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BIG SCREENS, LITTLE FOLKS FILM STILLS: <https://uwmadison.box.com/WIFilmFest2016publicity>

WISCONSIN FILM FESTIVAL WEBSITE: 2016.wifilmfest.org

Big Screens, Little Folks Films for Kids Shown April 15-17 During the Wisconsin Film Festival (April 14-21)

Madison, Wis. – For the second year in a row, the Wisconsin Film Festival is offering children’s cinema programming “[Big Screens, Little Folks](#)” from April 15-17. This year’s Big Screens, Little Folks programming includes two series of shorts — **Short and Sweet** (suggested ages 8-11), **Shorter and Sweeter** (suggested ages 5-8) and four feature length films. The feature films are “**Birds of Passage/Les oiseaux de passage**” (ages 9+), “**The Crow’s Egg/Kaakkaa Muttai**” (ages 10+), “**Good Ol’ Boy**” (ages 12+) and “**Oddball**” (ages 6+). Please note many films will be shown on April 15 when public K-12 schools are closed in Madison.

This year’s family-friendly line-up, programmed by Karin Kolb, offers award-winning short films and features from all around the world and introduces children to a variety of cinematic styles and techniques. This is a great opportunity for kids of all ages and for families, friends and classmates to experience films on the big screen. Any films in a different language will include subtitles in English.

All tickets are \$5 to any Big Screens, Little Folks films no matter a person’s age. Further details about the films and accompanying free workshops can be found at 2016.wifilmfest.org under the Big Screens, Little Folks tab. All film descriptions were written by Karin Kolb.

Big Screens, Little Folks programming is supported by CUNA Mutual Group and numerous University of Wisconsin-Madison partners and community sponsors (listed on the website).

Film Festival Ticket Overview

- \$10 General admission
- \$8 Students, Seniors (65+), UW Faculty/Staff, and Military Personnel
- **\$5 All Big Screens, Little Folks films**

SHORT FILMS SERIES

Short and Sweet (suggested ages 8-11)

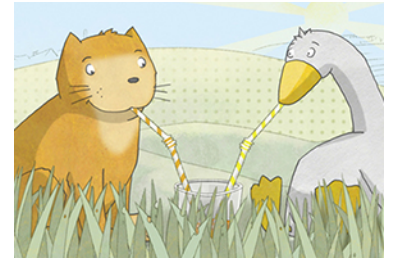
When: April 15, 10:00 a.m. | April 16, 1:45 p.m.

Location: Madison Museum of Contemporary Art | 227 State St. | Madison

12 short films from eight countries make up Short and Sweet programming. These mostly animated films include characters traveling, solving mysteries, sneaking into a jazz club, using magic powers, living in the sea, interacting with animals and more.



Still: “The Casebook of Nips & Porkington”



Still: "Fred & Anabel"

Shorter and Sweeter (suggested ages 5-8)

When: April 15, 2:15 p.m. | April 16, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Madison Museum of Contemporary Art | 227 State St. | Madison

10 short films from nine countries are part of the Shorter and Sweeter programming. These mostly animated films include characters developing friendships (even amongst other animals), battling litter, helping animals, overcoming obstacles, dealing with family dynamics and more.

FEATURES

"Birds of Passage (Les oiseaux de passage)" (suggested ages 9+)

Director: Oliver Ringer. In French with English subtitles. Belgium. 2015

When: April 15, 2:00 p.m.

Location: Barrymore Theatre | 2090 Atwood Ave. | Madison



Still: "Birds of Passage"

Having your birthday on February 29 is certainly not ideal – and getting only a duck egg to hatch from your dad as a birthday present doesn't make it better for 10-year-old Cathy. The adventure begins when not Cathy, but her best friend Margaux, who is confined to a wheelchair, is present when the egg hatches. Whomever the duckling sees first, it regards as its mother. While the girls really want to take care of the little duckling, Margaux's parents think it is too much responsibility for a girl with a disability. When the duckling ends up on an animal farm our two heroes set out on an adventurous journey to rescue it.

AWARDS: Adult Jury Prize—Live-action Feature Film Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2015 | Winner of European Children's Film Association Award 2016 | Winner Grand Prize Feature New York International Children's Festival 2016

"The Crow's Egg (Kaakkaa Muttai)" (suggested ages 10+)

Director: M. Mandikandan. In Tamil with English subtitles. India. 2014

When: April 15, 3:45 p.m. | April 16, 11:45 a.m.

Location: Madison Museum of Contemporary Art | 227 State St. | Madison



Still: "The Crow's Egg"

Two young brothers growing up in the slums of Chennai have only one dream: to someday eat a slice of pizza in the newly opened pizza parlor. In his feature debut, director M. Manikandan paints a vivid portrait of urban child poverty in South India with colors of hope and initiative rather than despair. These brothers see all the obstacles between them and their first slice of pizza as puzzles to be worked out, and they are more than up to the task. Don't miss this engaging and warm family comedy with satiric bite. "... a feel-good movie with a wide streak of social conscience" (Paul Byrnes, *The Sydney Morning Herald*).

AWARD: Global Zoom Prize (for a film that promotes intercultural understanding) Children's Film Festival Seattle 2016.

"Good Ol' Boy" & "Johnny Express" (suggested ages 12+)
 "Johnny Express." Director: Kyungmin Woo. South Korea. 2014
 "Good Ol' Boy." Director: Frank Lotito. USA. 2015

Guest appearance by actor, producer and writer Anjul Nigam

When: April 16, 3:45 p.m. | April 17, 1:15 p.m.

Location: Madison Museum of Contemporary Art | 227 State St. | Madison



Still: "Good Ol' Boy"

"Johnny Express"

Johnny is a lazy space deliveryman who travels to different planets to deliver packages. However, this time it does not go as planned.

AWARDS: Grand Prize Award, Jury Award for Best Animated Short and Audience Award Winner, New York Children's Film Festival 2015.

"Good Ol' Boy"

Smith is a 10-year-old boy born in India but growing up in '70s suburban America. All he wants to do is watch "Happy Days," play with his Star Wars action figures, eat at Kentucky Fried Chicken just once (which is a problem if you are vegetarian) and impress his next door neighbor Amy with his John Travolta impersonation. These simple pleasures are thwarted by his overbearing father pushing his Indian heritage at him from every angle. What if he doesn't want to be a neurosurgeon or marry a stranger when he turns 22? Smith's strong urge to be one of America's "good ol' boys" begins to create a growing gap between him and his family, until a hunting adventure with Butch, Amy's all-American cowboy of a father, tips things over the edge. This sweet, hilarious coming-of-age story illustrates how we all fight to reconcile where we came from with where we're going.

AWARDS: Audience Award Winner Naples International Film Festival 2015; Audience Award Winner Woodstock International Film Festival 2015; Opening Night Film Cleveland International Film Festival 2016

"Oddball" (suggested ages 6+)

Director: Stuart McDonald. Australia. 2015

When: April 16, 11:45 a.m.

Location: Madison Museum of Contemporary Art | 227 State St. | Madison



Still: "Oddball"

Off the coast of small town Warrnambool, Australia lays Middle Island, a sanctuary once home to thousands of the world's smallest penguins. But since

foxes learned to cross the shallow channel to the island, penguin numbers have plunged. If they fall below ten, park ranger Emily Marsh will be out of a job and have to move away. This shocks her father, eccentric chicken farmer Swampy Marsh who does not want to see his daughter and granddaughter Olivia leave. The solution comes when Swampy rescues an injured penguin from the island and discovers to his amazement that Oddball, his fur ball dog, seems to be an expert at guarding penguins. With two weeks until the final penguin count, Swampy and Olivia devise a crazy plan - train the rambunctious and unpredictable Oddball to protect the penguins and save the sanctuary, while somehow keeping the operation a secret from everyone. Based on a real-life event. "Top choice for the family... cleverly-crafted" (Lee Paatsch, *Herald Sun Australia*).

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are based on some films shown during Big Screens, Little Folks and are offered in partnership with the Madison Public Library. All workshops are free, but advance registration is strongly suggested (under Big Screens, Little Folks tab at 2016.wifilmfest.org).

Stop Motion Animation Workshop (Limit: 15 students - suggested ages 8-15)

When: April 15, noon–1:00 p.m. | April 16, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Location: Media Lab, Madison Public Library Central Branch | 201 W. Mifflin St. | Madison

Children between the ages of 8-15 will have a chance to learn the basics on how to create a stop motion animated story at the Madison Public Library's Media Lab. This is a hands-on workshop with all supplies and equipment provided. Using markers, whiteboards and props, each participant will create their own shortstop motion film. Supplies and equipment will be provided.

Filmmaking With Your Phone (Limit: 15 students - suggested ages 8-12)

When: April 15, 2:00–3:00 p.m.

Location: Media Lab, Madison Public Library Central Branch | 201 W. Mifflin St. | Madison

Children between the ages of 8-12 will have a chance to learn how to make their own movie on a smartphone or mobile device at the Madison Public Library's Media Lab. This is a hands-on workshop so each participant should bring a smartphone or mobile device and password to download apps.

To India! To India! (Suggested ages: school age children and their families)

When: April 16, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Location: Children's Room & The Bubbler, Madison Public Library – Central Branch | 201 W. Mifflin St. Madison

After seeing "The Crow's Egg," school age children and their families are encouraged to learn more about India. During this time, students can listen to stories read both in English and Tamil, listen to Indian music, learn how to write their name in Tamil or Hindi and/or get a small hendi design while learning about the art of mehndi. Stories will be read both in English and Tamil.

The Wisconsin Film Festival is presented by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arts Institute in association with the Department of Communication Arts. The Wisconsin Film Festival was established in 1999 and is the largest university-managed film festival in the nation. The festival averages 150 film screenings shown at various venues around Madison during eight days.

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