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An annual, not for profit, tax exempt,  
competitive film festival organized to encourage  
better understanding between cultures and its  
people and to make a positive contribution to  
the art form of the moving image.

[www.chicagofilmfestival.com](http://www.chicagofilmfestival.com)

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## **CineYouth Festival Announces Full Program**

CHICAGO, April 27, 2015 – The 11th annual CineYouth Festival, presented by Cinema/Chicago and the 51st Chicago International Film Festival, released the full schedule of student made short films that will screen during the Festival, May 7-9, 2015. The three-day festival showcases films by talented young filmmakers, age 21 and younger from the United States and abroad. This year's program includes 90 films from over ten countries including the United States, Argentina, Canada, Singapore and Iran. Additionally, a hands-on film challenge is taking place, welcoming 30 participants age 12-21 to work in teams to make short films in less than seven hours.

All screenings and events at CineYouth take place at Columbia College Chicago, 1104 South Wabash and admission to all events is free.

Program highlights include "Reel Women," an hour of films made by female filmmakers; "Freaky Friday," a presentation of dark comedies and thrillers; and "Check Your Local Listings," a finale program of films made by filmmakers from the Chicagoland area.

"This year's program is phenomenal," says Cinema/Chicago Education Director Rebecca Fons. "The quality and creativity on display is truly awe-inspiring. Individually, each film stands out with a clear voice and point of view; together the films provide a snapshot of what student filmmakers are inspired by, what they question, what they dream of."

Juried by Cinema/Chicago's Student Film Council - made up of Chicagoland high school students - 14 awards will be given to the "Best of the Fest" during an Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 9 at 6:30PM. Winning films are screened at the 51<sup>st</sup> Chicago International Film Festival in October. This year, cash prizes – underwritten by local organizations and businesses and Cinema/Chicago Governing Board and Junior Board members - are also being presented to winners. Award partners include The Second City Training Center, Magnanimous Media and Haunted Houses Chicago.

Additional details and the full schedule can be found at <http://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/year-round/cineyouth>

CineYouth is supported by Presenting Partner Columbia College Chicago, Lead Partners Kind Bars and Connie's Pizza and Supporting Partner Action Booth.

## **ABOUT CINEMA/CHICAGO**

Cinema/Chicago is a not-for-profit cultural and education organization dedicated to encouraging better understanding between cultures and to making a positive contribution to the art form of the moving image. CineYouth is part of the year-round programs presented by Cinema/Chicago, which also include the Chicago International Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival Television Awards Ceremony, Intercom Competition, International Summer Screenings Program, and Education Program.

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