

April 5-17, 2011 Elementary School Programme Guide

a note from our programmers

From April 5 to 17, TIFF Bell Lightbox will be turned over to the next generation of cineastes and filmmakers as the Sprockets Toronto International Film Festival for Children and Youth takes over our cinemas and RBC Learning Studios. With more than eighty films from twentynine countries spanning all genres, Sprockets brings the world of cinema to Toronto's youngest audiences, along with an exciting slate of special guests, hands-on family activities and showcases for young filmmakers.

The School Programmes offer a diverse slate of films from Canada and around the world that take students and educators beyond the classroom and use the power of film to foster thought and encourage discussion about the complex and challenging issues facing young people today.

Whenever possible, screenings include an opportunity for students to engage in discussions with filmmakers and special guests to further explore the film's ideas, themes, storytelling techniques and much more.

All film selections include the following:

- Grade recommendations to guide educators in selecting screenings for their students.
- Educator resources that have been created in consultation with education experts to find connections between the films screened at Sprockets and the Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum.

With Sprockets, you can be sure that the time your students spend in the theatre will be more than just a day at the movies.

We look forward to seeing you and your students at this year's Sprockets!

Sprockets is generously supported by:





COMING TO SPROCKETS

Tickets:

Student/Educator: \$8.00 (including HST) NOTE: one complimentary supervisor ticket for every 15 paid admissions will be issued.

By Phone: 416-599-TIFF (8433) ext 3203 or toll free 1-888-599-8433 By Email: learning@tiff.net Online: www.tiff.net/sprockets

Tickets are issued for your school programmes at TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office on the day of your visit. The teacher/supervisor is responsible for checking in with the Box Office **prior to the start time of the screening**. Valid ID and a receipt are required to pick up tickets. Teachers/supervisors are responsible for distributing tickets to their students. Please note that screenings must begin on time, teachers should allot extra time for ticket pick-up.

Visat is the only credit card accepted by TIFF

Address:

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Reitman Square 350 King Street West Toronto, ON. M5V 3X5

Traveling to TIFF Bell Lightbox

TTC

TIFF Bell Lightbox is a 5-minute walk WEST of St Andrew Subway station, on the NORTH WEST corner of King and John Streets.

Alternatively, the King Streetcar stops at John Street in front of TIFF Bell Lightbox.

By Bus (For information on Bus Parking, please see below)

TIFF Bell Lightbox is located at Reitman Square on the northwest corner of King and John Streets (350 King Street West)

From The Gardiner Expressway

- Take the Spadina Avenue. Exit
- Turn Left onto Lower Spadina Avenue
- Turn right onto King Street West

From 401 Westbound (from Cobourg)

- Take the 404 Exit
- Keep left and follow signs for Don Valley Parkway South/Downtown
- Merge onto Don Valley Parkway South
- Take Gardiner Expressway West
- Take the Spadina Ave Exit
- Turn Right onto Spadina Ave
- Turn Right onto King Street W

Parking Garage

A parking garage is located off of Widmer Street (the first street West of TIFF Bell Lightbox).

Cost: \$12/day

Please note: buses are not permitted in the parking garage. See 'Bus Parking' information sheet for information on school bus parking.

Lunch

A cinema or an RBC Learning Studio may be available for lunch. School groups who require a space to eat lunch need to submit a request to Sprockets in advance. School groups are kindly asked to be courteous and to keep the area clean. Please dispose of waste properly.

Teachers/Supervisors

You will receive a supervisor badge upon arrival. Please wear the badge at all times and ensure it is returned to the theatre staff before you leave.

Supervisors are responsible for the following:

- 1. Ensuring student discipline and conduct.
- 2. Monitoring student whereabouts at all times.
- 3. Monitoring students who leave the premises, individually or in groups
- 4. Ensuring students are never unaccompanied or unsupervised while on premises.
- 5. Notifying the Box Office at 416-599-TIFF in the event of an emergency or of potential late arrival at any venue.

At no time can a TIFF volunteer or staff member take on the responsibilities of a school supervisor. While the TIFF team will ensure that both students and supervisors have a pleasant experience, volunteers cannot supervise groups or individual students at any time, nor can they, under any circumstances be left alone with a student (i.e., escorting students to the facilities) without the presence of the school's supervisor.

Any additional questions can be directed to Jennie Cross, Manager Learning Resources jcross@tiff.net

Preview Screenings

Sprockets provides the opportunity for teachers to pre-screen films that are screening at Sprockets. Interested teachers can reserve a viewing station by sending an email to jcross@tiff.net . This is a complimentary service provided by Sprockets. Viewing stations are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Date: Tuesday March 22, Wednesday March 23, Thursday March 24 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Please indicate the date and time you would like to reserve a viewing station.

BUS PARKING INFORMATION FOR BELL LIGHTBOX

Buses can unload students at the front doors of TIFF Bell Lightbox at **350 King Street West**, Toronto on the Northwest corner of King and John Streets. This includes specially designated vehicles carrying handicapped students. Buses can return to the spot they unloaded student to pick them up no earlier than 20 minutes before the pick-up time.

Please inform TIFF staff in advance if you have a student who requires extra assistance (e.g. access to an elevator). You can email learning@tiff.net or call at 416-599-8433 ext 3203.

Buses Can Find Parking on the Following Streets:

- Simcoe Street -- West side between Richmond Street and Pearl Street.
- Adelaide Street West -- South side between Peter Street and University Avenue.
- Richmond Street West -- North side between Peter Street and University Avenue.
- Duncan Street -- between Richmond Street and King Street
- John Street -- between Richmond Street and King Street
- Peter Street -- between Richmond Street and King Street
- King Street West -- on South side between John Street and Simcoe.

The following conditions apply to all buses parking in specially designated parking spaces listed above:

- Bus drivers must remain with their vehicles at all times.
- No parking is allowed in posted "No Stopping" or "No Standing" zones.
- No parking is allowed within 40 feet of an intersection.
- No parking is allowed between the hours of 7:00 am 9:30 am, and 3:00 pm 6:30 pm.
- No vehicle can be double parked.

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Addressing Bullying Through Film

Sprocket presents **Addressing Bullying Through Film** a screening and workshop opportunity for teachers to use the power of film to address bullying in their schools. The first part of the workshop will include a screening of the documentary *Finding Kind* which follows filmmakers Lauren Parsekian and Molly Stroud, both victims of bullying by their peers, as they travel across the United States in order to document and highlight the universal issue of girl-against-girl bullying. Following the screening the filmmaker of Finding Kind, Lauren Parsekian, will be in attendance for a Q&A. The second part of the workshop will include approaches teachers can take when using film to address bullying.

Date: Friday April 8 9:30am – 3:00pm

Location: Bell Lightbox, 350 King Street West, Toronto, ON

Cost: \$20.00

Maximum number of participants: 80

Registration: To register for this workshop visit tiff.net/sprockets or call the Box Office at (416) 599 – TIFF (8433).

Learn to Make a Film

Sprockets presents **Learn to Make a Film**, a hands-on filmmaking workshop that will guide educators through making a film. Attendees will write, shoot and begin to edit their film and this workshop will provide educators with the resources, tools and curriculum insights needed to satisfy the media literacy component of the Ontario curriculum.

Date: Friday April 15 9:30am - 3:00pm

Location: Bell Lightbox, 350 King Street West, Toronto, ON

Cost: \$10.00

Maximum number of participants: 20

Registration: To register for this workshop visit tiff.net/sprockets or call the Box Office at (416) 599 – TIFF (8433).

For more information regarding teacher workshops during Sprockets, please contact Jennie Cross, jcross@tiff.net

The Crocodiles Strike Back (Vorstadtkrokodile 2)

dir. Christian Ditter | Germany 2010 | 90 min.

- Children's Jury Award, International Film Festival Thessaloniki 2010
- Children's Jury Award, Best Feature Film, Children's Film Festival Seattle 2010

Content Advisory: Derogatory language, brief scenes of violence

Themes: Friendship, mystery, exceptionality

Grade Recommendation: Grade 5 through 8

Monday, April 11 12:30 pm Tuesday, April 12 9:45 am



In this action-packed sequel to the Sprockets 2010 Audience Award winner *The Crocodiles*, our favourite gang of pint-sized detectives, while searching for a new headquarters, stumbles across a plot involving a local factory threatened with a mysterious closure. Worried that their parents will lose their jobs, the young sleuths must work together to uncover the sinister plan. Dealing with issues relevant to kids around the world, this entertaining coming-of-age film is guaranteed to thrill audiences.



Karla and Jonas (Karla og Jonas)

dir. Charlotte Sachs Bostrup | Denmark 2009 | 82 min.

Official Selection, TIFF 2010

Themes: Coming of age, family relationships, friendship

Grade Recommendation: Grade 5 through 8

Monday, April 11 12:30 pm

The third in a trilogy of films based on a book series by Renée Toft Simonsen, *Karla and Jonas* offers an original twist on the coming-of-age story. After sharing her first kiss with Jonas during the summer, thirteen-year-old Karla, inspired by a reality television show reuniting estranged children with their birth mothers, decides she wants to help him find the mother who had given him up as a young child. Armed with only a name and a photograph, they embark on an eventful and emotional journey.



The Secret Letter (Briefgeheim)

dir. Simone van Dusseldorp | The Netherlands 2010 | 87 min.

✤ Jury Prize, UPC Best Dutch Children's Film, Cinekid 2010

Content Advisory: Brief scene of gun violence

Themes: Friendship, mystery, adventure

Grade Recommendation: Grade 4 through 8

Wednesday, April 13 12:30 pm 📕 Friday, April 15 10:15 am

In this adaptation of the successful children's book by Jan Terlouw, eleven-year-old Eva runs away from her quarrelling parents and hides out with her best friends Jackie and Thomas. However, when Eva discovers a secret letter that reveals her neighbour Mr. Brandsema to be the mastermind of a gang of crooks, she and her friends realize that they're the only ones who can stop the bad guys.

Snowmen

dir. Robert Kirbyson | USA 2009 | 86 min.

Winner of the 2010 Tribeca Audience Award: Second Place

Content Advisory: Coarse language, brief scene depicting a dead body

Themes: Living with cancer, overcoming obstacles

Grade Recommendation: Grade 4 through 6

Wednesday, April 13 12:30 pm Thursday, April 14 9:45 am



Ten-year old Billy Kirkfield knows he's dying, and while he has come to accept this he is scared of being forgotten. Billy decides to team up with his friends and do something so big the whole world will remember him: set a world record. But when an unexpected revelation upsets his plan, Billy must rethink his goal. A story about friendship, courage and the importance of being a good person every day, *Snowmen* teaches us that it's not what you do in life but how you do it.

The Strongest Man in Holland (De sterkste man van Nederland)

dir. Mark de Cloe | The Netherlands 2010 | 80 min.

Content Advisory: Substance abuse

Themes: Family relationships, social and economic class, perseverance

Grade Recommendation: Grade 6 through 8

Monday, April 11 12:00 pm -Wednesday, April 13 10:00 am



Raised by his mother, Luuk has grown up hearing stories about the father he has never met, reputed to be "the strongest man in the world." At his new school, Luuk fears being teased for being smaller than his classmates but finds an unlikely friend in Minke, the tallest girl in school. The two of them begin a search for Luuk's father, which leads them to strongman "Powerhouse René," who agrees to coach Luuk in weight training. As Luuk builds his confidence and discovers more secrets about his family past, he comes to realize that strength comes in many different forms.



A Thousand Times Stronger (Tusen gånger starkare) dir. Poter Schildt | Sweden 2010 | 85

dir. Peter Schildt | Sweden 2010 | 85 min.

Content Advisory: Derogatory language

Themes: Female empowerment, standing up for others, individuality

Grade Recommendation: Grade 6 through 8

Tuesday, April 12 10:00 am 📕 Wednesday, April 13 10:00 am



Saga arrives, however, all this begins to change. Saga always stands up for herself and the other girls start to take her lead. Before long they've started a full-on revolution. But when the boys and the male teachers start to fight back, will the girls have the courage to keep up their rebellion at the risk of losing everything?

Tiger-Team

dir. Peter Gersina | Germany 2010 | 90 min. **Themes:** New cultures, adventure, mystery **Grade Recommendation:** Grade 4 through 8 *Wednesday, April 13 12:15 pm Thursday, April 14 10:00 am*



In this smart action-adventure film, young Viennese detectives Bigi, Luk and Patrick discover a mysterious key, one of three that will open the doors of the Moonlight Palace in the Mountain of 1,000 Dragons. Travelling to Beijing, the young sleuths join forces with the elderly keymaster Cheng to locate the other keys before the evil Lady Q and her henchmen. The beautiful cinematography, exotic locations and thrillingly fast pace of *Tiger-Team* will keep you on the edge of your seat.



The Magicians (Het geheim) dir. Joram Lürsen | The Netherlands 2010 | 94 min.

Themes: Family relationships, magic, economic class

Grade Recommendation: Grade 2 through 5

Thursday, April 14 12:45 pm 🗩 Friday, April 15 10:00 am 🗩

Ben Stikker and his father share the same dream – to become great magicians like Hans Smid. Together they form Stikker and Son, assisted by Ben's friend Sylvie. But when Sylvie disappears during a new trick, Ben's happy family begins to fall apart. As the whole town tries to solve the mystery, Ben realizes it's up to him to save Sylvie and his family before it's too late.

Rafiki (Bestevenner)

dir. Christian Lo | Norway 2009 | 79 min.

Toronto Premiere!

 Children's Jury Special Prize & International Jury Special Prize, Montreal International Film Festival for Children 2010

Themes: Refugee issues, friendship, courage

Grade Recommendation: Grade 3 through 5

Monday, April 11 12:45 pm 🗩 Wednesday, April 13 12:45 pm 🔎



When young Naisha runs away from the refugee centre where she lives after her family is threatened with deportation, her best friends Julie and Mette determine to find a way to help her and her family stay in Norway—even if they have to go to parliament to do it. A charming, empowering adventure with an urgently contemporary theme, *Rafiki* is sure to win your heart.



Kérity, la maison des contes

dir. Dominique Monféry | France 2009 | 76 min.

Themes: Fairytales, secrets

Grade Recommendation: Grade 1 through 6

Tuesday, April 12 10:30 am Wednesday, April 13 10:15 am

NOTE: This film will be screened in French with no English subtitles

Dans l'ancienne maison Kérity se trouve une collection d'éditions originales contenant un merveilleux secret: à la tombée de la nuit, les personages de ces fameux contes sortent des livres. Natanaël, un petit garçon de sept ans pas encore capable de lire, reçoit, au décès de sa tante Éléonore, cette fameuse bibliothèque. Après avoir vendu les livres à un antiquaire sans scrupules, Natanaël découvre que si par malheur les livres quittaient Kérity, leurs histoires seraient oubliées et tous les petits héros disparaîtraient à jamais. Pour sauver ses minuscules amis et leurs histoires, Natanaël, en affrontant ses peurs, se lance dans l'aventure! Arrivera-t-il à temps pour lire la formule magique qui les sauvera tous?



Fuchsia. the Mini-Witch (Foeksia de miniheks)

dir. Johan Nijenhuis | The Netherlands 2010 | 85 min.

North American Premiere!

✤ Audience Prize, Z@PP Cinekid Lion Audience Prize

Best Dutch Children's Film. Cinekid 2010

Content Advisory: Brief scene of a witch smoking a pipe

Themes: Environmental preservation, standing up for yourself

Grade Recommendation: Grade 1 through 4

Thursday, April 14 12:30 pm



Adapted from the popular book by Paul Van Loon, this delightful film from Disney Netherlands follows a diminutive young witch named Fuchsia, who is hatched from a tiny egg discovered by the wizard Quark. Warned to stay away from humans, Fuchsia accidentally meets and befriends a young boy named Tommie. When the Witches' Wood is threatened by Tommie's uncle, a local developer, Fuchsia and her fellow witches must stand side by side to protect the environment.

Sergeant Pepper

dir. Sandra Nettelbeck | Germany 2004 | 98 min.

Themes: Friendship, adventure, honesty

Grade Recommendation: Grade 1 through 4

Wednesday, April 13 10:30 am Thursday, April 14 12:30 pm 🗩

Sergeant Pepper is part of the John VanDuzer Children's Film Collection.



After being left a large inheritance from his late master, Sergeant Pepper is one posh pooch-but his master's nasty, estranged children are willing to do anything it takes to get their hands on their father's fortune. When Pepper becomes fast friends with a young boy named Felix and his sister Felicia, they guickly realize the danger he's in and step in to help their new pal in this charming adventure film.

Elementary School Programme: Documentaries

Circus Dreams

dir. Signe Taylor | USA 2010 | 81 min.

World Premiere!

Themes: Competition, female empowerment, personal best

Grade Recommendation: Grade 5 through 8

Tuesday, April 5 12:45 pm Thursday, April 14 10:15 am



This vibrant documentary examines the lives of the young performers of Circus Smirkus, a travelling circus group and training programme. The performers, all aged twelve to eighteen, not only have to learn the difficult arts of juggling and walking the tightrope while dealing with the classic teen issues (gossip, burgeoning romance), but have to step up to save the circus when it faces a mounting financial crisis. *Circus Dreams* is an inspiring testament to the power of youthful dreams.



Chandani: The Daughter of the Elephant Whisperer (Chandani und ihr elefant)

dir. Arne Birkenstock | Germany/Sri Lanka 2010 | 86 min.

Canadian Premiere!

Children's Jury Prize, Documentary, Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2010

Content Advisory: Substance use

Themes: Empowering women, animal conservation, documentary film

Grade Recommendation: Grade 4 through 6

Monday, April 11 10:00 am 🗩 Tuesday, April 12 12:15 pm 🔎

The profession of *mahout* (elephant whisperer) in Sri Lanka has traditionally been an exclusively male one, so when young Chandani becomes determined to follow in her father's footsteps and learn the secrets of the trade that has been passed down through generations of her family, she has to work with extraordinary dedication to prove herself. A documentary with a strong emotional core that perceptively explores the constraints of traditional gender roles, *Chandani* is a testament to the power of youthful ambition.

Elementary School Programme: Documentaries

Racing Dreams

dir. Marshall Curry | USA 2009 | 96 min.

- Silver Hugo Award, Chicago Film Festival 2010
- Best Documentary, Tribeca Film Festival 2009

Themes: Competitive sport, family relationships, perseverance

Grade Recommendation: Grade 4 through 8

Monday, April 11 9:45 am Wednesday, April 13 9:45 am



A riveting documentary filled with high-speed drama from Academy Award®-nominated filmmaker Marshall Curry, *Racing Dreams* focuses on the young kids racing in the World Karting Association's National Pavement Series, widely considered the Little League of professional racing. Annabeth (eleven), Josh (twelve) and Brandon (thirteen) spend their weekends racing at speeds of up to 120 kilometres per hour, overcoming their personal obstacles as they work towards their shared dream of one day joining NASCAR.



The Sound of Mumbai: A Musical

dir. Sarah McCarthy | UK/India 2010 | 65 min.

Official Selection, TIFF 2010

Themes: Music education, overcoming obstacles, global activism

Grade Recommendation: Grade 4 through 8

This film is presented in co-operation with the Toronto chapter of Human Rights Watch.

The slums of Mumbai are a long way from the Austrian Alps, but Rodgers and Hammerstein's timeless score for The Sound of Music transcends generations and continents to inspire the children of the Bombay Chamber Orchestra. This rousing documentary focuses on charismatic eleven-year-old Ashish, who has to overcome his anxieties as he prepares to sing a solo piece during the orchestra's performance at Mumbai's prestigious National Centre for the Performing Arts. As the big day approaches and excitement mounts, *The Sound of Mumbai: A Musical* illustrates how these astonishingly talented children can use art to transcend their impoverished circumstances.

Elementary School Programme: Shorts Programmes Nothing Can Stop Us

Approximate Running Time: 85 min. Content Advisory: Graphic images of the effects of mercury poisoning Themes: Exceptionality, overcoming obstacles, personal biographies Grade Recommendation: Grade 5 through 8

Monday, April 11 10:00 am 📕 Tuesday, April 12 12:00 pm

This programme of short documentaries focuses on the daily struggles of children who are bravely facing physical and mental challenges. Finding strength in their differences and living out their dreams against all odds, these courageous kids display an optimism and determination that inspires all those around them.

Born Sweet

dir. Cynthia Wade | Cambodia/U.S.A. 2010 | 29 min.

Fifteen-year-old Vinh lives in a small village in rural Cambodia, and wants to be a karaoke star. But Vinh is living with mercury poisoning, contracted from the well in his village, and even though that means he's often very ill he's not going to let that stand in the way of realizing his dreams.

Flying Anne (Anne vliegt)

dir. Catherine van Campen | The Netherlands 2010 | 21 min. *International Premiere!*

Anne is like any other eleven-year-old: she rides her bike, likes her trampoline, hangs out with her friends. But living with Tourette's syndrome means she sometimes acts in ways that are difficult to control. Anne doesn't want to change the person she is, she just wants to try to control her tics and help others better understand her.

Sisters (Zusjes)

dir. Stephane Kaas | The Netherlands 2010 | 15 min. *International Premiere!*

The special bond between sisters is beautifully captured in this short documentary about Debbie and her little sister Tamara, who is diagnosed with ADHD and ODD. Through Debbie's eyes, we see the lovable little girl beneath Tamara's uncontrollable outbursts, tantrums and mean words.

I'm Never Afraid (Ik ben echt niet bang!) dir. Willem Baptist | The Netherlands 2010 | 20 min. *International Premiere!*



Mack is an adventuresome eight-year-old with a need for speed: he won his first motorcross race at age three, and his room is now filled with trophies. But the obstacles he faces on the track are nothing compared to what he's already overcome: Mack was born with his heart on the opposite side of his chest, and from the day he was born he's been defying the doctors who claim that it's impossible for him to live another day.

Elementary School Programme: Shorts Programmes

We Can Be Heroes

Approximate Running Time: 67 min. Content Advisory: Scenes depicting bullying among students, death of a parent, derogatory language Themes: Heroes, overcoming obstacles, family relationships Grade Recommendation: Grade 5 through 7

Thursday, April 14 12:15 pm 🔎 Friday, April 15 9:45 am

As this collection of super-shorts proves, sometimes the biggest challenges in life can only be conquered by digging deep and finding the hero that lives inside us all.

The Fantastic 3 (De fantastiske 3) dir. Esben Tønnesen | Denmark 2010 | 14 min. *North American Premiere!*

Nine-year-old Casper tells the story of his dad, who holds a monotonous office job by day but moonlights as the super hero Spejdermand, who, with his super friends Handymand and Scoremand, guards the citizens of Copenhagen against the city's villains and miscreants.

Six Dollar Fifty Man

dirs. Mark Albiston & Louis Sutherland | New Zealand 2009 | 15 min.

Andy is a gutsy eight-year-old boy who lives in an imaginary superhero world where he can perform extraordinary physical feats to deal with playground bullies. But when Andy gets in trouble with the headmaster, he realizes he must give up his colourful fantasies and muster the courage to save himself and his best friend Mary.

My Cardboard Dad (Min pappa av papp)

dir. Siri Rutlin | Norway 2009 | 14 min.



Seven-year-old Nils has a dad made out of cardboard—a life-size cut-out of Superman. When his mother introduces her new boyfriend Glenn to Nils, the struggle between his "super" dad and Glenn begins.

My Superhero (Superhelter har ikke leggetid)

dir. Jim Hansen | Norway 2010 | 10 min.

Six-year-old Bent can't wait for his father's return from a business trip, but when his mother begins to act suspiciously he suspects that his father may not be returning home at all. Dare he ask the question that scares him the most?

My Superhero (Supermään)

dir. PV Lehtinen | Finland 2010 | 14 min. North American Premiere!

When seven-year-old country boy Oskari travels to the city with his mother, he gets the chance to meet his favourite superhero—however, this longed-for meeting is not quite as Oskari had imagined it, and he is soon faced with a difficult choice.