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Providence Children's Film Festival Expands Youth Filmmaker Showcase to Two Screenings Regional* and Multi-Regional Editions

**Regional Edition followed by Q&A Led by Director of Locally-made Short Film ZOMPOSTE*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Providence, RI -(January 29, 2015) The Providence Children's Film Festival (PCFF), now in its sixth season, is committed to nurturing the work of young "amateur" filmmakers and is proud to present a juried program of films all made by youth from here in Rhode Island and around the world. And because PCFF had so many fabulous youth submissions this year, PCFF will be presenting **two** Youth Filmmaker Showcases.

"These showcases provide an opportunity for young filmmakers to talk about both the fun and the challenges they face during the creative process," explained Anisa Raoof, Executive Director of PCFF. "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."

The **first showcase** is a "Regional Edition" happening Monday, February 16 at 3:45pm at The Avon Cinema, (260 Thayer Street, Providence, RI), and is appropriate for all ages. This show includes a Q&A led by Mike Bell, director of a short film "ZOMPOSTE" featured in the PCFF Your Shorts Are Showin' 2015 Collection, and Sherry Brown, executive director of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, providing an opportunity for young filmmakers to talk about both the fun and challenges they face. This showcase will also include a screening of the 2015 group workshop reel created by students who attended the PCFF February filmmaking workshops.

Local representation in this showcase includes four films from Cranston, RI one from Providence, RI, one from Massachusetts. Others include Virginia, Maryland, Texas, Washington and Japan. Ages of the filmmakers range from six to 17.

The **second showcase** is the Multi-Regional Edition with youth films from around the world and will screen Sunday, February 22 at 1:45pm at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum Metcalf Auditorium (20 North Main Street, Providence, RI). This is a free screening and due to limited capacity, reserved tickets are suggested. Visit pcffri.org/tickets to reserve.

It is important to note that Festival organizers have split this second program into two parts. Part 1 is recommended for Ages 8+. Part 2 has more challenging content and is recommended for Ages 13+. There will be a short intermission between Part 1 and Part 2.

PCFF is also pleased to include the locally-made short film ZOMPOST, directed by Mike Bell, in this year's festival. The film, produced by Embee Studio and originally presented by Southside Community Land Trust at their Harvesting Hope event back in October, will be shown on the big screen on Monday, February 16 at 11:20am at the Gilder Center for the Arts the at Wheeler School (216 Hope Street, Providence, RI) as part of PCFF's Your Shorts Are Showin' 2015 Collection. The screening will be followed by a Q & A with film makers and Rich Pederson, City Farm Steward at Southside Community Land Trust in Providence, whose vision of zombies that compost came to life in 2014.

For a look at the rest of the Festival lineup that includes a juried collection of 18 feature-length films (including 2015 Academy Award nominee *Song of the Sea*), and over 75 short films, please visit pcffri.org.

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.

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