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The Reel Deal

Nationally Acclaimed Film Critics Coach 'Young Chicago Critics' at Facets!

A June 24, 2009 press release stated incorrectly the publications for which the critics mentioned below are currently writing. The corrected version appears below. We deeply regret the error.

CHICAGO, IL - JUNE 25, 2009 - As summer in Chicago gets underway, so does Facets Multi-Media's Young Chicago Critics (YCC) film camp, which welcomed guest film critics John Petrakis (Adjunct Associate Professor of Film, Video, and New Media at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago), Michael Wilmington (moviecitynews.com, The Chicago Daily Herald, Chicago Jewish Star), and in mid-July, Time Out Chicago's film editor Hank Sartin.



Petrakis and Wilmington attended the camp on Thursday, June 25, addressing nearly 100 young aspiring filmmakers and critics aged 7-14. Sartin is scheduled to appear during Session 2 of YCC, which takes place July 6-15.

The critics' talks - which touch upon aspects of and experiences with professional film critique precede the YCC "final exam", in which the students write full reviews of a feature-length

Above: Time Out Chicago's Hank Sartin foreign film. Kathleen Beckman, YCC Operations Manager, adds that, "Although the kids may not realize it, [film critique] is more than an appreciation for movies. Critical thinking at the level expected of Young Chicago Critics strengthens

rhetorical skills and fosters a heightened way of thinking about other forms of media".

YCC participants have spent the previous week on film theory and production training. The program's curriculum emphasizes written and verbal exercises as well as hands-on practice with small teams and professional equipment in creating narrative short films, which will be screened on the last day of the camp.



Above: The Chicago Daily Herald's Michael Wilmington

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