

# The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago International Children's Film Festival

## October 22 – November 1, 2009



***The only Academy Award qualifying children's festival in North America!***

The CICFF has earned an international reputation for presenting the very best in children's media from around the world. The Festival advocates inspired, innovative programming for kids. We are seeking humanistic, culturally diverse, and compelling films that reveal the world in new ways and leave room for the child's own imaginative response.

Featuring over 200 films annually, the Festival welcomes over 25,000 Chicago area children, adults, and educators to the screenings, and over 130 filmmakers, media professionals & celebrities attend the Festival to lead interactive workshops with kids.

For more information visit: [www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org)



**"We were ... impressed by the considerable and ambitious choice of films at the Festival and by the glowing children in the sold-out festival screenings. As one of the most important international childrens' film festivals in America, the Chicago Festival leaves a lasting impression on us."** Annekathrin Heubner, Casting Director of *Stella and the Star of the Orient* – Winner of the CICFF's Best of the Fest Prize, 2008.



**"I loved the whole atmosphere of this festival -- it focuses on bringing truly creative people together. I liked one of the award winning films so much I contacted the writer and now we are working together on a new project!"** Sally Pearce, director of *Elephants*

**"The CICFF has easily been my best festival experience. I saw many great films, met some fantastic people who became friends and it was a genuine thrill to watch my film in packed out cinemas."** David Cooke, director of *The Morse Collectors* – Winner of the Adult Jury 1<sup>st</sup> Prize for Best Live-action Short Film; an Academy-qualifying category.



**"My experience at CICFF last year was one of the best festival experiences of my life! The festival organizers were so gracious, sweet and helpful. I met wonderful, sensitive, immensely talented filmmakers from all over the world. Visiting the city of Chicago was fantastic. Finally I loved being apart of the screenings and seeing the loads of children file into the theaters to watch the films. That experience alone was worth its amount in gold, hearing and seeing the kids respond to the films."** Alyssa Sherwood, director/ animator of *Migrations* – Winner of the 2008 Poetry Prize for a film based on a poem. Poem by Dorian Merina.