

Cinema/Chicago presents

CineYouth

Festival

MAY 4 - 6, 2017

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CINEYOUTH

MAY 4 - 6. 2017

THURSDAY, MAY 4

7:00 PM - 9:00PM

Opening Night presentation of *My Entire High School Sinking Into The Sea* followed by Q&A with Writer/Director Dash Shaw

FRIDAY, MAY 5

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Official Selection screenings

SATURDAY, MAY 6

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Official Selection screenings

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Film Pitch

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Tribeca Flashpoint College Workshop

5:30 PM

Awards Ceremony, Film Challenge presentation, and announcement of Pitch winner



We would like to thank our partners
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WELCOME TO CINEYOUTH 2017!

I am honored to present the 13th annual CineYouth Festival. In my first year directing the program, I have found the talent of this year's filmmakers to be stronger, louder and bolder than ever before. CineYouth Festival is a place for artists; to tell their stories and project their truths onto the big screen. This year's programming reflects what young filmmakers are experiencing, from the darkly comedic, eerie and chilling to questions about the human race. We encourage you to watch all 77 films in this year's Festival and to connect with the filmmakers. We also salute our filmmaking teams who created films in a single day at our Film Challenge and congratulate the emerging artists who will present their works-in-progress at our Film Pitch.

Our 13th year would not be possible without the support of our wonderful sponsors, dedicated teaching artists, staff and our resourceful and supportive Education Advisory Committee.

To the filmmakers of CineYouth 2017, we are excited by the opportunity to hear your stories. Thank you for sharing your incredible talent.



Lauren Ponto, *Education Manager*

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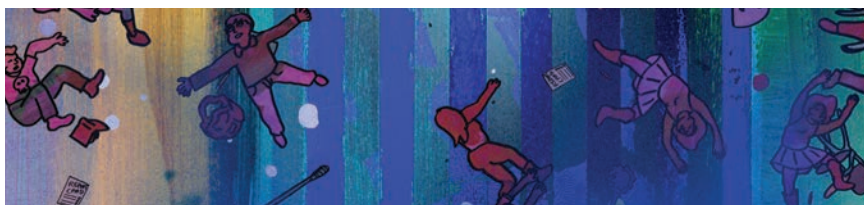
OPENING NIGHT PRESENTATION



MY ENTIRE HIGH SCHOOL SINKING INTO THE SEA THURSDAY, MAY 4 – 7:00PM

From acclaimed graphic novelist Dash Shaw (*New School*) comes an audacious debut that is equal parts disaster cinema, high school comedy and blockbuster satire, told through a dream-like mixed media animation style that incorporates drawings, paintings and collage. Dash (Jason Schwartzman) and his best friend Assaf (Reggie Watts) are preparing for another year at Tides High School muckraking on behalf of their widely-distributed but little-read school newspaper, edited by their friend Verti (Maya Rudolph). But just when a blossoming relationship between Assaf and Verti threatens to destroy the boys' friendship, Dash learns of the administration's cover-up that puts all the students in danger. As disaster erupts and the friends race to escape through the roof of the school, they are joined by a popular know-it-all (Lena Dunham) and a lunch lady (Susan Sarandon) who is much more than meets the eye. But even as the film piles on brilliant details like a post-apocalyptic cult formed by jocks, video game homages, and an infectious synth soundtrack, it never loses sight of the characters at the heart of the story.

Hailed as “the most original animated film of the year” and “John Hughes for the Adult Swim generation” (*Indiewire*), the film’s everyday concerns of friendships, cliques and young love remind us how the high school experience continues to shape who we become, even in the most unusual of circumstances.



CINEYOUTH SCHEDULE

Music Box Theatre
3733 N Southport Ave

THURSDAY, MAY 4

7:00 PM	Opening Night presentation of <i>My Entire High School Sinking Into The Sea</i> followed by Q&A with Writer/Director Dash Shaw
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FRIDAY, MAY 5

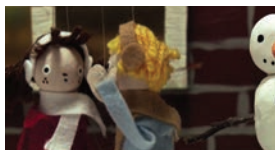
5:00 PM	Screening - Laugh Track
6:00 PM	Screening - Reel Women
7:00 PM	Screening - Freaky Friday: Mind Games
8:00 PM	Screening - Cinema Chicago

SATURDAY, MAY 6

10:00 AM	Screening - Happy Hour Film Pitch (10AM- 2PM)
11:00 AM	Screening - You, Me, Us
12:00 PM	Screening - World View
1:00 PM	Screening - Visual Beats
2:00 PM	Screening - Dramatics
3:00 PM	Screening - experimental cinema. Tribeca Flashpoint College Workshop
4:00 PM	Screening - Midwest's Best
5:30 PM	Awards Ceremony

LAUGH TRACK - FRIDAY 5PM

Start CineYouth off right with Laugh Track. These six short films spanning the globe from Australia to Chicago demonstrate that humor can transcend cultures! 43 mins.



A Christmas Surprise **Sarah Lew**

Los Angeles, CA / Age 20

A little girl learns of a devastating truth on the hallowed night of Christmas Eve.



(this page intentionally left blank.) **Georgia Bernstein & Tess Cohen**

Evanston, IL / Age 20

(this page intentionally left blank.) follows a young woman as she navigates the murky waters of her teenage years with little help from a therapist that Siri recommended.



The Mobsters **Evan Hara**

Plano, TX / Age 16

A world without candy becomes dominated by The Mobsters.



Triple Impact **(Heinrich's Revenge)** **Alex Salkicevic & Brody Murray**

Adelaide, Australia / Age 20

Heinrich's back and this time, it's personal.



Frankie Keeps Talking **Annabelle Attanasio**

Brooklyn, NY / Age 22

A feminist farce about the severity of frustration a young woman feels when she realizes her date will not stop talking. Feeling invisible and infuriated, she goes to drastic lengths for his attention.



The Alien, Nate **Justin Leyba**

Chicago, IL / Age 22

A lonely guy dressed up as an alien finds an unworldly connection with an actual alien at a costume party.

REEL WOMEN - FRIDAY 6PM

Reel Women presents some of the best work from our female directors. Examining personal stories of culture, race, poetry, dance and a dog named Twinkie, this program proves film isn't a boys' club! *46 mins.*



Twinkie **Nour Oubeid**

Rancho Cucamonga, CA /
Age 20

Plagued by a bout of writer's block, a novelist grows agitated when her quirky neighbor interrupts her creative flow with a plea for help in finding his dog, Twinkie.



To and From **Kira Bursky**

Asheville, NC / Age 20

To and From follows three artists trapped in isolation, dissatisfaction and loneliness. By experiencing a severe transformation that's deeply connected to nature, each character gradually embarks on an inward and outward journey that leads to a united path of growth.



Pangaea **Olivia Peace**

Chicago, IL / Age 22

A lonely girl stranded on a rooftop desperately tries to return her life to a state of equilibrium after she is separated from her family.



Façade **Carol Nguyen**

Toronto, Canada / Age 18

An exploration of human connection within a flawed system. Four individuals discover that the main essence that unites them is also the reason for their isolation.



Rough Waters **Claire Imler**

Irvine, CA / Age 17

Submerged in the darkness of her depression, Katie struggles to stay afloat the rough waters in her life, but uncovers what matters most in her journey to recovery.



Helen **Alanna DePinto**

Chicago, IL / Age 20

An exploration of gender dysphoria and the experiences of queer women in rejecting expectations of their bodies.

FREAKY FRIDAY: MIND GAMES - FRIDAY 7PM

Inner demons, disoriented human states and what happens when a person becomes trapped within the realm inside his/her mirror. These six chilling titles will freak you into next Friday. *56 mins.*

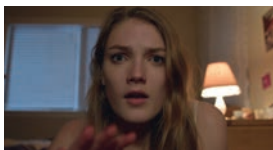
All films contain themes or language that may not be suitable for all ages.



In a Warm, Dark Place **Sydney Waltz**

Dayton, OH / Age 22

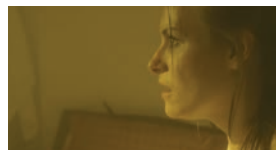
In a Warm, Dark Place is a psychological drama about a mother and her relationship with her newborn son. With the incessant crying of her child and lack of support from her husband, Clarissa is finding that motherhood is not as satisfying as she had hoped. When her newborn son goes missing, Clarissa blames herself.



Mirror **Hadley Hillel**

Seattle, WA / Age 21

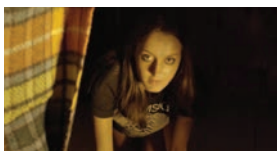
When Laura picks up a free mirror on the side of the road and begins to notice strange distortions, she realizes that it may have a sinister agenda.



The Man Up The Stairs **Rebecca Gosnell**

Dorset, UK / Age 22

The Man Up The Stairs follows the downward mental spiral of Julia - a depressed, disturbed woman who has been grieving and living alone since her fiancé cheated on her. After many months of loneliness, Julia decides to rent out her fiancé's old room. Her advertisement eventually grabs the interest of Oliver, a young writer.



Blotter Hollie **Kelly Morton**

Wildwood, MO / Age 21

A tidal wave of visions and emotions experienced by a dying girl in her final moments.



The Woods **Miles Fogler**

San Francisco, CA / Age 14

Two young brothers play catch on the edge of a forest where hidden danger lies.



The Gift of the Woods **Kris & Kurtis Theorin**

Landenberg, PA / Age 19

An oddly touching dark animated fairytale about a girl who finds a doll in the woods.

CINEMA CHICAGO - FRIDAY 8PM

The seven films in Cinema Chicago feature powerful home grown narratives, documentaries and animated shorts that pay homage to our city's rich history, culture and passion for cinema. *50 mins.*

*Films with a * contain themes or language that may not be suitable for all ages.*

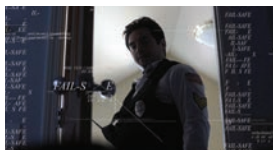


Welcome to the Peace House

**Angelo Ross,
Sierra Blackman,
Briona Barker-Dawson**

Chicago, IL / Age 15-19

This is a documentary about the I Grow Chicago Peace House in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago.



FAIL-SAFE*

Jon LeVert

Chicago, IL / Age 21

Two duty partners investigate the home of a prominent journalist whose latest story targets their police department.

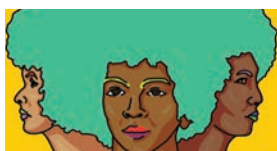


How to Make Art with Ghetto Nails

Bria Royal

Chicago, IL / Age 22

How to Make Art with Ghetto Nails is a tribute to the daily rebellions against politics, "low" arts and anyone who gets asked how they do ____ with "those" nails - answer: just like everyone else, except with 10 times more magic.

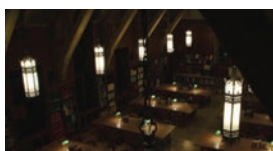


Art Ideology

**Jhordan Ruiz &
Michael Key Jr.**

Chicago, IL / Age 19

Segregation within Chicago has resulted in under-resourced neighborhoods. However, artists within the city's activist communities are crossing those lines of segregation to drive awareness and acceptance.



Lost

Jordan Blazak

Chicago, IL / Age 21

After the death of his mother, Robbie is stuck in a trench of pain dealing with the loss and building up the courage to read his mother's final note.



Valse Sentimentale

Martha Mapes

Chicago, IL / Age 19

An old ballet dancer looks back on her life.



Black Chi Youth*

Kayla Sullers

Chicago, IL / Age 17

Black Chi Youth is about the point of view of Black Lives Matter Chicago and the youth within the city.

HAPPY HOUR - SATURDAY 10AM

Bring the whole family to this program of eight short films ranging from whimsical animated tales to stories of adolescent adventure and mischief. *48 mins.*



After Life on Earth Callahan Bracken

Toronto, Canada / Age 15

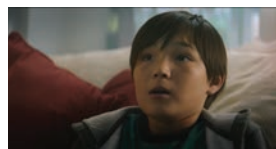
A man finds himself abandoned on a post-apocalyptic Earth, where he must find the fastest way to evacuate.



The Adventures of Kentucky Jackson Kris & Kurtis Theorin

Landenberg, PA / Age 19

Kentucky Jackson searches the world for adventure and explo--I mean archaeology. Yes, definitely archaeology.



The Witching Hour Riley Geis

Orange, CA / Age 22

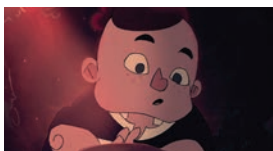
On Halloween, a fearful young boy is taken by the spooky girl next door on a haunted night of mischief and adventure.



Lilly Hits the Road The Bum Family

Calgary, Canada / Age 7-14

Lilly, a 10 foot tall orange monster, and her adorable friend Fluffie are abducted by aliens. An epic adventure ensues as they try desperately to return home in the nick of time.



MÓR Lisa Wu & A. Bowen Welles

Orange, CA / Age 21

A girl and her younger brother are lost deep in the dark woods and afraid to move forward. When they stumble across the Well for Lost Souls, the girl is presented with a magical solution that promises to help them find their way home.



Sheep Deprived Stacy Coakley

Grass Valley, CA / Age 22

Three sheep try to get their fat companion over the fence to get a little girl to sleep.



Popped Leo Pfeifer & Daniel Kelly

Pittsburgh, PA / Age 18

A young balloon falls in love, but his fairytale romance doesn't go as planned.



ei: emotional intelligence Dennis Kim

Seoul, South Korea / Age 20

A story of an AI unit that is anything but artificial.

YOU. ME. US - SATURDAY 11AM

What shapes us as humans? This hour of six documentaries takes a look at personal portraits of discovery, culture, race, and history that connect the dots between you, me and us. *52 mins.*



Behind the Wall **Kiara Ramirez**

Mendocino, CA / Age 18

A short documentary based on the lives of immigrant workers in Northern California.



Marquis **Maya Suchak**

Albany, NY / Age 17

The story of Marquis Dixon who was sentenced to 9 years in state prison for stealing a pair of sneakers, told through the perspective of his mother Aisha.



Transformative **Krystelle Kurz, Claire Elliott, Sorchha Marron, Mo Brown**

Seattle, WA / Age 15-17

In the midst of recent legislation regarding transgender people's rights, their voices have been conspicuously absent in the media. In particular, transgender teens, such as Ezra Finch, have been almost invisible. All teenagers worry about high school, but not all teenagers have to worry about using the bathroom.



Family Man **Amanda Larsh & Carissa McElravy**

San Jose, CA / Age 22

Embroiled in a battle against time to get their daughter back, Brandon Linker and his wife, Lupe, are forced to fight the system set up to protect them.



Skin **Nina Milligan**

Los Angeles, CA / Age 12

When a young African-American woman travels to Vietnam, what she sees opens an investigation into attitudes about race and skin color.



Searching for Wives **Zuki Juno Tobgye**

Bhutan, Singapore / Age 22

A migrant worker from South India, whose customs prevent marriage at an even age, tries to find a wife before his 32nd birthday whilst working as a lorry driver in Singapore.

WORLD VIEW - SATURDAY 12PM

Take a trip around the world with eight directors spanning the globe from France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Belarus and the United Kingdom. This hour offers narrative, animated and documentary films, giving the viewer a new perspective on the world. 53 mins.

*Films with a * contain themes or language that may not be suitable for all ages.*



Louves
Joanne Rakotoarisoa

Paris, France / Age 22

It's Friday night. Nadia, 14, reluctantly follows her friends' plan to join boys at a party.



Girl A*
Jess O'Brien

Leicester, UK / Age 15

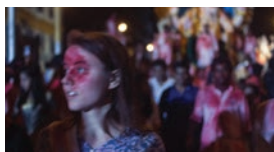
A teenage girl is reprimanded by the head teacher of her school following a violent incident with another student. As we follow a section of her life over three days, the reasons for her violent behavior are slowly revealed.



Fallin
Ivana Noa

Antwerp, Belgium / Age 13

A short impression about searching for the unknown, which already happened.



STHIR
Anna Ador

Minsk, Belarus / Age 22

This is the story of a Belarusian girl learning Indian Kathak dance in the city of Mumbai.



NIGHT
Joosje Duk

The Hague, Netherlands / Age 22

When Sue's cousin Genelva visits from abroad, she hopes a night out with her friends will connect two different parts of her life.



Boris & Babette
Merlijn Remmig

Rotterdam, Netherlands / Age 13

A writer has trouble penning an adventure story, which makes the young character in his script bored. However, the story turns when the character meets a mysterious girl and suddenly finds himself on a great adventure.



I Am Vader
Lachezar Lachezarov Dimitrov

Leeds, UK / Age 20

Dave Prowse who played Darth Vader tells us the story of his career as an actor.



All Sewn Up
Inès Bensalem

Paris, France / Age 22

Khalil's daily life is shaken up when a terrorist attack forces him to reconsider his appearance, particularly his much criticized beard.

VISUAL BEATS - SATURDAY 1PM

Come for the films, stay for the music. This hour of music videos spans genres from indie to pop to hip hop - leaving you with stunning visuals, catchy lyrics and beats you will want to dance to. *50 mins.*



Wasted Generation **Max Retik &** **Ruslan Volyar**

Short Hills, NJ / Age 19

A lost boy stumbles his way through a psychedelic high school party.



VOC Pop **Lucy Nebeker &** **Mica Tenenbaum**

Philadelphia, PA / Age 21

Bubblegum pop music video for the band Magdalena Bay.



GRYGRDNS-Brocade **Amy West &** **Jakob O. Anderson**

Santa Fe, NM / Age 22

Highlighting the darker side of GRYGRDNS' deeply emotive and immersive sound, the product is an exploration of the many forms of human connection - playing on the themes of vulnerability and shame in all their guts and glory.



Lost Letters **Julia Retzlaff**

San Francisco, CA / Age 18

A musical look at family and loss.



Take Me to the Sea **Amy West**

Santa Fe, NM / Age 22

A young adult experiencing everyday discomfort with the gender one was assigned to at birth must address the dysphoria head on when it manifests as a sinister, humanoid monster.



Motown **Alex Wu**

Melbourne, Australia / Age 21

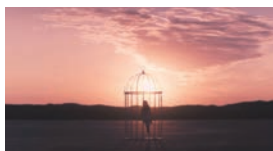
In the sleepless city of Melbourne, a young woman finds refuge inside an empty concert hall late at night, and reckons with an unspoken past.



Monsters **Kira Bursky**

Asheville, NC / Age 20

A teenage boy tries to escape from the monsters in his head. The official music video for "Monsters" by Ian Ridenhour.



Made Of **Claire Imler**

Irvine, CA / Age 17

An interpretive film about breaking free and exploring everything life has to offer.



Atlas World **Morgana McKenzie**

Ottawa, Canada / Age 18

A malignant spirit forces a girl into a perilous journey through a watery underworld. An authorized music video for "Atlas World" (Solomon Day Remix) by Liu Bei.

DRAMATICS - SATURDAY 2PM

These six dramatic films present gritty truths: in the age of technology a father must make the gut-wrenching decision to delete his son, a university student takes his passion for ambient music to a chilling level, and a young man embarks on a day of skateboarding that takes a turn for the worst. You'll be on the edge of your seat for these startling conclusions. *60 mins.*

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Partitioned Heart **Matt Morris**

New York, NY / Age 20

A father must delete a computer program that brought his deceased son back to life.



Red Kite **Susanna Van Aswegen**

Brisbane, Australia / Age 21

Piper, an 8-year-old girl, faces the most confronting juncture of her childhood when her single mother is forced to leave her under the care of her estranged grandfather, Albert, so that she can seek medical attention in another city for a couple of weeks.



Cosmonaut* **Tristen Surman**

Toronto, Canada / Age 17

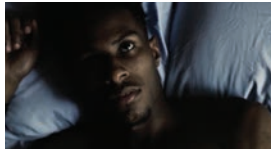
A young woman's descent into her lover's criminal world acts as a reflection on the relative nature of morality, and the absolute nature of consequences.



Potential Collab* **Nate Burke**

Providence, RI / Age 22

Yals Kylo makes music. But these aren't normal tunes. He crafts unique songs out of sounds that he captures from the world around him. His frustration with the unsatisfactory sounds of his environment leads him to a dark place.



Myles* **Kevin Brooks**

Memphis, TN / Age 22

A young man embarks on a day full of skateboarding with his friends, to only return home with a different outlook on life and how he's truly seen in society.



Family Shadows **Laura Malatos**

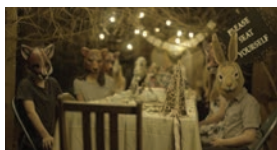
Seattle, WA / Age 18

Every Friday night at 7 o'clock, Carter walks into the forest, and every single time, his father follows him. While wandering through the shadows, they discover what it means to be family.

EXPERIMENTAL CINEMA. - SATURDAY 3PM

This program will challenge your role as a viewer - from visual interpretations of poetry to films where sound takes on a new meaning. These filmmakers turn their cameras on their worlds and themselves, creating thought-provoking concepts and striking images. *52 mins.*

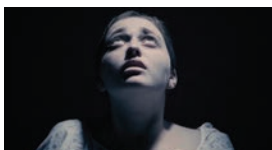
*Films with a * contain themes or language that may not be suitable for all ages.*



Jouska* **Wynter Rhys**

Seattle, WA / Age 17

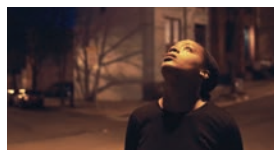
Jouska is a man's hypothetical conversation that plays out compulsively in his guilty mind.



Casey **Marcus Wei**

New York, NY / Age 19

A portrait of the anxiety, fear, and loss that comes with a girl's battle against cancer.



Reach **Ejanila Clayton**

Albany, NY / Age 20

An experimental narrative that visually portrays the struggle to survive as a black person living in America today.



There's More Than One Way to Skin a Man **Emma Penaz Eisner**

San Francisco, CA / Age 14

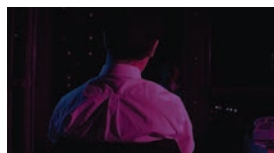
Now, as up is down, as inside turns out, who are these men that embody and fuel our collective existential upheaval? What are they to you: heroes, anti-heroes, villains? Or something else altogether?



Super Predator: Preludes of the Black Fish **Kelechi Agwuncha**

Westchester, IL / Age 19

Super Predator takes a contemporary black ethnocentric look at the parallels between the predator-prey relationship of a black man facing the prejudicial bounds of society.



Amour Partagé* **Luis Treviño**

Chicago, IL / Age 20

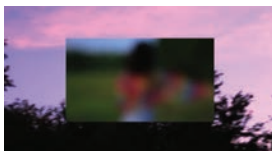
A hitman falls for his target in this story of unrequited love and desire.



Untitled **Shamir Williams, Maceo Berg, Linwood Giles III (LG3)**

Boston, MA / Age 17

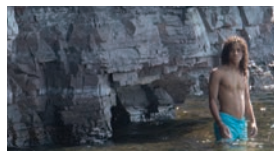
A young person's vent finding themselves and how outside factors play a part in that process.



Love in July **Jessie McCarty**

Shreveport, LA / Age 19

Love in July is an experimental video on the ideas of affections and what they can sound like and what they can look like.



Phantom **Dylan Pollak**

Palm Beach Gardens, FL / Age 17

A film that focuses on the lack of the ability to feel in society, due to the expectations that we create.

MIDWEST'S BEST - SATURDAY 4PM

Made by filmmakers from across Illinois, this hour of narratives highlights the talent of our state. From a young writer struggling to cope with her competitive peers to a goth teenager's attempt at an impossible crime, these titles prove that Illinois is home to the next generation's rising stars. *50 mins.*

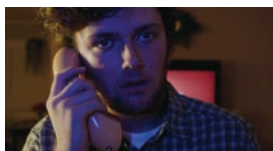
*Films with a * contain themes or language that may not be suitable for all ages.*



Abetment* **Samantha Merkle**

Northlake, IL / Age 22

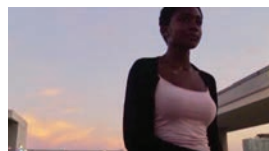
A lonely and aging father desperately asks his son to aid in his suicide, but when his son shows little to no hesitation, an uncomfortably honest argument arises.



Outsider **Clayton Horwitz & Joshua Noll**

Glenview, IL / Age 18

A sad teenager struggles to comprehend what is lurking outside his house.



Magnum Opus **Adam Present**

Evanston, IL / Age 17

Magnum Opus is a magical realist drama film about a depressed young writer who is about to be kicked out of a prestigious writing program for her poor quality of work and how she mentally copes with her situation.



Hayley Watson Did It* **Anna Gregg**

Chicago, IL / Age 21

Hayley Watson is 15, goth, manipulative, and no one takes her seriously. Finally fed up, Hayley teams up with her older boyfriend, Jeremiah Collins, to murder her parents. Their plan falls apart as they struggle for dominance in the relationship.



Trust* **Michael Woods**

Chicago, IL / Age 17

"Send a pic. It'll be just between us. Promise."



FACES **Shannon Rodeberg**

Chicago, IL / Age 22

A businessman comes home and transforms into the woman he is inside.

FILM CHALLENGE



Film Challenge 2017

In less than eight hours, Film Challenge participants planned, shot, and edited their short films on Saturday, April 22nd at Columbia College Chicago's Cinema + Art and Science building, an experience that encouraged them to flex their creative muscles and work collaboratively in teams, all under the thrill of a deadline!

Finished Challenge films will be screened at the CineYouth Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 6 at 5:30PM and filmmakers will receive Certificates of Merit for their participation.

Thank you to our Film Challenge

collaborators and leaders: Columbia College Chicago Cinema Art + Science professor Susan Kerns; **Teaching Artists** Clayton Smith, Ernest Whiteman III, John Talley, Marvin Glass, Ryan Saunders, Sydney O'Haire, and Will Ojeda; **Columbia College**

Student Assistants Ayesha Abouelazm, Camryn Peterson, Euporia Knight, Joshua Waldby, Luis Treviño, Qing Liu, and Armando Zamudio; **Film Challenge participants:** Aisha Ellis, Alexander Payne, Amani Boyd, Angelica Zavala, Beck Wiegmann, Bella Pelini, Brett Thorgersen, Caesar Salgado, Caileigh Winslade, Carmen Ortiz, Chris Hernandez Zurita, Christian Martinez, Drue Thorgersen, Faith Cullen, Fatma AlMutawa, Fischer Dastrup, Gabbie Zaydlin, Greta Jung, Isabella Ibarra, Jael Vela, Jake Meltzer, Jamil Walker, Jennifer Serrano, Jessyka Sanders, Katherine Hessler, Kayla Sullers, Keeland Jordan, Kelsey Motherway, Ladawn Gordon, Liam Putrius, Lily Jiang, Logan Missner, Maria Mejia, Matthew Echols, Meghan Elliott, Natalie Ayala, Nicole Wozny, Robert Webb, Rosa Morel, Savannah White, Sydney Berk, Temamnesh Summerfield, and Tyson J Jenkins.



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FILM PITCH

One of our favorite things to ask young filmmakers we meet is, "What are you working on next?" As their talent and style progress, the artists that attend CineYouth provide us with the opportunity to watch them as they grow as filmmakers.

We are proud to present the CineYouth Film Pitch, a one-day platform for select participants to present their works-in-progress to a panel of industry professionals.

The pitch is a chance to not only win a cash prize to support their project and a Magnanimous Media credit for post and pre-production film equipment, but also to get direct feedback.

Family, friends and colleagues are invited to observe the Pitch and (quietly) cheer on participating filmmakers.



SATURDAY, MAY 6

Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave.

10:00AM: Welcome and introductions

10:15AM: Georgia Bernstein

11:00AM: Ciaran Rooney-Cespedes

1:00PM: Natalie Frazier

1:30PM - 2:00PM: Private panel deliberation

5:30PM: Awards Ceremony, presentation of prize to winning Pitch participant and Film Challenge screening





Trevor Albert

Trevor Albert majored in communications and film at the University of California San Diego. Upon graduation, he moved up the California coast to pursue a film career in Los Angeles. After working as a film researcher at Universal Pictures and Warner Brothers, he accepted a full-time position with producers Jon Peters and Barbra Streisand. After less than a year, Albert was sent to Florida to work with Harold Ramis on *Caddyshack*. Together they made a series of very successful comedies including *National Lampoon's Vacation*, *Club Paradise*, *Groundhog Day*, *Multiplicity*, *Stuart Saves His Family* and *Bedazzled*. Albert decided to venture into the world of graphic novels, producing *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*. Following that, he produced *The First Twenty Million is The Hardest, Because of Winn-Dixie* and the independent film *Waiting For Forever*. His most recent production is the Academy Award nominated documentary, *Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me*. Albert is currently Chair of the Harold Ramis Film School at Second City and a consulting producer at 20th Century Fox Animation. Trevor is a distinguished member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.



James Choi

James Choi is a prolific, award-winning filmmaker with over a decade of film industry experience in Los Angeles having worked in representation, production and digital media. His first feature film as a producer, *Made in China*, won the Grand Jury Prize for Best Feature Film at SXSW in 2009 and is distributed by IFC Films. Since then, Choi has produced four feature films that have screen widely on the festival circuit. *Empty Space* marks his second feature film as a director and his second collaboration with Judi Krant, the writer/director of *Made In China*. It is currently playing at festivals around the world and was picked up for theatrical distribution in South Korea. Choi is based out of Chicago and teaches film at DePaul University's School of Cinematic Arts.



Beckie Stocchetti

Beckie Stocchetti oversees all Independent and Local Film Initiatives at the Chicago Film Office, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. Prior to joining DCASE, she was the Director of Engagement and Programs at documentary production company Kartemquin Films. Also in Chicago, Stocchetti worked as the Program Director at Chicago Filmmakers. From 2009 – 2011 Stocchetti served as the Assistant Film Curator and Business Manager of the Doris Duke Theater at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. Additionally, she has worked with the Hawaii International Film Festival in various capacities including Development consultant, Director of Education, and Projection Manager. Stocchetti co-curates *Run of Life*, a monthly experimental documentary series through the Nightingale Cinema in Chicago. Stocchetti has a degree from the University of Chicago in Cinema and Media Studies.



John Otterbacher

After graduating with a Master of Science in Communications from Grand Valley State University in Michigan, John Otterbacher moved to Chicago where he splits his time between teaching and filmmaking. Otterbacher has worked as a producer and cinematographer specializing in independent film/ tv/new media and work for non-profit organizations. As a college instructor, Otterbacher has taught at a number of institutions and is currently coordinator for the Cinematography program at Tribeca Flashpoint College in Chicago. He is a board member of IFP Chicago and a member of the Education Advisory Committee of Cinema/Chicago. In 2016, Otterbacher received his MFA in film from VCFA as part of the inaugural class with the short version of his documentary *Officially Limited*. Current projects include *Father Burke's Boss Battle*, a short film about a priest addicted to video games and *Moving Parts*, a narrative feature, now in post-production.

HOW WE EDUCATE

At Cinema/Chicago, we recognize that film is a powerful tool. Established in 1992, our year-round Education Program brings film to Chicago students, showcases the creativity of young filmmakers and facilitates the development of young film audiences.

EDUCATION SCREENINGS

Cinema/Chicago brings over 7,000 Chicago Public School students (grades 6-12) into theaters throughout the school year and during the Chicago International Film Festival for free Education Screenings.

Study guides are provided to give background on the cultural context of the films, highlight themes and historical references and introduce questions that encourage personal examination of the films' subject matter. Each screening is followed by a Q&A with filmmakers, film subjects and/or film professionals and professors.

The goals of the program are to give students from across the city the opportunity to engage with unique films and in the process, transform them from passive audience members to active viewers and thinkers. As Chicago Public Schools have limited resources to provide students with arts education experiences, this program provides buses, theaters, films, speakers, study guides and teacher support entirely free.

CINEYOUTH

Our free CineYouth Festival showcases the work of student filmmakers 22 years old and younger, highlighting the creativity of the next generation of directors, writers and performers. CineYouth features screenings of over 70 officially selected films and offers educational panels and hands-on workshops for participating guests.

Award-winning CineYouth films are shown during the Chicago International Film Festival and winning filmmakers receive cash prizes and an award recognizing their achievement.

Through CineYouth, we are proud to support young artists by honoring their work and by providing them with tools and resources to assist them in their future artistic endeavors.

CineYouth celebrates its 14th year in May 2018. The 2018 CineYouth Festival will be open for entries November 1, 2017 – March 16, 2018.

STUDENT FILM COUNCIL

Our Student Film Council provides a free program for public, private and suburban high school students who have a passion for film. Council members are given the opportunity to experience and attend the numerous film festivals and programs that take place throughout the school year in Chicago.

Members engage in conversations with directors and festival programmers with the goal of further analyzing, understanding and appreciating film and its relationship to audiences and the city.

GET INVOLVED & SUPPORT

Contact Lauren Ponto, Education Manager: lponto@chicagofilmfestival.com

For a full list of our generous program donors, visit

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Questions? Contact: **Lauren Ponto**, Education Manager
LPONTO@CHICAGOFILMFESTIVAL.COM





Cinema/Chicago All Year Long!

THE BIG PICTURE SHOW.

Cinema/Chicago is a year-round, not-for-profit organization dedicated to fostering cross-cultural communication through the art of film and the moving image. We present the annual Chicago International Film Festival (October), a celebration of the best in cinema from around the world, as well as exciting education and community programs that engage, entertain, and enlighten Chicagoans of all backgrounds and ages. Our year-round programs also include the Chicago International Television Awards (March), International Screenings at the Chicago Cultural Center (May through October), CineYouth Festival (May), year-round Education Outreach Program and Members' Film Series.

FOCUS ON EDUCATION.

Our year-round Education Screenings Program introduces CPS students to cinema, integrating films into classroom curriculum while exposing students to diverse cultures, viewpoints, and subject matter. Each year we bring 8,000 students into theaters free of charge to see films and engage in discussions with filmmakers and film subjects.

The free CineYouth Festival showcases filmmakers 22 years old and younger. We present officially selected films from around the world and host hands-on workshops and development opportunities for young filmmakers. Winning films are screened at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Our Student Film Council is made up of high school students from Chicagoland's public and private school systems. Throughout the school year, the Council attends numerous Chicago film festivals and engage in conversations with directors, producers and festival programmers, exploring cinema and its relationship with audiences.

SUMMER SHOWCASE.

Created in 2003, the International Screenings Program is a free weekly film series running from May through September that showcases films from around the world. Presented in partnership with the City of Chicago and various consulates and cultural organizations, the program has become one of the most popular public programs in Chicago, bringing together film and cultural enthusiasts from all walks of life.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! 53!

Now in its fifth decade, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America's longest-running competitive film festival. Showcasing the latest from cinema's grand masters and introducing the work of its newest visionaries, the Festival presents films representing more than 50 countries and celebrates the vibrancy and diversity of the human experience. Festival-goers enjoy the amazing opportunity to meet film artists from around the world such as Laurie Anderson, Danny Boyle, Guillermo Del Toro, Pablo Larraín, Michael Moore, Barry Jenkins and Geraldine Chaplin as well as attend tributes to international luminaries

such as Clint Eastwood, Ron Howard, Sidney Poitier, Steven Spielberg, and Uma Thurman.

SPOTLIGHT ON DIVERSITY.

Now in its 21st year, our Black Perspectives Program showcases the richness and diversity of African American filmmaking and outstanding work by black filmmakers from around the world and pays tribute to notable African American artists such as Spike Lee, Viola Davis, Morgan Freeman, Sidney Poitier, Halle Berry and Charles Burnett. With films from Cuba and Colombia to Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina, Cinema of the Americas spotlights the fresh and vibrant work of emerging and veteran filmmakers from South and Central America, Mexico, and

the Caribbean. The Festival also presents OUT-Look, celebrating LGBTQ-themed films exhibiting new artistic perspectives on sexuality and identity.

TOTALLY TELEVISION.

The Chicago International Television Festival recognizes and celebrates exceptional quality in television programming and commercials worldwide. By hosting a series of screenings, panels, and discussions, the TV Festival connects audiences with the unique voices shaping the ever-changing television landscape. The annual Awards Night Ceremony recognizes the winners of our international competition of commercials and productions as they compete for the evening's highest honor, the Gold Hugo.

Connect with us!



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- Learn from award-winning professionals
- Create professional work in hands-on classes

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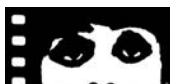
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Cinema/Chicago, the parent organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a not-for-profit arts and education organization dedicated to fostering better communication between people of diverse cultures through the art of the moving image.



Pablo Larrain, *Jackie*



Damien Chazelle, *La La Land*

Cinema/Chicago Presents:

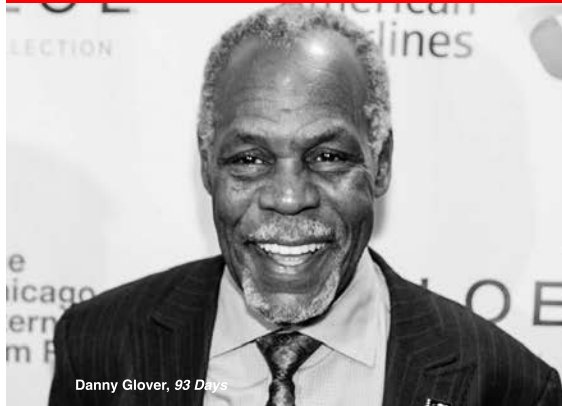


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Steve McQueen, Honoree



Danny Glover, *93 Days*

Save the Date:
October
12-26, 2017



Naomie Harris, Barry Jenkins, André Holland, *Moonlight*

