

CICFF Young Chicago Critics

June 18-27 and July 7-16

Press Release

Young Chicago Critics Get Their Reels Rolling!

CICFF Kicks Off the Summer With Movie Camp

CHICAGO, IL - June 4, 2008 - Crafting a movie review like Roger Ebert, inspiring actors like Steven Spielberg, or delivering lines with flair like Tom Hanks doesn't happen overnight, but for 150 Chicago-area children it can start with Young Chicago Critics.

This summer, children ages 7-14 will attend Facets Multi-Media's eight-day program to learn about filmmaking and movie critique, and go on to apply their newfound skills to produce original short films.



"The kids do it all--from brainstorming movie ideas, storyboarding, and writing a script to acting, shooting scenes, and editing," says Festival Director Nicole Dreiske. "It's all about active, thoughtful discussion and hands-on experience."

In addition to teaching children how to review films, the goal of Young Chicago Critics is to build the young people's skills in their favorite area of

interest: acting, writing or directing.

Using state-of-the-art technology, such as digital cameras, Sennheiser microphones and editing software, children will work in groups to create their own live-action narrative short films, which receive their world premieres at the end of the program.

Dynamic interaction between the children and a team of seven distinguished faculty (plus guest critics) facilitates insightful dialogue and fuels the hands-on involvement in the film production process.

"The knowledge and skills these kids learn and then apply during this camp is amazing," says Young Chicago Critics teaching artist Sandy Shea. "We provide the equipment and instruction and then the kids take the reins."



Graduates of Young Chicago Critics can go on to become members of the CICFF's prestigious Children's Jury and award many of the Festival's top prizes. August 5th-15th, the 70-member Children's Jury screens more than 100 films!

YCC alumni will also have the chance to represent the Festival at children's film festivals worldwide in Giffoni, Italy and Rimouski, Canada. Ambitious YCC grads will also have the chance to review films year-round for the Festival and for major media outlets like CBS and NBC!



Young Chicago Critics will run June 18th-27th and July 7th-16th. For more information, please contact Kathleen Beckman at 773-281-9075 or kidsfest@facets.org.

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