



**THE 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BAY AREA INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL**  
**March 10-12, 2017**  
**AT CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER**

**Presenting Family-Friendly Films from Around the Globe**

**Festival Kicks Off Opening Night with Brave: Women Breaking the Mold, Panel Discussion Featuring Leading Female Artists in Animation, Filmmaking & Gaming**

**Hands-On Animation Workshops, Outdoor Live-Action Pixilation, The Ever-Popular Stop-Motion Technique with Found Objects & Signature Professional Clay Animation Figures**

**New to The Fest: HOW TO BE A KID CRITIC; Film Presentations, Panels & Workshops Teaching Younger Audiences How to Think Critically About the Media & Content**

**They Are Consuming & Ways to Do Good in Today's Digital Society**

**Photos, Interviews & Press Passes Available Upon Request**

February 2, 2017 (Oakland, CA) - [The Bay Area International Children's Film Festival](#) (BAICFF) returns for its 9th consecutive year this March 10-12, 2017. The full weekend Festival will take place in Oakland at the [Chabot Space & Science Center](#). As in years past, the 9th fest features a full line-up of high-quality, family-friendly films from around the world, along with a weekend packed with innovative hands on classes, designed by award-winning Pixar Animators and a variety of new workshops.



The Festival will include over 41 animated, live action, shorts and feature-length films, special "How did they do that?" presentations, and Q&A sessions with award winning guest filmmakers. Films hail from countries around the globe including France, Russia, Taiwan, Spain, The Netherlands, Australia, USA, United Kingdom, Germany, Nigeria, Mariana Islands, Ireland, Belgium, Switzerland and Denmark.

The full program is available at <http://baicff.com/films>.

**2017 FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**

**BAICFF Friday Evening/Opening Night**

BAICFF will kick off it 9th year with BRAVE: Women Breaking the Mold, a special panel discussion of four mavericks breaking the rules, four artists going against the usual "norms" put forth in society and pushing the boundaries in media. Panelists will include leading female artists in filmmaking, video game design and animation. Panelists to be announced closer to date.

### **Batkid Begins: Special Screening & Panel Discussion**

Directed by Dana Nachman, USA, 2015. A special screening of BATKID BEGINS. The film chronicles the one day, in our city of San Francisco, when the world came together to grant one 5-year-old cancer patient his wish. *Batkid Begins* looks at the "why" of this flash phenomenon. Why did the intense outpouring of spontaneous support for a child reverberate among the world and become one of the biggest good news stories ever? The film explores what happens when an event goes viral, and reveals surprising truths about what happens when a nerve is touched in our digital society.

The film will be followed by a panel discussion with the film's Director, Bay Area filmmaker Dana Nachman and Stefania Pomponi, founder of CLEVER, the influencer marketing agency that lead the wildly successful campaign of the viral #Batkid phenomenon, featured in the film.

### **How Did They Do That? Series**

A presentation and discussion of two short doc films as part of BAICFF's How Did They Do That? Series. Join the discussion with Festival Co-Founder, Jim Capobianco and Bay Area filmmaker, Tom (T.M.) Christopher, as they talk film editing techniques as well as the past and future of filmmaking. Christopher, a renowned film veteran, has worked in the Bay Area for three decades on projects at American Zoetrope, Lucasfilm Ltd., The Saul Zaentz Company and Warner Bros. Studios. Young audiences will learn all about the exciting world of editing with the screenings of *Livestock County Fair* and *Waterbabies*.

### **Kikoriki: Legend of The Golden Dragon**

Directed by Denis Chernov, Russia, 2016. The lovably simple residents of peaceful Kikoriki Island are thrown kicking and screaming into big adventure, when their resident scientist invents an amazing device - a helmet called 'the Improverizer,' which takes personality traits from one person and swaps them with someone else's. This film is dubbed with English voice actors.

### **Long Way North**

Directed by Remi Chaye, France & Denmark, 2016. LONG WAY NORTH, is one of the most beautiful international animated films of 2016. Set in the late 19th-century Saint Petersburg. Sasha, a young girl from the Russian aristocracy, dreams of the Great North and anguishes over the fate of her grandfather, Olukine, a renowned scientist and Arctic explorer who has yet to return from his latest expedition to conquer the North Pole. The Film made its North American premiere at the New York International Children's Film Festival in 2016.

### **Learning Diversity & Tolerance Through Film**

As in year's past, the Festival will present films that explore issues around diversity, understanding, acceptance and tolerance. HOOP DREAM'N, KOJO, PUSHING, THE DEBT, SLEEPOVER & SUPER SOUNDS are just some of the films we are screening this year around these topics. From an aspiring superhero in a small coastal town in Australia; to a love struck classmate in Ireland; to a homeless man's struggle, living on the fringes of society in the U.S.; these are just some of the stories captured in film to open up a compelling dialogue with younger audiences about these important issues.

### **Octopus News!**

Part of the festival's effort to bring empowerment and media literacy to our young

audience, we bring you two programs of intrepid reporting all the way from the news desks of the inquiring children journalists at Octopus News. Although these stories are about Taiwan, they are not all that different from news stories here in the Bay Area or the U.S.A. Young audiences are invited to settle in with a notepad, microphone and use their FACT BASED investigative journalist skills and enjoy OCTOPUS NEWS!

### **Shorts Made by Kids**

This year, we will present films for kids, made by kids! Either on their own, in school, or as part of a filmmaking program. We will present films directed by talented kid filmmakers from around the world.

### **Workshops & Special Programs**

#### **How to Be a Kid Critic: Media Education Workshop**

We are delighted to partner with Common Sense Media to present "How to Be a Kid Critic" at this year's festival. Our children are consuming an enormous amount of media, often filled with conflicting information. "We can't cover our kids' eyes, but we can teach them to see," said Common Sense Media founding editor in chief, Liz Perle. In this workshop, kids will develop their media literacy skills, learning what it means to evaluate media critically through discussion and hands-on activities. Participants will see film clips and review them based on Common Sense's unique rating system. They will also be shown a selection of news stories and learn why it's so important not to take everything they see in the media at face value.



#### **Animation & Shorts Workshops**

BAICFF workshops allow kids to work in small groups to create engaging short animated films. The entire festival audience has a chance to view the creative results each afternoon as the footage is edited into a humorous, collaborative short film with music and sound effects and projected on the big screen! The workshops this year include outdoor live-action pixilation, and the ever-popular stop-motion technique with found objects and our signature professional clay animation figures.

### **TICKETS AND FESTIVAL INFORMATION**

March 10-12, 2017 at the Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Drive, Oakland, CA.

Opening Night Friday Evening: 7:00 - 9:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

#### **Friday Night Opening Night Event**

Adult: \$12

Youth: \$6

Tickets are limited and will be available on a first come, first served basis.



BAICFF 2017 Trailer

### **SATURDAY & SUNDAY FILM FESTIVAL TICKETS**

Guest Adult: \$25 / Youth: \$14

2 Day Weekend Pass: Adult \$35 / Youth: \$20

Member Adult: \$15 / Youth: \$7

Member 2 Day Weekend Pass: Adult \$21 / Youth: \$10

Tickets can also be purchased at the Front Desk on the day of the event

**ALL TICKETS INCLUDE GENERAL ADMISSION TO THE CENTER**

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:**

<http://www.chabotspace.org/baicff-2017.htm>

### **About BAICFF**

BAICFF was founded in 2009 by Jim Capobianco and Shelley Trott, and now in its 9th consecutive year, has become an annual Bay Area creative gathering that fosters global understanding and cultural exchange through art and cinema. Since its inception, more than 9000 guests have attended the festival enjoying over 400 family-friendly films from across the globe, and 750 children have participated in workshops designed to introduce kids to the world of animation and live-action filmmaking.

### **About Chabot Space & Science Center**

Founded as an observatory in 1883, today Chabot offers visitors the very latest in hands-on, interactive exhibits, displays, and Planetarium shows that explore the mysteries of the universe and of life here on earth. Combined with a full program of activity-filled classes, workshops, Space & Science Camp, outreach programs and special events, Chabot Space & Science Center has become the Bay Area's go to destination for visitors of all ages who want to discover and learn about space and earth sciences. For more information, visit [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

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