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Explore the World at this Year's Providence Children's Film Festival, February 12-22, 2015

Features, Shorts, Workshops, and Presentations

Full film schedule announced!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Providence, RI (January 7, 2015) – The Providence Children's Film Festival (PCFF) returns this February for its sixth exciting year, February 12 to 22, showcasing 18 feature films including both a USA and Rhode Island premiere, over 50 shorts from around the world and the 2nd Annual Youth Filmmaker Showcase. Coinciding with the February 2015 School Vacation, the Festival presents the highest quality independent films for ages 3-18, but are sure to appeal to all audiences with compelling stories and worldwide adventures. Organizers have expanded this year's festival offerings including a variety of film talks and presentations to deepen the movie-watching experience. And due to popular demand there will be more hands-on youth filmmaking workshops than ever before on the weekend of February 7th & 8th.

Festival Expands Community Outreach

The Festival has forged a new community partnership this year with the Providence Public Library/Providence Community Library. Free movie screenings, post-film discussions and workshops will be offered during school vacation week at four libraries in Providence.

The Festival's continued partnership with the RISD Museum provides free screenings of select films on February 13, 15 and 22. The RISD Museum provides FREE museum admission to Festival attendees on February 12, 13, 14 and 21 upon presentation of a Festival ticket stub.

Bringing the world to Rhode Island and fostering film literacy

In just six years, PCFF has become one of the top multi-day film festivals in the country dedicated to programming for young audiences, now rivaling children's film festivals in New York, Chicago, Seattle, and Los Angeles.

This year's programming is as international as ever and brings to area youth a wide range of storytelling and experiences from around the globe, including France, The Netherlands, China, Brazil, U.K., Sweden, Denmark, Japan, and Germany. The program will also include a wide variety of genres and forms—classic cinema, live action, animation, and documentary—paired with an expanded offering of "Film Talks," PCFF's own brand of post-screening discussions that aim to deepen understanding of subject matter and foster critical watching skills.

Kids are Part of the Jury!

At PCFF, youth have a voice from beginning to end in the selection of films. PCFF's Junior Jury is composed of young film enthusiasts from age 5 to 17. At most children's film festivals children only serve on award juries. But PCFF's Junior Jury gives children a unique opportunity and responsibility: working alongside an adult committee to select the final festival program from among hundreds of films that are submitted each year for consideration.

PCFF offers clear parental guidance

Children's films are not always appropriate for all ages. PCFF film listings include recommended ages, notes on thematic elements, and descriptions of potentially challenging content to help parents make informed decisions about what their children see as well providing interesting discussion topics.

2nd ANNUAL YOUTH FILMMAKER SHOWCASE

PCFF is committed to nurturing the work of young “amateur” filmmakers and so is proud to present a juried program of films all made by youth—from here in Rhode Island and around the world—and to provide an opportunity for young filmmakers to talk about both the fun and the challenges they face during the creative process. This exciting screening is designed to encourage talented and committed up-and-coming young filmmakers, and to inspire those who are just thinking about it. This special screening includes a Q&A and discussion with those filmmakers who are able to attend plus a group workshop reel created by students whom attended the PCFF filmmaking workshops.

2015 FESTIVAL FILM SELECTIONS:

ALL AGES

Maya the Bee Germany (In English)/ Animated / 88 min
Okee Dokee Brothers: *Through The Woods - An Appalachian Adventure* USA / Documentary / 50 min
Pim & Pom: The Big Adventure Netherlands (In English) / Animated / 70 min
Singin’ in the Rain USA / Film Classic / 103 min
Song of the Sea (*Rhode Island Premiere*) Ireland / Animated / 93 min
CINEMA CIRCUS: Best of 2014 Martha’s Vineyard Film Fest Multinational / Short Films / 70 min
Your Shorts Are Showin’: 2015 PCFF Collection (Kindergarten Edition) Multinational / Short Films / 75 min
Youth Filmmaker Showcase and Workshop Reel R.I. and beyond! / Short Films / min TBD

FOR AGES 8 +

Antboy Netherlands (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 77 min
Belle and Sebastian France (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 104 min
Finn Netherlands (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 86 min
On the Way to School France (w/ English subtitles) / Documentary / 77 min
PARTY MIX: Best of 2014 New York Int’l Children’s Film Fest Multinational / Short Films / 71 min
The Boy and the World Brazil (no dialogue) / Animated / 79 min
Ulises and the 10,000 Moustaches Mexico (w/English subtitles) / Live Action / 94 min

FOR AGES 10 +

Dragon Girls China/Germany (w/ English subtitles) / Documentary / 71 min
LOLA on the PEA Germany (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 97 min
Patema Inverted Japan (in English) / Animated / 98 min
Scrap Wood War (*USA Premiere*) Netherlands (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 87 min
Side by Side United Kingdom / Live Action / 105 min
Your Shorts Are Showin’: 2015 PCFF Collection (Elementary Edition) Multinational / Short Films / min TBD
Zip & Zap and the Marble Gang Spain (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 106 min

FOR AGES 13 +

Eskil and Trinidad Sweden (w/ English subtitles) / Live Action / 98 min
Your Shorts Are Showin’: 2015 PCFF Collection (Middle/High Edition) Multinational / Short Films / min TBD

NOTE: for access to high-resolution photos, please click here: <http://pcffri.org/2105-press-film-photo-page/>
See below for full film descriptions and parental guidance. Please visit www.pcffri.org for complete screening schedule.

Locations

Films screen at four venues conveniently located in one Providence neighborhood:
Metcalf Auditorium in the RISD Museum Chace Center, 20 North Main Street
Gilder Center for the Arts - Wheeler School 216 Hope Street
Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts at Brown 154 Angell Street
Avon Cinema 260 Thayer Street.

Tickets

Tickets go on sale in mid-January. Ticket prices are \$9.50 for adult and \$7.50 for youth (under 18) and Seniors (65 and older). Enjoy a Film Fanatic discount when you purchase multiple tickets in a single transaction (online purchases only): 20% off for 10+ tickets or 25% off for 20+ tickets.

Grant Funders, Sponsors, and Community Partners for 2015:

Entelco Foundation, George A. Ramlose Foundation, RI State Council on the Arts, The Providence Tourism Council, Carter Family Charitable Trust, Bank RI, Avon Cinema, Campus Fine Wines, Cox Media, Flatbread Company, French-American School of Rhode Island, Gardner + Gerrish, The Gordon School, Hasbro, Jake and Company, KidInfo, Kreatelier, Lincoln School, Moran Shipping, Moses Brown, New England Film, Providence Children's Museum, Providence Marriott Downtown, Providence Media, Providence Warwick CVB, Rag and Bone Bindery, Seven Stars Bakery, Wheeler School, Whole Foods Market-University Heights, 4 Eyes Design, Embee Studio, Providence Athenaeum, RISD Museum of Art, Site Specific and Residential Properties.

More about PCFF

Mission: *PCFF 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.*

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.

2015 Film Synopsis

ANTBOY

Twelve-year-old Pelé leads a dreadfully dull life in his small Danish town until a bite from a very special ant endows him with the incredible powers of... an ANT! He has an uncontrollable urge to eat sugar; he can climb walls, and he can carry objects many times his size. Will these powers be enough for him to save Amanda (the classmate he pines for) and his hometown from the villain known as "The Flea"? Sit down, Thor and Spiderman--Antboy has arrived!!

Ages 8+ / Denmark, 2013 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Ask Hasselbalch / 77 min

OKEE DOKEE BROTHERS: *Through the Woods – An Appalachian Adventure*

In May 2013, the Okee Dokee Brothers embarked on a month-long trek on the Appalachian Trail. They hiked, camped, met mountain musicians, and wrote the songs that make up their second adventure album, **Through the Woods**. As a follow-up to their Grammy Award-winning album, this documentary invites viewers and listeners along for a journey full of camping, old-time mountain music, miles of hiking—and a few shenanigans.

All Ages / USA, 2014 / Dir. Jed Anderson / 50 min

BELLE AND SEBASTIAN

Sumptuously shot in the sweeping Rhone-Alps, this is the inspiring story of an orphan named Sebastian who befriends Belle, a wild dog wandering in the mountains. Living on the Swiss border during the Nazi occupation of France, Sebastian bravely enlists to guide Jewish refugees safely across the Alps to Switzerland. **BELLE & SEBASTIAN** is a charming homage to the beloved, live-action nature films of classic Disney, but with a pulse-pounding World War II subplot that will enthrall audiences of all ages.

Ages 8+ (threat of physical violence, tense moments) / France, 2013 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Nicolas Vanier / 104 min

ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL

Many films have been made about kids going to extraordinary lengths to avoid school. This stunningly shot documentary (Cesar Award Winner 2014) captures the stories of four children (from Kenya, Patagonia, Morocco and India) and their herculean efforts to get TO school. Instinctively, they know their well-being, and in many ways survival, depend on knowledge and education. This is a film parents might cite the next time their children complain about getting up for school on a Monday morning.

Ages 8+ (threat of physical harm) / France, 2013 / Hindi, Spanish, Arabic, Swahili (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Pascal Plisson / 77 min

FINN

Still mourning the death of his mother, gentle nine-year-old Finn also has to struggle with his father's insistence that he play soccer. When Finn meets a mysterious old man playing a violin at an abandoned farm, the beauty of the music entrances him. Determined to learn how to play, he sneaks away for lessons. Finding comfort and strength in the music, Finn seems to have found his calling...and much more. Pay attention! There are twists in this story that will make you want to see it twice!

Ages 8+ (cursing, bullying) / Netherlands, 2013 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Franz Weisz / 86 min

SIDE BY SIDE

Fearing the possibility of being split up because of their grandmother's illness, a young brother and sister embark on an unforgettable journey through breathtaking landscapes of rural Scotland. **SIDE BY SIDE** is a rare and genuinely heartfelt story about two very different siblings growing closer because they must depend on one another during an unsettling time.

Ages 10+ (cursing, images of family tragedy recalled, senior dementia) / UK, 2013 / Dir. Arthur Landon / 105 min

PIM & POM: The Big Adventure

Created from a long-running Dutch comic strip, Pim & Pom are two adorable cats that love getting into mischief. When their doting owner invites her two nieces for a visit, little do Pim & Pom expect that the girls have in mind a different kind of "cat-napping" than they are used to. Will Pim & Pom find their way back to their beloved owner? The musical score and creative animation style make this film one-of-a-kind.

All Ages / Netherlands, 2014 (In English) / Dir. Gioia Smid / 70 min

THE BOY AND THE WORLD

This wordless, evocative, uniquely original animated film follows Cuca, a young Brazilian boy who ventures from his simple countryside home into a neon-infused, carnivalesque metropolis in search of his father. It's an audio/visual feast. When the credits roll there is a good chance your interpretation of the film might vary from others—but what a ride!

Ages 8+ / Brazil, 2013 (no intelligible dialogue) / Dir. Alê Abreu / 79 min

SONG OF THE SEA

From the director of one of the first PCFF films ever brought to Providence (the Academy Award-nominated **Secret of Kells**), this film is a captivating animated adventure inspired by the ancient Irish legend of the selkies, magical beings who live as seals in the water and as humans on land. A young brother and sister must unlock the magical secrets of their ancestry in order to find their way home.

All Ages (some tense scenes, loss of parent) / Ireland, 2014 / Dir. Tomm Moore / 93 min

PATEMA INVERTED

Patema is a precocious teen who loves to explore the caverns and tunnels of her subterranean world until she falls into the DANGER ZONE! In her inverted gravity world, she falls upwards to the Earth's surface and risks falling into the sky. Saved by an equally rebellious young man who is charmed by this upside-down girl, they fight to save her from the totalitarian surface government that seeks to annihilate her subterranean civilization and the freethinking people they represent. A dizzying, suspenseful animé.

Ages 10+ (threats of physical harm, tense moments) / Japan, 2013 (In English) / Dir. Yasuhiro Yoshiura / 98 min

DRAGON GIRLS

This documentary follows three girls and their lives at the martial arts school, Shaolin Tagou, China's largest Kung Fu School with 26,000 students. Far from their families, they fight an everyday battle of discipline, rules and hard physical training. Kung Fu provides them a chance to provide for their parents in the future and lead a better life—but at what cost?

Ages 10+ (feelings of abandonment, deep depression, physical injury) / Germany, 2012 (Chinese w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Inigo Westmeier / 71 min

ULISES AND THE 10,000 MUSTACHES

Sometimes not standing out can be a good thing—at least this is what nine-year-old Ulises and his two best friends have come to believe in their elementary school. The bullies don't bother you, the teachers won't call on you, and classmates don't realize you're missing when you want to disappear. It's smooth sailing until Ulises wakes up one morning with an enormous mustache. Going from anonymity to celebrity will test good friendships and lead to a hairy adventure.

Ages 8+ (bullying) / Mexico, 2014 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Manuel Carames / 94 min

ESKIL AND TRINIDAD

Eskil is an unhappy, self-reliant eleven-year-old boy who is constantly on the move due to his father's job. Trinidad is the town's cranky, eccentric woman he is warned to stay away from—but doesn't. In the time spent with Trinidad building her boat, Eskil discovers a self-awareness that helps restore his relationship with his separated parents. Trinidad gains a supporting friend who helps her achieve a lifetime goal. Children's films this beautiful and genuine are rare.

Ages 13+ (bullying, alcoholism, divorce) / Sweden, 2012 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Stephan Apelgren / 98 min

LOLA ON THE PEA

Lola lives with her mother on a houseboat called "The Pea," but life isn't exactly smooth sailing. She misses her long-gone Dad and doesn't care much for her Mom's new boyfriend. Things change when she befriends a Turkish schoolmate with problems of his own. Despite the tough subjects in this film, **LOLA ON THE PEA** is also musical, funny, and fast-paced with a believable story that will provide much to talk about after the show.

Ages 10+ (brief nudity, divorce, language, bullying) / Germany, 2014 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Thomas Heinemann / 97 min

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN has been voted one of the greatest films of all time in international critics' polls. There are other contenders: **Top Hat**, **Swing Time**, **An American in Paris**, **Oklahoma**, and **West Side Story**, but **SINGIN' IN THE RAIN** stands above the rest because it is not only from Hollywood, it is about Hollywood. This 1952 musical offers a comical depiction of the American movie business caught up in the bumpy transition from silent films to "talkies". A modest hit when first released, it eventually became legendary. Starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, Debbie Reynolds and Jean Hagen.

All Ages / USA, 1952 / Dir. Gene Kelly, Stanley Donen / 103 min

MAYA THE BEE

Maya is a little bee with a big heart. For a hive to exist there are rules that must be followed. Let's just say, Maya's curiosity does not help her remember the rules. She can't help but make friends with other bugs in the meadow including the most threatening bugs of all - HORNETS! When the royal jelly goes missing, Maya's "flaws" help save the hive. Part musical, part comedy, part suspense film, **MAYA THE BEE** has it all!

All Ages / Germany, 2014 / In English / Dir. Alexis Stadermann / 88 min

SCRAP WOOD WAR

While attending a super-cool summer camp where campers compete to build the highest multi-story, self-standing structure possible using scrap wood, a best friendship between two adolescent boys is greatly tested. A series of misunderstandings and hurtful slights, some intentional and some not, creates a building tension that grips the viewer's attention—and empathy—to the end. Director Marien Rogaar has constructed a film with an amazingly caring hand. Don't miss this USA PREMIERE!

Ages 10+ (bullying, language, scenes of intense fighting) / Netherlands, 2014 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Margien Rogaar / 87 min

ZIP & ZAP AND THE MARBLE GANG

Two of Spain's most beloved comic book characters, Zip and Zap, come to life in this rollicking adventure. Caught stealing the answers to their final exams, they are sentenced to a summer boarding school where fun is forbidden. Not new to resisting authority, they develop ways of having fun and unknowingly become involved in a mysterious secret that is begging to be solved! It's a dash of Willy Wonka, a pinch of Hogwarts, finished off with some over-the-top comedy.

Ages 10+ (bullying, juvenile behavior) / Spain, 2013 (w/ English subtitles) / Dir. Óskar Santos/ 106 min

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Belle & Sebastian



Finn



On the Way to School

