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## PRESS RELEASE

# "Wings" Flies Away with Audience Award at MediaBridge Open Screen

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--August 18, 2008

Chicago, IL - On August 8th, at Facets Multi-Media's late night MediaBridge Open Screen a packed house voted "Wings" the Audience Award. Polina and Elizaveta Manokhina, 19 year old twin sisters from Moscow, Russia, were the collaborators on this four minute animated piece about an artist who finds inspiration in helping others.

The Open Screen was one of the highpoints in the final weekend of the 2008 MediaBridge program. Youth filmmakers ages 15-19 were invited to participate in the Open Screen as part of the MediaBridge YouthFEST. From 11 p.m. - 1 a.m., 12 films made by MediaBridge participants and youth from around Chicago debuted on the big screen. At the end of the screening, the audience voted for their favorite film. Open Screen winners received \$150 worth of DVDs of their choice from Facets Multi-Media.



"This collection of youth produced films gives me hope for the future of filmmaking," said Jason Makman, MediaBridge Program Manager, "Tonight we saw the future, and the future looks very bright."

MediaBridge is a Sundance-style screen writing workshop which culminates in staged reading of youth-produced scripts by professional actors. During the 6 week program, participants also curate an international short film festival.

For more information about the MediaBridge Program or Festival, please contact Patrick Ogle at 773-281-9075, email [kidsfest@facets.org](mailto:kidsfest@facets.org), or visit [www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org) for more information on the MediaBridge summer program.

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MediaBridge is supported by The Illinois Arts Council - Governor's International Exchange Grant, The Harold Washington Cultural Center, Columbia College Chicago Film & Video Department, the National Endowment for the Arts, MacArthur Foundation, the Crystal Fund, American Airlines, WMAQ - NBC5, Chicago, and Facets Multi-Media.

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