



coastline children's film festival

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**OPENING NIGHT PAJAMA PARTY • YOUNG FILMMAKERS COMPETITION
RED CARPET AWARDS • PERFORMANCE BY ALL GOD'S CHILDREN
CHOIR • LEGO STOP-MOTION ANIMATION WORKSHOPS • VISUAL &
SPECIAL EFFECTS WORKSHOP • CLASSIC SILENT FILMS WITH LIVE
PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT • AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DEMONSTRATION
WORKSHOP • FILMS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD—ALL FOR FREE!**

The **COASTLINE CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL (CCFF)** announces the unveiling of our 8th annual international children's film festival. This one-of-a-kind family event takes place in eight locations in Berrien County and beyond, from **March 9 through March 18, 2018**.

Eight years ago we were inspired by the 8½ Foundation (founded by Tilda Swinton and Mark Cousins) and their efforts to make great films available to young people everywhere. In their words: "Not the bigger films blasted from the rooftops of every seventeen-screen pleasure palace, but littler films, often from other countries, maybe made many decades ago, maybe made without color, maybe with subtitles, or not a single spoken word." That idea became our mandate, our manifesto. For 10 days we will provide 100 sources of inspiration—all for **FREE (\$1 suggested donation)**. Full-length features. Documentaries. Silent classics. Short Films. Young Filmmakers Competition.

THE BEST FILMS PROVIDE A PLACE WHERE WE ARE ALL INVITED, NO BORDERS, NO VISAS REQUIRED AND NO POSSIBILITY OF BEING EXCLUDED OR EXILED.

This year we will present a host of outstanding films for the whole family, many for the very young and some appropriate for middle and high school students; all will delight and inspire. We are again presenting the best and latest short films from the world-renowned New York International Children's Film Festival (NYICFF/GKIDS). They include a kaleidoscopic showcase of the best short film and animation from around the world, for ages 3 to 8 (KID FLIX 1) and a selection of the most entertaining, thought-provoking and visually stunning short films for children ages 8 to 18 (KID FLIX 2). This collection of award-winning shorts will be presented at several locations.

Calling all party animals! Wear your PJs and fluffy slippers and bring your favorite stuffed animal. This year's festival will begin on **MARCH 9TH** with an **OPENING NIGHT PAJAMA PARTY** at the **KRASL ART CENTER**, with the amazing **BRANDON MATTSON** providing musical entertainment at 6:00 pm, and featuring the acclaimed *NYICFF/GKIDS Kid Flix* shorts program at 7:00 pm. Be ready to dance and partake in serious cupcake consumption.

The films selected for this year speak positively to children and families and include award-winning films that have been screened all over the globe. Some highlights include the stunning 2018 Oscar and Golden Globe nominated hand-drawn animated film *The Breadwinner*—a powerful and riveting story of self-empowerment and imagination in the face of oppression as a headstrong young girl in Afghanistan disguises herself as a boy in order to provide for her family. In *Deaf Jam*, poetry, friendship and respect transcend politics as a young girl finds herself in an unexpected collaboration. Aneta Brodski seizes the day as a deaf teen introduced to American Sign Language (ASL) poetry, who then boldly enters the spoken word slam scene. In a wondrous twist, Aneta, an Israeli immigrant living in the Queens section of New York City, eventually meets Tahani, a hearing Palestinian slam poet. The two young teens embark on a collaboration/performance duet – creating a new form of slam poetry that speaks to both the hearing and the Deaf. This year, the inimitable **DR. LARRY SCHANKER** will provide improvisational piano accompaniment for the Young Filmmakers Competition and for 5 silent films – including Harold Lloyd's *Safety Last* (1923) which closes the festival at Krasl Art Center on Sunday March 18th.

The **YOUNG FILMMAKERS COMPETITION** will premiere at the Michigan City Public Library (IN) and the New Buffalo Township Library (MI) on Saturday March 10th. This year, we created a Silent Film Challenge and are pleased to present 16 films, all without spoken dialogue, by young visionaries from Michigan and Indiana. Awards will be presented, red carpet style, at the **CITADEL OAK ROOM** at 6:30 pm on **FRIDAY MARCH 16TH** – immediately following the 5:30 pm screening.

This year we are also thrilled to continue our partnership with the **NORTHWEST FILM FORUM** in Seattle. The NFF is the organizer of the Children's Film Festival Seattle. They believe in the power of visual storytelling that illuminates and informs global awareness. They cherish the ideals of social inclusion, diversity, teamwork, empathy, care for the planet, human rights, kindness and love. These short films will enable our kids to feast their eyes on gorgeous animation and beautiful live action stories that run the gamut from laugh-out-loud funny to unforgettably poignant. Executive Director, Liz Shepard, has curated two special programs of the best short films from around the globe—just for us called *Dream The Future*.

For the first time we will have the **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN COMMUNITY CHOIR** perform at 6:00 pm on **SATURDAY MARCH 10TH** prior to the screening of *The Breadwinner*. Founded and led by Larry and Sandy Feldman, All God's Children Community Choir is a multiracial, multicultural group of talented and enthusiastic children and teens drawn from ten different communities in SW Michigan.

Films will be screened at the following venues: **BOX FACTORY FOR THE ARTS** and **KRASL ART CENTER** in St. Joseph; the **CITADEL OAK ROOM** in Benton Harbor; **NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP LIBRARY**; **BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY**; **VICKERS THEATRE** in Three Oaks; **MICHIGAN CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY** in Michigan City, Indiana and **ST. JOSEPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY** in downtown South Bend, Indiana.

A comprehensive festival program booklet with a complete list of all the films is available now, at all venues and from our website. For descriptions of each of the films and a downloadable version, visit **WWW.COASTLINECHILDRENSFILMFESTIVAL.COM**. All films are offered free of charge with only a \$1 suggested donation. The Box Factory for the Arts and the Krasl Art Center, both in St. Joseph, will host hands-on workshops and special events for young adults during the ten-day festival. CCFE will also present a special post-screening demonstration workshop at the Citadel Oak Room in Benton Harbor.

The Box Factory for the Arts will host a **VISUAL/SPECIAL EFFECTS WORKSHOP** on March 10th from 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm. Emmy award winning NYC motion graphics artist **KAREN PERRINE** comes to Michigan for a visual and special effects workshop for middle and high school students. You'll learn about old-school effects tricks along with some amazing digital wizardry. Limited to 12 students. **FREE** but you must register by calling Leslie Sullivan @ 269.757.1491 or emailing atouchofgreatness@hotmail.com.

On **MARCH 11TH** the Coastline Children's Film Festival will host a post-screening event around the documentary film *Deaf Jam*. Join us for an **ASL DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP** with deaf poet and scholar **PETER S. COOK**. Cook is Associate Professor in the Department of ASL-English Interpretation at Columbia College Chicago and an internationally known deaf performing artist whose work incorporates American Sign Language, pantomime, storytelling, acting and movement. The film will screen at 3:00 pm at the Citadel Oak Room with the 90-minute workshop to follow.

The Krasl Art Center (KAC) is hosting a series of **LEGO ANIMATION WORKSHOPS** on **MARCH 17TH** in conjunction with southwest Michigan's Build Your Way Around Town, a month of Lego brick building activities. An interactive LEGO display will also be in the KAC lobby for the entire month of March. Workshops are **FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. Young animators will bring LEGO to life as they collaborate to make short stop-motion animation videos. Final videos will be uploaded to the KAC YouTube page. Spaces are limited. Register today at **public.krasl.org/public/Youth.faces** or contact Krasl Art Center at 269-983-0271 for more information about these events.

The mission of the Coastline Children's Film Festival is to bring high-quality independent films and animation for children and young adults to the area and to present them – on the big screen – as shared theatrical experiences for the whole family and community. The anchor event for the organization is a 10-day annual festival held in March, in locations throughout the county and beyond. CCFE also sees educational opportunities as central to its mission so alongside the screening of features, shorts and documentaries, our festival participants have the opportunity to learn about the history of the medium, as well as the craft of filmmaking through hands-on workshops and presentations.

The festival is sponsored by a major grant from Virginia and Harvey Kimmel with contributions from Chemical Bank, Modern Dentistry Associates, Sam and Connie Monte, and the New Buffalo Times. The programs at the New Buffalo Township Library and the Vickers Theater in Three Oaks are made possible with a grant from The Pokagon Fund. This activity is also supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Minigrant Program administered by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo.

Admission for all films is free; however, a one-dollar suggested donation per person is welcomed. The festival booklet offers parents guidance to content and age appropriateness. For more information call **LESLIE SULLIVAN** at 269-757-1491.

