.

## ON WHEELS

Grades 5-8

**92 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

11:45AM – 1:17PM

Music Box Theatre 1

Live-Action Feature Film

Brazil

In Portuguese

Directed by: Mauro D'Addio



After an accident, 13-year-old Lucas is bound to a wheelchair and must learn how to navigate the world in a whole new way, causing him to miss out on the activities he used to love. He admires his classmate, free spirit Laís, who is determined to know more about her father whom she's never met. Together, they hit the road, on a journey through the lush Brazilian countryside, on a road trip where they learn important lessons about family, friendship, and what it really means to be "different."

Themes: identity (heritage/physical abilities and adaptation), dare to dream, manage expectations, overcome obstacles; new friends/romance; coming-of-age; family roots; persistence; Road Trip (adventure)

## MILES AHEAD

Grades 8+

**94 minutes**, including media education

Wednesday, November 1

11:45AM – 1:19PM

Facets Theater 1



Threads

Ships Passing in the Night

Darwin's Cave

Poles Apart

Scrap Dolls

Far From Home

Canada

Germany

Portugal

Singapore

USA

Mexico

Nonverbal

English, Ewe, Italian, Arabic, Tigrinya

Portuguese

English

English

Spanish

The characters in these films make meaningful connections by having open hearts and minds. In one film, Jason has recently lost a close friend. With the unspoken help from a neighborhood artist, he learns how to connect with and pay respect to his feelings. In another short, a tourist is totally out of her element while on vacation. It takes a kind stranger to help turn her trip, and her feelings, around.

Themes: Pay It Forward, Empathy, Coming together tho' miles apart; friendship starts with small gesture.

## THE WAIT

Grades 8+ / Age 14+

**77 minutes**

Thursday, November 2

11:45AM – 1:03PM

Facets Theater 1

Thursday, November 2

11:45AM – 1:03PM

Reva and David Logan Center



Documentary Feature Film

Denmark

In Danish, Dari with English subtitles

Directed by: Emil Langballe

M (for maturity)

Fourteen-year-old Afghan refugee Rokhsar has a lot of weight on her shoulders. Not only does she have school and friends to deal with, but her family's citizenship depends on her. Rokhsar Sediqi lives in Denmark with family. She is popular, does well in school, and is a real leader for her soccer team. There is just one thing wrong: it's been five years and Rokhsar and her family still haven't recieved asylum status. Rokhsar is able to apply on behalf of her family, as a minor, since she has already integrated well and knows the language and customs. As they await the final decision, will the burden and the stress change Rokhsar forever?

Themes: identity, family, immigration, community, support systems; overcoming obstacles, perseverance, surviving trauma as individual/family, understanding differences, representing adult issues while a minor, United Nations Rights of the Child.