

The 36th Chicago International Children's Film Festival

November 1st – November 10th, 2019

The Chicago International Children's Film Festival: German Films

For 35 years, the Chicago International Children's Film Festival has presented the best, most innovative film and educational experiences for kids, teens, families, students, and industry professionals. This year's official selection of 248 films from 49 countries will open children's eyes and minds to new worlds, new people, and new ideas. This season, the festival will be screening German films at one or more of our Festival locations, including:

Venues:

- Facets
1517 W Fullerton, Chicago
- The Music Box Theatre
3373 N Southport Ave, Chicago
- University of Chicago: Logan Center for the Arts
915 st 60th Street, Chicago
- Davis Theater
4614 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago

Full festival schedule available at <https://www.facets.org/cicff>



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Germany
and the U.S.

The Adventures of the Young Marco Polo: "Tanzania"

Animated Television Episode

Germany, English

Grades K-2

25 minutes

Directed by: Eckart Fingberg

In one of their explorations, Marco and his friends meet up with a Bantu chieftain's son, Jamba. After a wonderful feast and dancing, suddenly Jamba's sister is missing. Everyone goes looking for her, but it's an adventure the friends hadn't prepared for. They learn that true bravery is not about not being scared, it is doing what needs to be done.



Screenings:

CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS

Monday, Nov 4th 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3

Anglerfish

Animated Short Film

Germany, Nonverbal

Ages 2-5

4 minutes

Directed by: Julia Ocker

The little anglerfish has to go to bed. But the deep waters are full of scary creatures.



Screenings:

NEW NEIGHBORS, NEW FRIENDS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Music Box Theatre

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts

Friday, Nov 8th 9:45AM – Facets 1

FINE AND DANDY

Saturday, Nov 2nd 9:30AM – Facets 1



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Cat Lake City

Animated Short Film
Germany, Nonverbal
Grades K-5
7 minutes
Directed by: Antje Heyn

When flipping through a travel brochure, one cat is inspired to go to Cat Lake City. Things aren't quite as he expected once he arrives, however. Though he faces many challenges with the family of ducks who inhabits the lake, he ends up making the most of his vacation.



Screenings:

NEW NEIGHBORS, NEW FRIENDS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Music Box Theater
Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts
Friday, Nov 8th 9:45AM – Facets 1

DIFFERENT STRIPES

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Facets 1

KEY HOLDERS

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Music Box Theatre

FINE AND DANDY

Saturday, Nov 2nd 9:30AM – Facets 1

Cat Planets

Animated Short Film
Germany, Nonverbal
Ages 5-10
2 minutes
Directed by: Yi Luo

As Ida refuses her cat a snack, the animal turns into an enraged glowing fur ball, beaming its owner into a galaxy ruled by giant cats. Where is a laser pointer when you need one?



Screenings:

GIRLS GOT THIS

Saturday, Nov 2nd 11:00AM – Facets 1

TIME TRAVELLERS

Monday, Nov 4th 11:45AM – Music Box Theatre



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Crowley Cowboy-Up

Documentary Short Film

Germany, English

Ages 11-13

15 minutes

Directed by: Andre Hoermann

Fourteen-year-old Crowley loves bull-riding, and wants to be a professional in the rodeo some day! However, after the death of his brother, Crowley and his family face hard times. Nonetheless, there's a rodeo coming up. Will Crowley be able to enter the competition and carry on his brother's legacy?



Screenings:

RISE UP

Sunday, Nov 3rd 3:00PM – Facets 1

Digiclash: "Two Generations Face Off"

Live Action Television Episodes

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 14+

25 minutes

Directed by: Bettina Herzer

A generational competitive twist takes on at the topic of digitalization. Digital natives vs digital newcomers trade places. While four internet-savvy teens have to spend eight days completely offline, four senior citizens have to overcome their skepticism about the internet and spend their days in a high-tech digital dream world. Which team adapts easier to navigating a new world?



Screenings:

HOLD THE LINE

Wednesday, Nov 6th 7:00PM – Facets 1



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Double Trouble – The Magical Mirror

Live Action Feature Film

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 11+

89 minutes

Directed by: Marcus H Rosenmüller

Frido is a fun-loving kid, but he feels a little pressured for getting better grades, among other things. One day during a town fair he encounters a magical mirror. With the mirror's magic he is able to create a double of himself, but the double is perfect at everything – school, chores – sweet! Things start to unravel – be careful what you wish for.



Screenings:

Sunday Nov. 10th 9:30AM – Facets 1

Fritzi – A Revolutionary Tale

Animated Feature Film

Germany, German with English subtitles

Grades 6-8

87 minutes

Directed by: Ralf Kukula and Matthias Bruhn

East Germany, 1989. Twelve-year-old Fritzi lovingly takes care of her best friend Sophie's little dog Sputnik, while Sophie's family is on summer vacation in Hungary. When Sophie doesn't come back from vacation, Fritzi and Sputnik set out in search of her. This animated film retells the story of the peaceful revolution of 1989 from a child's perspective.



Screenings:

Tuesday, Nov. 5th 10:15AM – Davis Theater 2

Fussel

Animated Short Film

Germany, Nonverbal

Grades Pre K-2

6 minutes

Directed by: Paige Alexander

When a little blue creature discovers a long string, he is curious to see where it goes. He follows it and along the way makes some new friends who also have their own ideas of where the string leads to. Will they ever find the end of the string? Whose idea is right?



Screenings:

TEAM TIME

Monday, Nov 4th 9:45AM – Facets 1

Thursday, Nov 7th 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3

DIFFERENT STRIPES

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Facets 1



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I Am Me: “Jona Bakes Bread”

Documentary Short Film

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 5-8

8 minutes

Directed by: Ute Hilgefort

Jona is a six-year-old boy who has gluten allergies, so he can't eat your typical bread. Nothing holds him back from being an expert baker, however, and he definitely knows what he's doing. He has some other challenges, too - but he's determined to do it on his own, with his big sister joining in the fun.



Screenings:

EVERYDAY CHALLENGES, EVERYDAY SOLUTIONS

Monday, Nov 4th 11:45AM – Facets 1

FAMILY TIME

Sunday, Nov 3rd 9:30AM – Facets 1

I Love My Carl

Animated Short Film

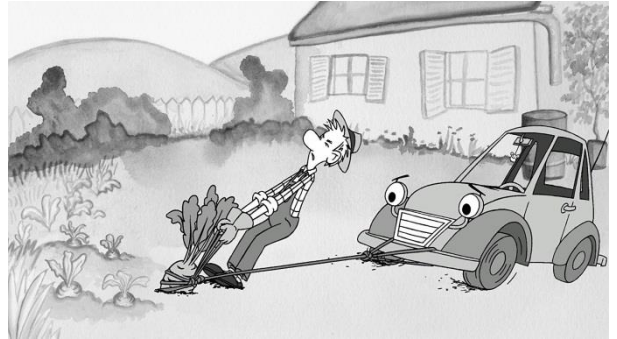
Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 11-13

7 minutes

Directed by: Alina Cyranek

Man's temporary obsession with a fancy new lady is only fleeting when he's restored to his first friend, his beloved auto.



Screenings:

TRULY MADLY DEEPLY

Sunday, Nov 3rd 1:30PM – Facets 2

Invisible Sue

Live Action Feature Film

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 11+

96 minutes

Directed by: Markus Dietrich

The unassuming 12-year-old Sue has physical contact with a secret serum her mother has developed for the good of humankind – and suddenly she is able to make herself invisible. Teaming up with her two dissimilar sidekicks, App and Tobi, as well as the precocious A.I. (artificial intelligence) Alfred, Sue has to undergo many dangerous adventures. With her new superhero powers she has to free her mother from the clutches of dark forces, and ultimately prove herself on her own abilities as a superhero.



Screenings:

Sunday Nov. 3rd 5:00PM – Facets 1



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Isabel's Treasure

Live Action Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 8-10

16 minutes

Directed by: Lydia Bruna

Isabel is an imaginative seven-year-old girl who really loves pirate stories. She just moved into a "fixer-upper" house with her parents, but they're in over the heads with the Money Pit. When she hears that a treasure chest is hidden in her new town, she sets off looking for it hoping her parents can use it to just buy a new house. On the way, she meets a character named Punk whom she takes along with her in her treasure hunt, complete with hidden clues in their small village. Meanwhile, the grown-ups are in pursuit!



Screenings:

GIRLS RULE!

Sunday, Nov 3rd 11:00AM – Facets 1

It's All New To Lina: "Trouble with Miray"

Live Action Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 12+

8 minutes

Directed by: Markus F. Adrian

Since relocating to the big city, Lina is bummed to make the adjustment, especially sharing cuddle time with the pet she's taking care of. Her new neighbor does seem pretty cool, and it would be fun to explore her awesome treehouse, too. It's okay to make new friends and explore new places, after all!



Screenings:

GIRLS RULE!

Sunday, Nov 3rd 11:00AM – Facets 1



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M52

Animated Short Film

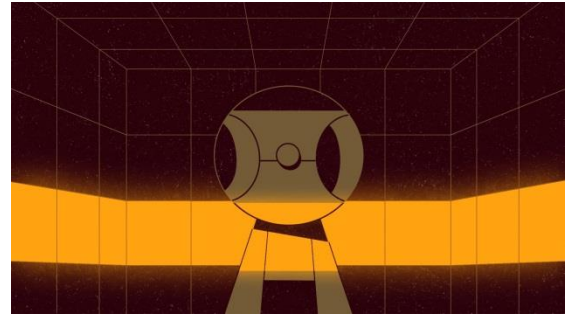
Germany, Nonverbal

Ages 11+

11 minutes

Directed by: Yves Paradis

What starts as a Sisyphean endeavor ends up quite differently for this character.



Screenings:

FREEDOM STATE

Monday, Nov 4th 7:00PM – Facets 1

CUTTING EDGE ANIMATION

Friday, Nov 8th 7:00PM – Facets 1

Magic Chefs: “Nurey and Lea Bake for Purim”

Live Action Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 8-10

15 minutes

Directed by: Clea Schnitzlein and Michael Anderson

Don't know about the festival of Purim? Nurey and Lea are here to teach you everything you need to know as they get ready and bake a sweet treat called hamantaschen.



Screenings:

GIRLS RULE!

Sunday, Nov 3rd 11:00AM – Facets 1

The Mandarin Tree

Live Action Short Film

Germany, Turkish and Kurdish with English subtitles

Ages 11+

18 minutes

Directed by: Cengiz Akaygün

Sirin tries to give her imprisoned father her drawings, and in return learns about the importance of freedom of thought.



Screenings:

FREEDOM STATE

Monday, Nov 4th 7:00PM – Facets 1

JUST ME AND YOU

Thursday, Nov 5th 7:00PM – Facets 1



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Master Painter Bah Bizon

Animated Short Film
Germany, Nonverbal
Grades Pre K & K
2 minutes
Directed by: Uli Seis

All Bah Bizon wants to do is enjoy his day painting, but when a wolf comes along, this might be harder than expected. Using his creative thinking, however, things might just turn out for him.



Screenings:

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Facets 1

Meet...: “Friedrich Schiller”

Live Action Television Episode
Germany, German with English subtitles
Ages 11-13
25 minutes
Directed by: Volker Schmidt-Sondermann

The great German classical poet, dramatist, and thinker Friedrich Schiller comes to life in this episode, as a present-day narrator "interviews" him in a time travel adventure.



Screenings:

KEEP TRUE TO THE DREAMS OF YOUR YOUTH

Saturday, Nov 9th 5:00PM – Facets 2

The Musifant: “In My Bathtub I’m the Captain in Command

Animated Television Episode
Germany, English
Ages 5-8
4 minutes
Directed by: Meik Fehre

Charlie, a young elephant, is dirty and wants to eat dinner without taking a bath. However, a stern Grandpa Gunter then takes Charlie to the bath tub, and sings a song about getting clean. After a fun maritime adventure, Charlie learns that maybe that taking baths isn't so bad after all!



Screenings:

FAMILY TIME

Sunday, Nov 3rd 9:30AM – Facets 1



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The Musifant: "I Have a Little Cactus"

Animated Television Episode

Germany, English

Grades Pre K - 2

4 minutes

Directed by: Meik Fehre

Grandpa's brought an unexpected gift to the birthday party.



Screenings:

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Facets 1

NEW NEIGHBORS, NEW FRIENDS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Music Box Theatre

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts

Friday, Nov 8th 9:45AM – Facets 1

FINE AND DANDY

Saturday, Nov 2nd 9:30AM – Facets 1

Obon

Animated Short Film

Germany, Japanese with English subtitles

Ages 15+

16 minutes

Directed by: Andre Hoermann and Anna Samo

On Obon Day, Akiko Takakura, an old woman in her 90s, goes on her annual journey to her family grave, while recounting the atrocities she experienced when the atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima. At the time, she had just started as a banker, and had a strained relationship with her distant Father. Through her memories of the atrocity, however, Akiko remembers not only the tragedies of that day, but the resilience of the human spirit.



Screenings:

BEHIND THE FRONT LINES

Friday, Nov 1st 10:45AM – Davis Theater 2

Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3

ANIMATION 101: STORYBOARD STORIES

Sunday, Nov 3rd 7:00PM – Facets 1

Thursday, Nov 7th 10:15AM – Davis Theater 2



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Peacock

Animated Short Film
Germany, Nonverbal
Ages 2-5
4 minutes
Directed by: Julia Ocker

The peacock is a big star onstage. His feathers however want a fair share of the fame.



Screenings:

NEW NEIGHBORS, NEW FRIENDS

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Music Box Theatre
Tuesday, Nov 5th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts
Friday, Nov 8th 9:45AM – Facets 1

FINE AND DANDY

Saturday, Nov 2nd 9:30AM – Facets 1

Sheep

Animated Short Film
Germany, Nonverbal
Grades Pre K & K
4 minutes
Directed by: Julia Ocker

When a brave baby sheep ventures where no other sheep in the flock dares to go and gets into trouble, the adults of the flock must go to the rescue. When the adults' mustered up courage and ingenuity just aren't enough, they find help from an unexpected source.



Screenings:

TEAM TIME

Monday, Nov 4th 9:45AM – Facets 1
Thursday, Nov 7th 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3



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The Show with the Mouse: “The Invisible Disease”

Animated Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Grades 3-5

29 minutes

Directed by: Ricci Lutterbeck and Marcus Sauermann

Sometimes children have illnesses or hurts easily visible from the outside. But when a brain is not necessarily sending the right messages, these kids tell the ways they can work it out.



Screenings:

EVERYDAY CHALLENGES, EVERYDAY SOLUTIONS

Monday, Nov 4th 11:45AM – Facets 1

Sloth

Animated Television Episode

Germany, Nonverbal

Pre K & K

4 minutes

Directed by: Julia Ocker

The sloth wants to buy ice cream, but unfortunately he is way. Too. Slow.



Screenings:

TEAM TIME

Monday, Nov 4th 9:45AM – Facets 1

Thursday, Nov 7th 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3

The Tale of the Tiny Frog

Animated Short Film

Germany, Swedish with English subtitles

Grades K-2

4 minutes

Directed by: Felicia Bergström

A tiny, curious frog hops across different terrains to learn about the animals and the foods they eat.



Screenings:

STEM: WORLDS AROUND ME

Friday, Nov 1st 10:15AM – Davis Theater 1

Wednesday, Nov 6th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts



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Thomas and Korduni: “Bees Saving Elephants”

Live Action Short Film

Germany, Kimaasai with English subtitles

Ages 8-10, Grades 6-8

25 minutes

Directed by: Frank Feustle

Come learn about African Elephants from two twelve-year-old boys, Thomas and Korduni, who care about preserving wildlife. As elephants have come through their village's fields eating and damaging crops, the villagers have resolved to kill any elephants which intrude on the farmland. With the help of bee expert Emmanuel, it's now up to these boys to save these gentle beasts!



Screenings:

STEM: HUMAN IMPACT

Monday, Nov 4th 10:45AM – Davis Theater 1

Thursday, Nov 7th 9:45AM – Logan Center for the Arts

COME TOGETHER

Sunday, Nov 3rd 11:15AM – Facets 2

Too Far Away

Live Action Feature Film

Germany, German with English subtitles

Grades 6-8

89 minutes

Directed by: Sarah Winkenstette

When Ben's small hometown is evacuated to make room for a mine, he finds himself in a new city, where he's no longer a big shot soccer star but instead a nobody. But when he meets Syrian refugee Tariq, he realizes he's not the only one who's been misplaced, and this unlikely pair grow to be friends as each lets the other in on his biggest secret.



Screenings:

Friday, Nov 1st 9:45AM – Davis Theater 3



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Trude's Flatmate: "Cake"

Animated Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Ages 5-10

7 minutes

Directed by: Klaus Morschheuser

Trude's roommate is a big, greedy beast with quite the sweet tooth – literally! What happens when Dad stops by with an irresistible treat?



Screenings:

FAMILY TIME

Sunday, Nov 3rd 9:30AM – Facets 1

GIRLS RULE!

Sunday, Nov 3rd 11:00AM – Facets 1

Unstoppable

Live Action Television Episode

Germany, German with English subtitles

Grades High School

25 minutes

Directed by: Nils Laschin and Andreas Simon

Six teenage top athletes share the same dream: to participate in the next Paralympic Games. Viewers witness how they deal with setbacks and how they turn weaknesses into strengths.



Screenings:

UNSTOPPABLE

Thursday, Nov 7th 11:45AM – Facets 1



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