



## **NEW YORK INT'L CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 DATES, CALL FOR ENTRIES, AND 2018 KID FLICKS NATIONAL TOUR LINEUP**

**SUBMISSIONS OPEN FOR THE OSCAR®-QUALIFYING FESTIVAL NYC  
EVENT TO TAKE PLACE FEBRUARY 22 – MARCH 17, 2019**

**2018 KID FLICKS TOUR, COMPRISING AUDIENCE FAVORITE AND  
AWARD-WINNING SHORTS FROM THE 2018 FEST, NOW AVAILABLE  
FOR NATIONWIDE BOOKING**

**May 22, 2018 – New York, NY** – New York Int'l Children's Film Festival (NYICFF) will be held February 22 through March 17, 2019, at venues throughout New York City. Today the Oscar®-qualifying Festival announced a call for submissions seeking innovative, compelling, and visually and thematically original short and feature animation, live action, and documentary films that keep audiences ages 3-18 in mind. The Festival is accepting film submissions via Withoutabox, its official submissions platform.

The 2019 Festival, now in its 22nd year, supports the creation of a more dynamic film culture for children and teens. As such, the Festival often presents films that were not explicitly created for young audiences, but resonate strongly with children and families as well as general film audiences. This bold programming philosophy has made the Festival a distinctive cultural touchstone in New York City and an international leader in its approach to providing quality children's media. The Festival's prestigious jury, which awards films that then become eligible for Academy®-qualifying status in the Best Live Action and Animated Short Film categories, includes filmmakers, academics, actors, and industry leaders Sofia Coppola, Zoe Saldana, Gus Van Sant, Rosie Perez, Mark Osborne, Ira Sachs, and Christine Vachon, among others.

**Deadlines to submit U.S. and international films for the 2019 New York International Children's Film Festival are as follows:**

- September 1, 2018: EARLY DEADLINE for short entries (\$40 fee - \$25 student fee) and feature film entries (\$80 fee - \$50 student fee)
- October 1, 2018: STANDARD DEADLINE for short film entries (\$60 fee - \$25 student fee)
- November 5, 2018: LATE DEADLINE for short film entries (\$75 fee - \$40 student fee)  
STANDARD DEADLINE for feature film entries (\$80 fee - \$50 student fee)
- December 1, 2018: LATE DEADLINE for feature film entries (\$125 fee - \$80 student fee)

Complete eligibility information, submission fees, and official rules and regulations can be found [here](#).

NYICFF is thrilled to provide high visibility to its talented filmmakers by sharing their works with its esteemed jury, sold-out Festival audiences here in New York City, and nationally, as part of its tour

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program screened at major cultural institutions and partner festivals across America. Following the conclusion of its 2018 event showcasing the best new, adventurous films from around the globe earlier this year, NYICFF also announces today its annual **Kid Flicks** touring lineup, now available for booking.

The tour features three short film programs comprising audience favorites and award winners from the 2018 Festival: **Kid Flicks One** (for budding cinephiles 3-7), **Kid Flicks Two** (expanding horizons for ages 8+), and **¡Viva Kid Flicks!** (ages 7+), a Spanish-language selection drawn from NYICFF's acclaimed 2018 Friends and Neighbors program spotlighting Mexico, co-curated with Morelia International Film Festival. All films in ¡Viva! are in Spanish with English subtitles or have no dialogue, perfect for Spanish learners, speakers, and all seekers of fun, artistic, and enriching cultural experiences. Screened together or separately, these three programs represent the breadth of the Festival's programming, spanning genre, style, tone, and theme.

Kid Flicks programming highlights include stop-motion award-winning short *Poles Apart*, a clever commentary on climate issues featuring a cantankerous polar bear voiced by Helena Bonham Carter; live action charmers *Sherbert Rosencrantz*, *You're Beautiful*, a candy-colored ode to finding your own path, and *Piñata Love*, a snappy cross-cultural take on making an impression; plus *Hello Salaam*, a poignant documentary showing children at their empathetic best: bridging cultures, languages, and challenging circumstances to make friendships.

Last year's tour stops included prestigious festivals, museums, and theaters such as the Detroit Institute of Arts in Michigan, The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth in Texas, Coral Gables Art Cinema in Florida, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Arkansas, and Greenwich Film Festival in Connecticut. The tour also screened extensively throughout NYC as part of the Five Borough Tour, with stops including Film Society of Lincoln Center, Museum of the Moving Image, Staten Island Museum, and Made in New York Media Center by IFP.

### **2018 BEST OF THE FEST TOUR PROGRAMS**

- Kid Flicks One (ages 3-7)
- Kid Flicks Two (Ages 8+)
- ¡Viva Kid Flicks! (Ages 7+)

#### **Kid Flicks One**

##### **DARK, DARK WOODS**

**Denmark, Animation**

**Emile Gignoux & Mik Lovenbalch Kirchheiner, 2017, 6 min**

Royal life's not always so magnificent and can be tiring for a little one, so Maria trades in a tiara for a wilder kind of fun.

##### **HENRIYETI: SOCK IT TO ME, YETI!**

**USA, Animation**

**Greg Walter, 2017, 2 min**

Henriyeti—a little bit girl and a little bit Yeti—demonstrates that great matches go beyond appearances. It's just about teaming up and putting one fearless foot in front of the other.

##### **THE HOUSE**

**Czech Republic, Animation**

**Veronika Zacharova, 2016, 6 min**

Moving on is never easy. Sometimes you've got to roll with the changes. Other times you have to chase your dreams, as the House and its inhabitants hilariously find out.

### **IF YOU FALL**

**Canada, Animation**

**Tisha Deb Pillai, 2017, 6 min**

Eight-year-old Lila takes on the daunting task of learning how to cycle, while she and her beloved Baba must also balance Mom's work, his art, and everyone learning to grow and let go.

### **I WANT TO LIVE IN THE ZOO**

**Russia, Animation**

**Evgenia Golubeva, 2017, 6 min**

At home you must clean up your room, clear your plate, and finish up homework. Wouldn't it be much more fun to relax and hang with some buddies at the zoo?

### **JAZZOO**

**Sweden, Animation**

**Adam Marko Nord, 2017, 9 min**

Koalas, hippos, elephants, and fish find their own groove in this melodic menagerie of a film, set to jazz sounds from the award-winning Oddjob quintet.

### **PARTY MOUTH**

**USA, Animation**

**Hunter Gatherer, 2017, 2 min**

We guarantee this catchy dubstep tune will stay in your head while you take your grooming game to a whole other level!

### **SHERBERT ROSENCRANTZ, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL**

**Australia, Live Action**

**Natalie van den Dungen, 2017, 11 min**

Ten-year-old Milly is quite content in the company of her carrot-colored guinea pig, Sherbert. She wonders why others can't understand that in this sweet sherbet-hued ode to the 1980s and finding your own path.

### **TIGER, TIGER**

**USA, Animation**

**Rhea Dadoo, 2017, 4 min**

A family takes a wrong turn in the jungle and must summon all their calm to get out—but might that be a Bengali tiger in the shadows?

### **Kid Flicks Two**

#### **CAT DAYS**

**Germany/Japan, Animation**

**Jon Frickey, 2018, 11 min**

**Japanese with English subtitles**

Jiro feels sick. When his father takes him to the doctor, tests confirm it's nothing serious... and yet reveal surprising news about Jiro. But who says you can't challenge the results?

### **GAME**

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**USA, Live Action**

**Jeannie Donohoe, 2017, 15 min**

A.J. Green, a new kid in town, shows up at boys' basketball tryouts and instantly makes an impression. Can it be sustained?

**GOKURŌSAMA**

**France, Animation**

**Clémentine Frère, Aurore Gal, Yukiko Meignien, Anna Mertz, Robin Migliorelli & Romain Salvini, 2016, 7 min**

From escalators to robotic vacuums, automation helps this slightly surreal Japanese megamall hum along. But sometimes a little human touch goes a long way...

**HELLO SALAAM**

**Netherlands, Documentary**

**Kim Brand, 2017, 15 min**

**In Dutch and Arabic with English subtitles**

Two boys from Holland are headed on a big journey, traveling to a refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos where their mothers volunteer. How will the boys bridge such big differences in language, culture, and experiences to make friends and build meaningful bonds?

**PIÑATA LOVE**

**USA, Live Action**

**Joel Ramirez, 2017, 6 min**

Mexican country craft meets-cute with NYC urban grit in this tale of a near-perfect mâche.

**POLES APART**

**UK, Animation**

**Paloma Baeza, 2017, 12 min**

Nanuk, a tough-talking polar bear, meets Aklak, an enthusiastic grizzly, when he encroaches on her own dwindling turf. She's understandably a little less than patient with his clueless cheer.

**SUPERPERSON**

**Australia, Animation**

**Philip Watts, 2017, 2min**

A citizen needs rescuing. Luckily, there's a superhero on hand who just needs somewhere to get into costume...

**THE THEORY OF SUNSET**

**Russia, Animation**

**Roman Sokolov, 2017, 9 min**

Deep at night, a dedicated cyclist traverses the wintry forest. The challenge: make sure this new day gets off to a fresh and timely start.

**UNDISCOVERED**

**USA, Animation**

**Sara Litzenberger, 2017, 3 min**

Sasquatch. Bigfoot. Call him what you will, if you can catch him on camera, that is, in this surprising look behind his elusive nature.

**¡Viva Kid Flicks!**

**BZZZ**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Anna Cetti, 2017, 4 min**

A little girl recognizes that buzz and hum are essential to all life in this cross-pollinating tale.

**CREATIVITY DOES NOT RECOGNIZE WALLS / LA CREATIVIDAD NO RECONOCE MUROS**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Fernando Campos, 2017, 2 min**

Art knows no boundaries, as this lovely animation commissioned by the Pixelatl Festival seeks to show us.

**ELENA AND THE SHADOWS / ELENA Y LAS SOMBRAS**

**Mexico, Live Action**

**César Cepeda, 2016, 7 min**

Elena's old neighborhood is empty and lonely until Félix enters her orbit and shows her how to access other universes.

**FAR FROM HOME / LEJOS DE CASA**

**Mexico, Live Action**

**Mayra Veliz, 2016, 13 min**

**In Spanish with English subtitles**

Risa is a Japanese teenager on a visit to Mexico. When she ends up lost in a restaurant in the middle of nowhere, a local boy tries to help her find her way.

**A HOLE / EL AGUJERO**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Maribel Suarez, 2016, 5 min**

**In Spanish with English subtitles**

A little girl longs for a playmate in the garden. Her efforts go unnoticed—until they finally take root.

**LUCY VS. THE LIMITS OF VOICE / LUCY CONTRA LAS LIMITES DE VOZ**

**Mexico, Live Action**

**Mónica Herrera, 2012, 10 min**

**In Spanish with English subtitles**

Lucy wonders if each person is born with a fixed number of words to expend in their lifetime and if that could be the reason why her grandpa stopped talking.

**MATEO AND THE CINEMA / MATEO Y EL CINE**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Luis Felipe Hernández Alanis, 2015, 4 min**

**Spanish with English subtitles**

A young boy gets help from his family, who are committed to seeing his artistic talents gloriously unfold.

**THE PIÑATA KING**

**UK, Documentary**

**Charlie Kwai, Chris Lee & Paul Storrie, 2017, 3 min**

**Spanish with English subtitles**

Over 50 years ago, on the outskirts of Mexico City, a family began making and selling piñatas to the local community. Now, the whole town takes part in the tradition, as this colorful documentary demonstrates.

**PIÑATA LOVE**

**USA, Live Action**

**Joel Ramirez, 2017, 6 min**

Mexican country craft meets-cute with NYC urban grit in this tale of a near-perfect mûche.

**RAIN IN THE EYES / LLUVIA EN LOS OJOS**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Rita Basulto, 2013, 9 min**

In this fantastical story set amidst hides tough and tender, seven-year-old Sofía recalls the day she fractured her arm while being chased through the forest.

**TINTICO'S AFTERNOONS / LAS TARDES DE TINTICO**

**Mexico, Animation**

**Alejandro García Caballero, 2012, 11 min**

Under the beautiful Quebrada cliff in Acapulco, a group of mosquitoes crazy for tropical music desperately tries to bring happiness back into a rumba director's life.

**ABOUT NEW YORK INT'L CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL**

Distinguished by its unique mission and high-caliber programming, New York International Children's Film Festival was founded in 1997 to support the creation and dissemination of thoughtful, provocative, and intelligent film for young people ages 3-18. Celebrating its 21st year, the 2018 Festival took place February 23 - March 18. The Festival's dynamic film program, drawn from roughly 2,500 international submissions, boasts over 100 short and feature films, filmmaker Q&As, retrospective programs, parties, premieres, audience voting, and a Closing Night celebration. NYICFF is an Academy Award®-qualifying festival, one of only two children's qualifying film festivals in the country, with the Festival's esteemed jury selecting the qualifying films. The largest film festival for children and teens in North America, NYICFF cultivates an appreciation for the arts, encourages active, discerning viewing, and stimulates lively discussion among peers, families, and the film community.

Goldfish® Colors was the Presenting Sponsor of the 2018 Festival. New York International Children's Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and a Humanities New York Action Grant. Girls' POV programming is supported by EILEEN FISHER and Sony USA Foundation. Film-Ed is supported by AMC Cares.

In addition to presenting the annual event, New York International Children's Film Festival is a multifaceted arts organization that offers year-round engagement, including a nationwide touring program, filmmaking camps, and Film-Ed educational field trips for public and private schools, with free or reduced cost school programs offering equal access to the art of film for all.

**NYICFF information:**

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