

April 5-17, 2011
High 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 twenty-nine 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 you and your students attending this year's Sprockets!

### Sprockets is generously supported by:



#### Supporters:





### **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).

### Big (Dik)

dir. Maartje Bakers | The Netherlands 2010 | 56 min.

North American Premiere!

Content Advisory: Mild language

Themes: Personal health, self-image, documentary film

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9 through 12

Tuesday, April 5 10:00 am Thursday, April 7 12:30 pm

"Eating is actually a drug," reveals fifteen-year-old Frederieke in this eye-opening documentary about two teens forced to confront their weight issues. Big follows Frederieke and her new friend Dylan as they head to a special camp to learn about healthier lifestyles, where they find inspiration and support from others facing the same issues of self-confidence and isolation. Big is a vital film for a culture where youth obesity remains a significant problem.





### Finding Kind

dir. Lauren Parsekian | USA 2010 | 77 min.

Canadian Premiere!

**Content Advisory:** Youth share their personal experiences of being bullied

**Themes:** Bullying, standing up for others,

documentary film

Grade Recommendation: Grade 7 through 12

Wednesday, April 6 12:15 pm Thursday, April 7 9:45 am Friday, April 8 10:15 am

The pressing issue of girl-against-girl bullying is skilfully addressed in Lauren Parsekian's troubling and vital new documentary. Lauren and Molly Stroud, both victims of bullying by their peers, undertake a trip across the US with their mothers, interviewing hundreds of females young and old who offer profound insights into how bullying can not only damage a young woman's self-esteem but can also result in depression, eating disorders, drug and alcohol use, or even suicide. Both heartbreaking and inspirational, this important documentary reminds us that it doesn't cost anything to be kind to one another.

### Louder Than a Bomb

dirs. Greg Jacobs & Jon Siskel | USA 2010 | 99 min.

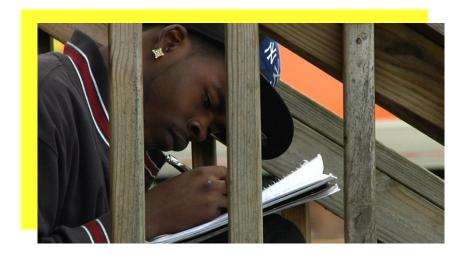
International Premiere!

**Themes:** Poetry, personal biographies, overcoming obstacles

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9

through 12

Tuesday, April 5 12:15 pm Thursday, April 7 12:15 pm



This energetic documentary follows five teams of teenaged students from neighbourhoods across Chicago as they prepare for the annual slam poetry competition that gives the film its title. As the students learn to work together and share their personal stories, they discover how they can eloquently transform their unique experiences and daunting emotional issues into intricate and expressive rhymes.



### Most Valuable Players

dir. Matthew Kallis | USA 2010 | 95 min.

Canadian Premiere!

**Themes:** Competition, arts in education, personal biographies

**Grade Recommendation:** Grade 9 through

Tuesday, April 5 10:00 am Wednesday, April 6 12:15 pm

While high school sports in the US are lavished with funding, publicity and scholarships, drama programs are often relegated to the wings. But every year in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania, talented young theatre students are given one special night to shine in the televised Freddy Awards, considered the Super Bowl of high school musical theatre. Observing three high school performing arts companies as they compete for the title, Most Valuable Players illustrates that the arts require the same kind of teamwork, camaraderie and dedication as the playing field.

### Out for the Long Run

dir. Scott Bloom | USA 2010 | 78 min.

Canadian Premiere!

Content Advisory: Derogatory language

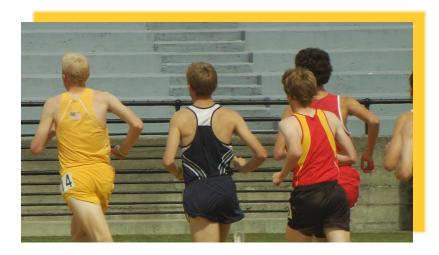
Themes: Homophobia, sexuality, societal

pressures

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9

through 12

Thursday, April 7 12:45 pm Friday, April 8 10:00 am



This timely documentary investigates the charged issue of homophobia in high school and college sports. Through interviews and video diaries, openly gay young athletes recount harrowing stories of the mockery, ostracization and abuse they have endured, and how this has affected their ability to compete. Even as the film powerfully reveals the disturbing prevalence of prejudice and bullying in the sports world, testimonies from gay professional athletes offer a message of hope for those struggling to be true to themselves.



#### ReGENERATION

dir. Phillip Montgomery | USA 2010 | 80 min.

Toronto Premiere!

❖ Youth Jury Award, Best Futurewave Feature, Seattle International Film Festival 2010

**Content Advisory:** Graphic images of news footage including the Iraq war and 9-11 terrorist attacks

**Themes:** Environment, economics, youth activism

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9 through 12

Thursday, April 7 10:00am Friday, April 8 9:45 am

Narrated by Ryan Gosling, ReGENERATION explores the cynicism of today's youth culture, and how the inescapable pervasiveness of entertainment and information media help to perpetuate an apathetic approach to social and political causes. This urgent documentary captures the thoughts and feelings of a generation struggling to find their voice, while some of the world's leading progressive scholars, activists and media personalities—including Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Mos Def and Talib Kweli—offer insights into how young people can help inspire change.

# Severn, the Voice of our Children (Severn, la voix de nos enfants)

dir. Jean-Paul Jaud | France 2010 | 120

**Themes:** Environmental conservation, youth activism, geography

**Grade Recommendation:** Grade 9 through 12

Tuesday, April 5 9:45 am Wednesday, April 6 9:45 am



In 1992, twelve-year-old Severn Suzuki, daughter of famed journalist and environmentalist David Suzuki, spoke at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janiero and urged world leaders to take action on environmental change. Today twenty years older and expecting her first child, Suzuki reflects on what has happened since she made that speech, and what kind of a planet her child will inherit. An inspiring and eye-opening personal document, *Severn, the Voice of the Children* is a thoughtful examination of the real effects of environment policy, and a reminder that parents must answer for the world being left for their children.

### **High School Programme: Features**



### Jitters (Órói)

dir. Baldvin Z | Iceland 2010 | 97 min.

International Premiere!

**Content Advisory**: Sexual activity, substance abuse, graphic scenes that might frighten, brief scene of nudity

**Themes:** Teen suicide, individuality, personal choices

Grade Recommendation: Grade 10 through 12

Thursday, April 7 12:00 pm Friday, April 8 10:00 am

A refreshingly realistic take on teenage life, Jitters follows Icelandic teenager Gabriel on a trip to England, where he has a life-changing encounter with the rebellious and freethinking Marcus. As Gabriel reconnects with his tight-knit circle of friends back home, his confusion about his sexual identity is brought to the fore when tragedy befalls the group, forcing them to re-evaluate their fragile relationships to each other and to their families.

#### Modra

dir. Ingrid Veninger | Canada 2010 | 80 min.

- Canada's Top Ten 2010
- ❖ Official Selection, TIFF 2010

**Content Advisory:** Sexual references, substance use

**Themes:** Coming of age, Slovakia culture and traditions, family relationships

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9

through 12

Friday, April 8 10:30 am



This deeply affecting coming-of-age tale follows teenagers Lina and her travel companion Leco as they set out to visit Lina's extended family in Slovakia. Featuring a cast composed entirely of first-time actors, *Modra* captures the relationship that blooms between Lina and Leco as they explore the Slovakian landscape and culture and embark on their own journey of self-discovery.

### **High School Programme: Features**



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

### Life, Above All

dir. Oliver Schmitz | South Africa/Germany 2010 | 106 min.

- ❖ Official Selection, Human Rights Watch Film Festival 2011
- ❖ Official Selection, TIFF 2010

Content Advisory: Mild language, substance use, scenes of death and dying, terminal illness

**Themes:** South African culture and folklore, AIDS, family relationships

**Grade Recommendation:** Grade 9 through 12

Wednesday, April 6 10:15 am

This stunning adaptation of Allan Stratton's bestselling 2004 novel *Chanda's Secrets* focuses on Chanda, a young girl struggling to maintain the semblance of a normal life amidst the challenges and tragedies her family has to endure. When her HIV-positive mother is forced to flee their South African township, Chanda's courage, compassion and loyalty come to the fore. Twelve-year-old Khomotso Manyaka gives a breakout performance in this touching portrait of a mother-daughter relationship, showing courage, compassion and confidence as a

young girl growing up amongst the most challenging of circumstances.

### Soul Boy

dir. Hawa Essuman | Kenya/Germany 2010 | 60 min.

Content Advisory: Coarse language

**Themes**: South African culture and folklore, social and economic class, family relationships

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9 through 12

Tuesday, April 5 12:45 pm Thursday, April 7 10:15 am



When his father is cursed with delirium after gambling his soul away, fourteen-year-old Abila and his friend Shiku set out to find the witch who holds his father's fate in her hands. Finding the crone deep within the Nairobi slum of Kibera, Abila is assigned seven challenging tasks that he needs to complete in order to retrieve his father's soul. Shooting on location in Kibera with a local cast and crew, Hawa Essuman's debut feature is both an exciting adventure and a testament to the pride, ingenuity and fortitude of people living in the most desperate circumstances.

### **High School Programme: Shorts Programmes**

### Generation Gap

Approx. total running time: 53 min.

**Themes:** Coming of age, family history, comedy **Grade Recommendation:** Grade 9 through 12

Tuesday, April 5 12:30 pm Wednesday, April 6 10:00 am

This eclectic programme of shorts showcases the works of emerging filmmakers from across the nation.

#### Guidance

dir. John Hanley | Canada 2010 | 8 min.

Forever regretting having abandoned his lifelong dream of rock stardom, high school guidance counsellor Stephen Hanson eagerly encourages his students to shoot for the stars—though this might only be his way of living out his own unfulfilled dreams.



### Junko's Shamisen

dir. Sol Friedman | Canada 2010 | 10 min.

Fusing Manga illustration, kabuki design and computer animation, this super-stylized samurai tale follows young Junko as she leaves her rural village in search of a better life. Accompanied by a mystical fox, she encounters an evil samurai lord and is faced with the challenge of how to right the wrongs of her past.

### The Letters

dir. Jung-Sun Song | Canada 2010 | 10 min.

❖ Best Screenplay & Best Actress, Vancouver Short Film Festival 2010

With graduation on the horizon, teenaged April reveals her dreams and uncertainties about life after high school in a letter to her childhood friend in South Korea. Based on personal experience, Jung-Sun Song's dramatic short film powerfully captures the anxiety, curiosity and wonder surrounding this rite of passage.





### Living History

dir. Isaac Cravit | Canada 2010 | 7 min.

❖ Official Selection, TIFF 2010

For teenaged Thomas, spending "quality time" with his dad has a very special meaning: dressing up in period costume to take part in the annual reenactment of the Upper Canada Rebellion.

### Wapawekka

dir. Danis Goulet | Canada 2010 | 16 min.

❖ Official Selection, TIFF 2010

As Josh and his father bid farewell to their family cabin nestled among sacred sites in Northern Saskatchewan, he discovers a connection between himself and his ancestors and decides how he will leave his own mark on history.





### Eggcellent

dir. Martin Sokol | Canada 2010 | 2 min.

❖ Official Selection, TIFF 2010

One hen's hopes for a routine day get scrambled when the everincreasing pressure to produce puts the squeeze on her and the other inhabitants of this dystopian egg farm.

### High School Programme: Courts métrages francophones

### Brefs, intenses

Durée Approximative: 53 min.

NOTE: The films in this programme will be screened in French with no English subtitles.

Themes: Coming of age, societal pressures, youth voices

Grade Recommendation: Grade 9 through 12

Wednesday, April 6 12:45 pm Thursday, April 7 10:00 am



### Les Fleurs de l'âge

dir. Vincent Biron | Canada 2010 | 18 min.

❖ Official Selection. TIFF

Prix du meilleur court-métrage au TIFF 2010, *Les Fleurs de l'âge* décèle les nuances d' une journée ordinaire pour un groupe de jeunes étudiants en vacances d'été dans une petite ville du Québec.

### M'Ouvrir

dir. Albéric Aurtenèche | Canada 2010 | 19 min.

- ❖ Golden Sheaf Award, Best Drama, Yorkton Film Festival 2010
- Prix Le Central, Off-Courts Trouville 2010

Gabrielle a seize ans. Incomprise, elle camoufle ses émotions et cherche une échappatoire en se mutilant. C'est à l'hôpital qu'elle rencontre Étienne, un jeune homme ayant survécu un accident. Un film honnête, cru et solide dans son approche, M'ouvrir est un portrait intense des dures réalités de l'adolescence



Bon Voyage dir. Pablo Ochoa | France 2009 | 16 min.

Première Canadienne!

Paul et Charles, deux adolescents amis depuis longtemps, doivent se dire au revoir puisque Paul déménage à Montréal. Un secret ayant été en arrière plan depuis des années remonte enfin à la surface, ce qui pousse Paul et Charles à devoir se confronter en personne avant de se séparer.

Avertissement: certaines sujets ou images sont susceptible de choquer (utilisation de substances, scènes violentes ou sexuellement provocantes)



### High School Programme: Future Frames

Approx. total running time: 46 min.

Themes: Student filmmaking, media studies, career choices

Grade Recommendation: Grade 10 through 12

Tuesday, April 5 10:15 am Wednesday, April 6 10:00 am

Future Frames presents the best new works created at post-secondary film schools across Canada. This series of entertaining and exquisitely crafted short films will be followed by an educational Q & A session and an extensive panel discussion, which offers high school students an opportunity to interact with the filmmakers and get an enriching insight into the filmmaking process.

#### The Arctic Circle

dir. Kevin Parry | Sheridan College 2010 | 4 min.

Science-fiction mystery and stop-motion mastery make for a curious encounter on a barren arctic plain in this hilarious but chilling tale of greed and cunning.





### A Cut Above

dir. Alessandro Piedimonte | Sheridan College 2010 | 3 min.

Gentle barber Mario Grazia finds himself on a surprise trip down memory lane in this lovingly crafted tribute to life, love and loss.

# Drowning of a Legend (Comment se noie une légende)

dir. Mirek Hamet | Concordia University 2010 | 11 min.

Future Frames is honoured to welcome back Mirek Hamet, director of the brilliant student film *S'Oublier*, which has earned significant industry recognition. His new film *Drowning of a Legend* tells the charming yet haunting tale of Mathieu, an eccentric piano virtuoso who pays a memorable visit to a small farming community in the French Canadian Laurentians.



### Lost Places

dir. Toni Zhang | Emily Carr University of Art & Design 2010 | 4 min.

Travelling alone by train to a strange and faraway town, a young girl struggles to negotiate the eerily unreal landscape that greets her.



O. dir.

Jonny Østrem | Emily Carr University of Art & Design 2010 | 5 min.

In an elegant blend of artistic vision and technical discipline, minimalist dreamscapes pulse hypnotically with crystalline precision in this experimental computer animation.



An uplifting documentary about Rob Dyer's epic skateboarding voyage across Canada in an effort to raise awareness about cancer research through his movement Skate4Cancer.



### Eggcellent

dir. Martin Sokol | Sheridan College 2010 | 2 min.

Official Selection, TIFF

One hen's hopes for a routine day get scrambled when the everincreasing pressure to produce puts the squeeze on her and the

other inhabitants of this dystopian egg farm.



### Snowflakes and Carrots (Flocons et carottes)

dir. Samantha Leriche-Gionet | Concordia University 2010 | 4 min.

 Prix de la Cinémathèque québécoise, Excellence en Cinéma d'animation

A seemingly sweet young girl reveals her true colours when she embarks on a neighbourhood-wide, carrot-stealing crime spree.

### High School Programme: Future Games

**Themes:** Media studies, career choices, game production **Grade Recommendation:** Grade 10 through 12 *Wednesday, April 6* 12:00 pm

weunesuay, April 6 12:00 pm Thursday, April 7 10:00 am Thursday, April 7 12:00 pm

Future Games presents a selection of the country's most challenging and innovative video games made by post-secondary students. A hands-on play session in the TIFF Bell Lightbox RBC Learning Studios will be followed by a panel discussion, giving high school students a chance to interact with the creators and discuss game and interactive media design opportunities at Canadian post-secondary institutions.



### The Binding

Shane Brake, James Kerfont, Jared Gilbert, Morley Elliott & Jeremy Morgan | College of the North Atlantic

An inventive multi-character control scheme forces players to think creatively in order to balance the disparate strengths of the spirits of fire and shadow in this 2-D side-scrolling platformer.

#### Bubble

Zelimir Fedoran | University of Toronto

Drift along on a current of inner contemplation as you discover a gorgeous undersea landscape. This casual game's ambient, meditative quality and fluid gameplay allow you to sink deeper into quiet reflection of life as an air bubble.

### Gentrification: The Game!

Co-Founder, Kate Raynes-Goldie, visiting scholar at Ryerson University's EDGE Lab. Produced by Atmosphere Industries with sponsorship by the EDGE Lab. | Ryerson University

Tensions build between land developers and local neighbourhood residents as issues of urban planning are explored in this fascinating game combining live street action with an iPhone web app.

NOTE: Game-play requires real-life landscapes and many hours of player participation. Co-creator Kate Raynes
Goldie will present a scaled-down model of the "street game" experience.





### Werewolf Panic

Sally Tsung & Samuel Buensuceso | OCAD University Content Advisory: Game violence

On a dark and eerie night, beams of moonlight ignite supernatural panic in an otherwise placid medieval hamlet.

### Flower's Room

Ken Leung, Raul Lugo, Gabe Stein & Xiao Su | OCAD University

Put your moral fibre to the test by taking on the wealthy lifestyle of Flower and guiding her destiny with your daily decisions. Interactive, complex narrative paths provide the underlying framework for this finely-rendered graphic adventure game.