

RI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

KIDSEYE™ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF AUGUST 8TH AT THE FEINSTEIN IMAX PROVIDENCE PLACE

(PROVIDENCE, RI) Since it began eight years ago, **KidsEye™**, created by the **Rhode Island International Film Festival™** (RIIFF), has celebrated young video makers by showcasing their projects and fostering their creativity. There are two elements of the KidsEye program: the KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp, which takes place each July at the University of Rhode Island's Kingston campus; and the KidsEye™ International Film Festival. The latter is an open door to all young filmmakers, whether they be an aspiring feature film director, animator, skateboarder, blader, hip hop artist, or poet! The KidsEye™ International Film Festival screens all genres, including Documentaries, Features, Music Videos, Dramas, Animation, Oral Histories, Video Poetry, Experimental, & even PSAs.

The **8th Annual KidsEye™ International Film Festival** will take place this year, August 8-11, 2006 as part of the Rhode Island International Film Festival™.

A collection of exciting and diverse films being made here and around the country by youth media makers will be screened at the **Feinstein IMAX Theatre Providence Place** in partnership with **Radio Disney**. This popular festival-within-a-festival will also include guest speakers and discussions. **Heather Henson**, daughter of famed Muppet creator, **Jim Henson**, will be on hand to present a unique program on puppetry. Additionally, those attending KidsEye™ will be able to meet teen video makers and their mentors; as well as, see a diverse collection of work created with young people in mind.

"We are extremely excited to be partnered with the **Feinstein IMAX Theatre Providence Place** and Radio Disney for our KidsEye™ International Film Festival," commented George T. Marshall, RIIFF's Executive Director. "The imagination and spirit of these young aspiring filmmakers will now be shown in a wonderful and

exciting environment. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the range of talent that these filmmakers have."

Added Marshall, "Before each screening, we will be presenting "VALENTINE'S DAY," a new short film promoting safe sex among teens. This will be shown throughout this year's Festival at multiple locations and appropriate time slots. The public service announcement stars Sasha Toro, from Spike Lee's Noggin mini-series "MIRACLE'S BOYS; "Aryana Rodriguez, from "ALL MY CHILDREN;" and Traylin Husbands from "STELLA."

"It was written and directed by Eva Saks; winner of the Tony Cox Award from Cable Positive, and a RIIFF Advisory Board Member. Eva told us that she is proud to have exhibited in the Rhode Island International Film Festival for almost a decade. And, we are proud to report that she is currently working on a pre-school series for Playhouse Disney."

According to Christina Mealey, co-director of the KidsEye™ program, "KidsEye™ is about opening up a dialogue amongst kids, their media arts mentors and a broader public, about youth-produced videos and web sites as a powerful form of self-expression for today's kids and teens. Every year KidsEye™ is presented in partnership with several not-for-profit and youth-oriented organizations. By giving kids access to new technologies they are helping build kids' capacities for critical thinking, creative expression and self-empowerment."

Festival awards are offered for best feature, best short and best animation. Winners receive trophies, passes and an opportunity to have their work screened during RIIFF's "Best of Fest Week" after the main festival.

All 2006 screenings will take place at the **Feinstein IMAX Theatre Providence Place**. They will be held in the mornings at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. starting Tuesday, August 8th through Friday, August 11th. To purchase tickets, please contact the Feinstein IMAX Theatre Providence Place box office at (401) 453-IMAX or online at www.imax.com/providence. Reserved seating is available for all shows.

A portion of each ticket sale will be donated to the KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp by the **Feinstein IMAX Theatre Providence Place**. The Rhode Island International Film Festival and the KidsEye™ program is produced by the Flickers Arts Collaborative, a non-profit educational organization.

TICKETS

Single show	Adult \$6	Child \$4
Both shows	Adults \$10	Child \$6

RIIFF is the largest Film Festival in New England. Celebrating the art of film has always been a critical part of the Rhode Island International Film Festival a factor that has solidified **RIIFF's** reputation as a filmmaker-friendly event.

The **Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) is dedicated to the creation of opportunities for artistic interaction and exchange among independent filmmakers, directors, producers, distributors, backer, and the film-going community. Rhode Island Governor Donald Carcieri, Providence Mayor David M. Cicilline, and US Senator Jack Reed serve as honorary chairs to this year's event. During the 2006 event, over 270 films will be presented.

The **Rhode Island International Film Festival** is supported in part by the *City of Providence, the Providence Tourism Council, the Providence Department of Arts, Culture & Tourism, Clear Channel Communications, Sony, Rule Broadcast Systems, WJAR TV 10, the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Amtrak, Providence Monthly, Radio Disney, Feinstein IMAX Providence Place, UPN28, Delta Airlines, WBRU Radio, Showcase Cinemas Providence Place* and contributions from members and community supporters.

Advance ticket sales for screenings and special events are available through the RIIFF website (www.RIFilmFest.org). Student, group, and senior discounts are also available but only in advance. To purchase tickets or obtain more information about any aspect of RIIFF, call 401-861-4445; or write RIIFF, 268 Broadway, Providence, RI 02903; email info@film-festival.org. or log onto www.RIFilmFest.org.

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KidsEye™ coverage in MovieMaker Magazine:

<http://www.moviemaker.com/issues/51/kidmoviemakers.html>

FEINSTEIN IMAX THEATRE PROVIDENCE PLACE.

2006 KIDSEYE™ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8TH

9:30 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: *All-Children's Program*

"Little Blue"

Bob Svihovec

7 min., USA

Sometimes a discovery ignites a passion. Little Blue, a young penguin, breaks away from tradition and learns to surf. His pursuit of the dream is a lonely quest... or is it?

"Cake"

Jennifer Arzt

8 min., USA

For Katie, a precocious 11-year old living at the Oxford Orphanage, flights of fancy are the greatest part of her world. Along with her best friend Roger, she imagines fireflies to be stars and pretends rockets soar through the air above. But all that is about to change. Having overheard their guardian tell a secret, Katie is convinced that Roger will soon be adopted and leave the orphanage. To prevent it, Katie sets out to make her best friend so dirty and ugly that no parents would want to adopt him. But when the time for Roger's departure arrives, it is Katie who is in for a surprise!

"Tree Climbers"

Shawn Wines

13 min., USA

Two young friends dig through a bin of toys, looking for something to do on a summer day. Bored with the usual toys and games, they end up with nothing, until one has an epiphany: They have to climb trees! They rush out to gather friends from the neighborhood, along the way encountering a world of spinning games, secret handshakes, mean sisters, protective fathers, scary dogs, and lots and lots of houses. On the outside, the kids have fun wandering the neighborhood, planning out their big day at the tree, but on the inside, their parents bicker and argue over meaningless 'adult' things. The kids finish getting their friends together and set out for the tree, but their parents don't even know they're gone. When the parents realize they were too busy arguing to notice where their kids went, they learn what's most important in life. After a string of panicked phone calls and a strenuous test of the limits of call waiting, they band together and set out to find the kids. But will a showdown between kids and parents at the tree bring everyone together, or just push them further apart?

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dumpling"

David Henderson, director

8 min. USA 2004

Kung Fu action! Great Scenery! A Dumpling! Small Children hitting each other! Two young warriors fight for possession of a dumpling that leads from a lonely hilltop to the Forbidden City, from the Temple of Heaven to the Great Wall, then back to the hill where it began. Harmony is restored as they realize that having even half a dumpling is better than fighting!

And

“Check-Up Quartet”

10:30 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: All-Children’s Program

“Sirah”

Cristine Spindler, director

17 min. USA 2005

World Premiere

Sirah, a young Muslim girl born in the United States, desperately wants to connect with others in her class. Her traditional dress and religious differences make her an outcast at her private school. That is until she bonds with Amy. Amy would like to be Sirah's friend, but doesn't quite have the courage to befriend the "different" girl. Especially with Amy's friend, Caitlin, constantly challenging Sirah's way of life. When Caitlin asks Sirah to do something against her beliefs, Sirah must choose between the world she wants to be a part of, and the one she grew up in.

“SNACKS”

Brian Jackson & Scott Kittredge, directors

12 min., USA

Who would have thought snack time could be so scary? Nicholas is the new kid in school who falls prey to an evil trio of girls. They plot a scheme to scare Nicholas back to where he came from. The leader of the pack Alicia spins a tall tale about what happened to the last kid that entered the fridge for snack time. Scared silly but stepping up to the challenge, Nicholas ventures out to get the milk. Soon he will be face to face with the truth of what happens when you're sent to get the snacks!

“Wings”

Daniel Brothers, director

9 min. USA 2005

East Coast Premiere

A story about a little boy who grows wings.

And

“THE SHOES”

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

9:30 – 10:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: Children's Program All Ages

"Second Banana"

Fill Marc Sagadraca, director

2 min. USA 2005

East Coast Premiere

A short character animation piece about a young ape that befriends an older crabby ape through an annoying game of mimicry.

"Santa's Camels"

Steve Gray, director

6 min. USA 2005

A 3D animated holiday cartoon short starring Santa, his Reindeer, and introducing 'The Camels'. Without these trusty lads help, Santa could never have made it through a raging sandstorm to deliver his packages to the children in the Middle East.

"GREEN"

Sagi Zamoshchik

3 min., ISRAEL, 2006

A little butterfly appears among the clouds, and flies as if looking for something in the hills of sand. Suddenly it notices a green spot in the distance. The butterfly, tempted by the mysterious green light, flies toward it, but doesn't know that actually it's a green light coming from a pedestrian traffic light on the opposite side of the road. After a perilous journey across the road, the butterfly makes it to the other side. Nevertheless, a car hits it, and so, wounded, it hops helplessly on the asphalt and lands in a puddle. It lies in the red puddle under the traffic light. A little boy looks at the butterfly and smiles. A grown-up steps on it, and the butterfly sticks to his sole of his shoe. Passersby continue to walk mindlessly near the empty green puddle, as its color changes to red.

"Moongirl"

Henry Selick, director

8 min. USA 2005

One night, a boy and his flying squirrel are caught by a fish and taken to meet the Girl In The Moon.

"Going Home"

Diana Rumjahn

4 min., USA

"Going Home" is an award-winning powerful and evocative film about three stuffed animals without a home. A young frog named Charlie and his friends take us into an unforgettable journey in finding their mother.

"Wander"

Joshua Clark, director

6 min. USA 2006

On the way to school, a young boy discovers his inspiration in a glass jar. Curious, he opens the jar and his inspiration flies off into the city where he starts out after it. His search takes him to a place where the ordinary and the enchanted meet, where letting the mind wander is both exciting and enriching.

“Crooked Mick of the Speewah”

Philip Smith, director

11 min., AUSTRALIA 2005

Strong-Arm Sam and his promoter Gus are down on their luck. Tired of hearing about how much stronger Crooked Mick of the Speewah is, they decide to find the mythical Speewah and challenge legendary Crooked Mick. A film based on traditional Australian myths, told in a heightened way using the latest technology.

And

“Kater”

10:30 – 11:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: Children’s Program All Ages

“KungFu Gecko”

Nickson Fong, director

Feature-length. SINGAPORE 2006

an animated feature film produced by Nickson Fong, which tells a tiny tale about an unlikely band of accidental heroes, KungFu Gecko is being produced by Fong's Singapore-based Egg Story Creative Production Pte. Ltd. (ESCP). Enter a world of small creatures where microscopic legends begin. A tiny tale about an unlikely band of accidental heroes, with little "Kungfu" and plenty of luck, overcomes all adversity and unexpectedly free a kingdom from the clutches of evil.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH

9:30 – 10:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: Children’s Program A

“The Little Matchgirl”

6.5 min. USA 2006

East Coast Premiere

Hans Christian Andersen’s classic tale about a poor young girl whose burning desire to find comfort and happiness comes to life through the magic of rich hand-drawn Disney animation in this powerful and inventive short film directed by Roger Allers (“The Lion King”). Desperate to keep warm, the girl lights the matches she sells, and envisions a very different life for herself in the fiery flames filled with images of loving relatives, bountiful food, and a place to call home. Set to the music of composer Alexander Borodin’s String Quartet No. 2 in D Major (Third Movement: Noturno (Andante), in an exciting new recording by the six-

time Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet, the film tells a captivating and emotional tale.

“Ice Cream”

Alexandra Fisher, director

6 mins. USA 2006

World Premiere

Zyla is a six-year old girl who always obeys her austere mother. But there are some things she simply can't resist and that could get her into a lot of trouble...

“Smile”

Chris Mais, director

8 min., USA 2005

This animated short film tells the story of Smile, a lonely but caring happy face toy who befriends a happy face balloon. Their cherished friendship and lives become threatened as a jealous pirate seeks to destroy them both. The menacing deeds of Pirate lead Smile on a daring rescue mission to save the balloon from the dangers of the outside world. After a failed rescue attempt, Pirate manages to kidnap the balloon and take him as a prisoner. Smile must find his courage and wit if he is save the balloon from the clutches of the evil pirate. A climatic sword fight between Smile and Pirate determines the fate of the balloon. This film utilizes the latest innovations of the visual effects industry such as motion capture, 3D laser scanning and digital cinematography. The emotion of “Smile” is brought to life through a heart-felt original score recorded by a 45-piece live orchestra.

“All Aboard”

Grant Chang, director

5 min., USA

A mother and her baby live near train tracks. The rhythms and sounds of the train merge into the routine of their daily lives.

“Lost in the Woods”

Robert Sams, director

28 min. USA 2006

East Coast Premiere

Shirley, an old box turtle, meets a very lost raccoon named Fernando Hernandafandavez, and helps him discover the magic of spring. Together they learn about a newborn fawn who sleeps alone in the woods.

10:30 – 11:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: Children’s Program B

“The Little Matchgirl”

6.5 min. USA 2006

East Coast Premiere

Hans Christian Andersen’s classic tale about a poor young girl whose burning desire to find comfort and happiness comes to life through the magic of rich

hand-drawn Disney animation in this powerful and inventive short film directed by Roger Allers ("The Lion King"). Desperate to keep warm, the girl lights the matches she sells, and envisions a very different life for herself in the fiery flames filled with images of loving relatives, bountiful food, and a place to call home. Set to the music of composer Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2 in D Major (Third Movement: Noturno (Andante), in an exciting new recording by the six-time Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet, the film tells a captivating and emotional tale.

"The Run"

Shawn Costa, director

2 min. USA 2005

Jack's life is turned upside down when a shadowy figure begins running after him, yelling terrible screams of agony. What happens next will surprise and shock even Jack.

"One Rat Short"

Alex Weil, director

10 min. USA 2006

World Premiere

The mesmerizing ballet of a discarded food wrapper leads a New York subway rat into an adventure of love and loss.

"Love Letter"

Trent Jones, director

17 min. USA 2005

Student Emmy Winner for Children's Programming

Based loosely on As You Like It, Love Letter is the tale of Henry, a boy who loses a love letter written to the girl of his dreams and must survive the perils of 7th grade to win back her heart.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11TH

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: Children's Program

"MOONGIRL"

Henry Selick, director

8 min. USA 2005

One night, a boy and his flying squirrel are caught by a fish and taken to meet the Girl In The Moon.

"Crooked Mick of the Speewah"

Philip Smith, director

11 min., AUSTRALIA 2005

Strong-Arm Sam and his promoter Gus are down on their luck. Tired of hearing about how much stronger Crooked Mick of the Speewah is, they decide to find the mythical Speewah and challenge legendary Crooked Mick. A film based on

traditional Australian myths, told in a heightened way using the latest technology.

"Lost & Found"

Joe, Susan and Katherine Procopio, directors

10 min. CANADA, 2006

From the eleven year old Canadian filmmaker, Joe Procopio, who last year won international awards for his film "Green Tee;" comes a telling comedy that he co-directed with his two sisters. Winner of the Frederick Simpson Award for Best Film (Gr 3 - Gr 6) at the 2006 Toronto Sprockets International Children's Film Festival and two awards at the recent Cyprus Film Festival.

Plus films made by kids for kids, with members of the KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp on hand...

"Shoes"

"Drive"

"Genie in a Bottle Unleashed"

"Eternal High"

"Annoying Dog"

"9:30"

"Shoe Fly"

"2006 Kidseye Camp Shoot"