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Anisa Raof

Providence Children's Film Festival

anisa@ProvidenceChildrensFilmFestival.org

Providence Children's Film Festival Announces Opening Night Reception and Screenings for Friday, February 17

Full schedule of films, activities and workshops to be released on January 12

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Providence Children's Film Festival, which presents the best of independent and international children's cinema to inspire, delight, educate and connect a diverse community of children and families from Rhode Island and throughout New England, is pleased to announce the Opening Night Reception and Screenings of this year's Festival.

The 8th Providence Children's Film Festival kicks off Friday, February 17 at the RISD Museum's Metcalf Auditorium. This special ticketed event will begin at 5:30 p.m., featuring delicious treats and beverages provided by Delsie Catering & Events and Campus Fine Wines. Following the reception, guests will enjoy a 30-minute screening of **Short 'n Sweet Shorts**, international PCFF-curated short films for children of all ages.

At 7:30 p.m., watch the beautifully crafted claymation film, **My Life As A Zucchini** (Switzerland's official Academy Awards Entry for Best Foreign Language Film 2016 and Golden Globe nominee for Best Animation 2016). This tender tale (suggested for ages 13+) of children living in an orphanage due to the devastating life circumstances addresses challenging issues with subtlety and delicacy without being condescending to younger audiences. The clean and simple animation style works in wonderful contrast to the difficult subject matter, and the characters' expressive faces give us hope for the innocence and resilience of children. **My Life As A Zucchini** is authentic, empathetic, and ultimately uplifting. (Click [here](#) to watch trailer.)

Note: A second screening of **My Life As A Zucchini**, sponsored by Media Smart Libraries, will take place during the Festival on Saturday, February 25, 4:15 PM at RISD Auditorium, 17 Canal Walk (across from RISD Museum), Providence.

Media Smart Libraries, in partnership with PCFF, supports public programming events emphasizing the use of film and media texts to promote expanded literacy in the 21st century. This Festival screening of *My Life as a Zucchini*, hopes to bring awareness that libraries are key agents of change in advancing the digital media literacy of children, teens, and families in their communities.

Tickets for Opening Night and all Festival screenings become available January 20. Visit www.pcffri.org for details.

The Providence Children's Film Festival takes place February 17-26 at main venues within walking distance of downtown Providence and at satellite venues across the state. With more than 10 days of screenings, filmmaking workshops and free activities, along with post-film presentations that help deepen the film-watching experience, this year's Festival will bring a world of film to even more Rhode Island youth and families. For full schedule and ticket details, visit www.pcffri.org.

About Providence Children's Film Festival

The Providence Children's Film Festival (PCFF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was founded in 2009 to bring high-quality, independent and international children's films, animation and documentaries to New England, and to present them as shared theatrical experiences for the community. The festival organizers include artists, educators, librarians, and nonprofit administrators who see value in introducing children to film and animation as a way to help them make connections to both their own and other cultures. For more information, visit www.ProvidenceChildrensFilmFestival.org.

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