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KidsFest Insider

May 2006

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CICFF News & Updates



Greetings!

Welcome to Kidsfest Insider, a bi-monthly newsletter highlighting the year-round events and activities of the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

Bill Mayer to Design CICFF's New Look for 2006!



Bill Mayer, the celebrated artist and illustrator, has created cutting-edge concepts including fanciful monsters, wacky animals and fabulous people for some of the nation's best companies and publications including IBM and the New York Times. In 2006, Mayer adds the Chicago International Children's Film Festival to his extensive portfolio. Mayer will design the "new look" for the 23rd Annual Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

| [Bill Mayer Website](#)

Leadership Support from JP Morgan Chase Builds CICFF MediaBridge Program

The JP Morgan Chase logo, featuring the text "JPMorganChase" and a circular icon with a stylized 'C'.

A generous grant of \$36,000 from the JP Morgan Chase Foundation was awarded to support **MediaBridge: Youth Teaching Youth**, a media- based arts education in which teens 14-19 mentor other teens and young children in media production, criticism and analysis. The pilot program will kick-off with a training session for MediaBridge youth jurors July 10-19th.

- | [J.P. Morgan Chase Website](#)

Festival Supporters Confirmed in March and April

Thank You!!



- | A charitable grant of \$18,000 was received from the **Albert Pick, Jr. Fund** to support year-round media education programs of the CICFF.
- | **American Airlines** confirmed its continuing support as the Official Airline of the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.
- | **WLS, ABC-7** became the official media sponsor of the festival for the 8th consecutive year, thanks to the generosity of General Manager Emily Barr.
- | The **Irving Harris Foundation** sent \$1500 to the festival for general program support.

- | [Albert Pick Jr. Fund](#)

- | [American Airlines](#)

- | [ABC-7](#)

- | [The Harris Foundation](#)

YCC EXPANDS - Double the fun!



In 2005, the Young Chicago Critics camp was full two weeks after its announcements were posted. This year the CICFF will offer two full sessions of Chicago's premiere film camp for kids to accommodate the increased demand. Session I will be held June 21-30; Session II will be held July 10- 19th. Early confirmation of a grant from the Albert Pick, Jr. Fund and the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust made it possible for the CICFF to guarantee the second session of this popular program.

- | [Young Chicago Critics](#)

"BEE" MEDIA SMART!

CICFF sneak preview of *Akeelah and the Bee* sold out at AMC River East. More than 220 children and families attended *Akeelah and the Bee* on April 22nd. The CICFF's four-page curriculum was utilized by six schools and social service organizations whose children attended the event, including Agassiz School and Good News Partners.

- | [Akeelah and the Bee Official Website](#)

CICFF IN HYDE PARK



The CICFF was one of several arts groups featured at the opening of the Hyde Park Arts Center on April 29 and 30th. The program included an hour long discussion and a 30 minute selection of multi-cultural short films that played throughout the opening.

- | [Hyde Park Arts Center](#)

Changing Kids' Lives With Media

When children watch films from other countries they connect to people different from and yet similar to themselves. They gain personal insight into the differences that enrich our lives and the similarities that give us common, yet precious, human ground.

The CICFF's year-round Media Education programs use media to improve classroom learning and help transform the way kids relate to the most powerful influence in their lives.

email: kidsfest@facets.org
 phone: 773 281.9075
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Although the CICFF provides free tickets and workshops to more than 10,000 children each year, we have requests for programs and services from more than 50 additional schools annually.

Won't you help us help Chicago's children?

The Chicago International Children's Film Festival (CICFF) is the largest festival of films for children in North America featuring over 200

animated and live action films from 40 countries, programming the best on children's media for over 30 years. The Festival welcomes over 25,000 Chicago area children, adults, and educators to the screenings, and over 140 filmmakers, media professionals & celebrities attend the Festival to lead interactive workshops with kids.

**23rd annual Festival Dates:
October 19-October 29, 2006**

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