

THE USA FILM FESTIVAL INVITES YOU TO THE

33RD ANNUAL KIDFILM[®] FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22ND

For kids and adults of all ages!

MEET OUR HONORED GUESTS!



Photo: Marc Andrew Stephens

Tom Lichtenheld



Free books
autographed by our
guests!



Photo: Theresa Angulas Photography

Beth Ferry



Photo: Anne-Marie Caruso

Anna Kang & Chris Weyant



ANGELIKA FILM CENTER
5321 E. Mockingbird Lane
Dallas, Texas

KIDFILM WELCOME!

On Saturday & Sunday, January 21st and 22nd, 2017, the **USA Film Festival** will present the **33rd Annual KidFilm**, the oldest and largest children's film festival in the United States. Thanks to our wonderful **Sponsors**, all programs will be presented **FREE** to the community! Film and video are our most accessible art forms and some of our most valuable teaching and learning tools. KidFilm gives audiences of all ages an important opportunity to see and discuss great films together!

This year we salute some of our favorite children's book authors and illustrators, celebrate diversity and tolerance, animated adventures, magical journeys, classic films, the importance of friends and family, and environmental awareness with a program of thought-provoking films, books and artists.

KidFilm 2017 is dedicated to our friend - educator and Weston Woods Studios founder - the wonderful **Mort Schindel**, who passed away last summer at age 98.



MEET OUR SPECIAL GUESTS



Photo: Marc Andrew Stephens

Salute to author/illustrator Tom Lichtenheld!

Tom Lichtenheld doodled his way through school then worked as a sign painter, set designer, printer and art director. After a long career in advertising he accidentally (on-purpose) switched to creating children's books. His work is noted for its humor, expressive characters and rich detail. He creates books that appeal to children and adults alike, and his portfolio of over twenty books offers something for every age. A number of his books, including **Stick and Stone**, created with Beth Ferry, and **Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site**, created with Sherri Duskey Rinker, have been New York Times Bestsellers.

Salute to author Anna Kang and illustrator Christopher Weyant!

Anna Kang was born in the Bronx and grew up on Long Island where she spent most of her free time reading Teen Beat magazine, Archie comics, and watching movies at the local multiplex. She studied International Relations and Asian Studies at Tufts University and Nanzan University in Japan, then followed her heart and moved to Los Angeles, where she received an M.F.A. from USC's School of Cinematic Arts and discovered what made her happy -- telling stories. After graduating, Anna was selected to participate in the Sundance Institute's Screenwriters Lab and Film Independent's Directors Lab with her first feature script, "The Lost Tribe of Long Island." All of her experiences - personal, professional, and creative - led her to write her debut picture book, **You Are (Not) Small**. Being able to create the book with her talented illustrator-husband, Christophe Weyant, made the journey all the more rewarding for Anna. Since then, the duo have gone on to create two additional books thus far: **Can I Tell You A Secret?** and **That Is (Not) Mine**.



Photo: Anna-Maria Chang

Christopher Weyant is a native of New Jersey and product of twelve years of Catholic School. Both experiences led to a life of humor and satire. A cartoonist for The New Yorker, Chris' work has been published worldwide in newspapers, magazines, books and online, and he has worked on numerous national advertising campaigns. His cartoons are in permanent collection at The Whitney Museum of American Art and The Morgan Library & Museum in New York City. In 2014, the Nieman Fellowship for Journalism at Harvard selected Weyant to be a Nieman Fellow, the second cartoonist to receive that honor in Nieman Foundation's seventy-five year history. Chris' work has been featured on "The Today Show," "Meet The Press," "ABC News With Diane Sawyer," "Late Night with Seth Meyers," CNN, MSNBC, and Fox. He is the winner of the 2015 Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for his first illustrated children's book, **You Are (Not) Small**. Chris graduated from Gettysburg College with a B.A. in Political Science and Economics planning on a career as a lawyer. He gave it all up for a pen and a brush, and now lives outside New York City with his wife, Anna, and their two daughters.

Salute to author Beth Ferry!

Beth Ferry grew up by the beach where she spent most of the day reading. Her favorite childhood memories involve sun, salt, sand, and scribbling stories. She adores alliteration and the magic of rhyme done right. Her favorite word is anticipation and she loves the feeling of holding a book in her hand because she knows, through personal experience, that the book is holding her hand right back! Holding her own book, and having that dream come true, has been a feeling beyond compare for Beth. So far, Beth has written three children's books: **Stick and Stone**, **Land Shark**, and **Pirate's Perfect Pet**. Beth currently resides in New Jersey with her husband, three children and two bulldogs.



Photo: Theresa Antiques Photography

Note: Free books, comic books and snack packs are for kids only; one per family while supplies last.

IMPORTANT TICKET INFO!

Festival members may call ahead to reserve tickets and seats!

Tickets for all shows are **FREE** for children & adults!

HOWEVER Tickets and seating are **limited**. Lines can form early.

Tickets are available **day-of-show only**, beginning **one hour before each show time**.

All KidFilm programs will take place at the **Angelika Film Center**, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. **KIDFILM BOX OFFICE** is located **UPSTAIRS**.

For additional information, contact the **USA Film Festival at 214-821-FILM** or usafilmfestival.com. During KidFilm weekend, please inquire **in person** at the KidFilm Info Desk at the Angelika Film Center. (*Please do not telephone the theater! They do not have KidFilm ticket information.*)

KIDFILM AT A GLANCE

Auditorium 1

Auditorium 2

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

12:30pm

Books on the Big Screen!
Meet Tom Lichtenheld, Anna Kang,
Christopher Weyant, and Beth Ferry

3:30pm

Nature Tales
(animation and live-action)

4:30pm

The Mice War

1:00pm

Live-Action SHORT Films

3:00pm

Animated Journeys SHORT films

4:30pm

Fiddlesticks

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

12:30pm

Benji

2:30pm

Kikoriki: Legend of the Golden Dragon

4:30pm

My Friend Raffi

12:30pm

The Snow Queen 3: Fire and Ice

2:30pm

Sheep & Wolves

4:30pm

Howard Lovecraft and the Frozen Kingdom

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This program is supported in part by the
City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts.



*Kristin Carter-Schor, Gail Terrell,
David Dummer and Laura Fox Williamson*

Special thanks to our KidFilm Co-Chairs

SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2017

12:30pm BOOKS ON THE BIG SCREEN! (FREE books for families)!



Meet our authors and illustrators **TOM LICHTENHELD, BETH FERRY, ANNA KANG** and **CHRISTOPHER WEYANT** and get your book signed!

Presented by Whole Foods Market -- FREE healthy snacks for kids to take home!

Favorite books come to life on the big screen in film adaptations from Weston Woods Studios and Scholastic Media including: *You Are (Not) Small*, written by Anna Kang and illustrated by Christopher Weyant; *Groovy Joe: Ice Cream & Dinosaurs*, written by Eric Litwin and illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld; and *Stick and Stone*, written by Beth Ferry and illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld. Ages 3-8.

Following the screening, our guests will read with the audience from their other books and sign free copies for the kids! 50 min. total program + signing.

After the program, kids can grab a snack pack donated by our wonderful sponsor, Whole Foods Market! FREE books and snack packs (while supplies last).



1:00pm LIVE-ACTION Short Films

Join us for **seven** short films including *THIS TIME IT'S SHOPPING* where two siblings use their imagination to go on an adventure; in *SPAGHETTI* an eight year old gains unexplainable magical food powers; in *THE DEBT* a ten year old boy must choose between his mean girl crush or his tomboy best friend; in *QWERTY* a young boy who struggles to fit in with other kids creates a robot companion; in *THE ELIMINADORA* a little girl with an untraditional dream of becoming a wrestler runs away from home; in *THE DRAGON'S SCALE* a warrior and his son go on a quest to find a magical dragon, and in *THE WITCHING HOUR* a fearful young boy is taken by his spooky neighbor on a haunted night of mischief. (Live-action) 82 min. Ages 6 and up.



3:30pm NATURE TALES/Short Films

Join us for **four** short animated and live-action films that include baby sparrows as they learn to fly, a drone bee and it's life cycle, a ferret detective as she figures out scientific mysteries, and an Indian Sloth Bear who teaches us about her daily life in *TREETOP FAMILY: SPARROWS LEARN TO FLY*, *LOVE SONG OF THE DRONE*, *DETECT EARTH: WHEN LIFE GETS STINKY*, and *DAROJI*. 41 min. All Ages.

3:00pm ANIMATED JOURNEYS/Short Films

Join us for **eleven** short films including a reel of film attempting to escape in *LET'S CATCH A MOVIE*, various animals debating what they see in *ABSTRACT PAINTING*, a giant who encounters an unexpected visitor in *THE WORLD WHEEL*, a prince who tests a princess to prove her royalty in *THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA*, a young sparrow and it's uncommon friendship in *PEEP AND THE PAPERPLANE*, a grain of corn that dreams of being a singer in *NOTORIOUS CORN*, a dog whose world is turned upside down in *GROOMED*, four sheep and their attempts to help a girl fall asleep in *SHEEP DEPRIVED*, a chameleon whose ego leads to unexpected events in *LIFE OF BRI' N CHRIS*, an old man who lives in a submarine in *PERCHED*, and a young girl whose life is altered by the arrival of a special child in *CUERDAS*.

(Animation.) 65 min. Ages 4 and up.



4:30pm THE MICE WAR

THE MICE WAR is a story for children that teaches about and acceptance of cultural diversity. The industrious Blue Mice live in the North and the peaceful Red Mice live on an island way in the south. The Blue Mice need to make more money so they decide they need to have a war. The reason for the war? The Blue Mice eat blue cheese and the Red Mice eat yellow cheese! What would happen if the Red Mice came and made the Blue Mice eat yellow Cheese? Find out in this clever musical animated adventure! 78 min. All Ages.

4:30pm FIDDLESTICKS

The colorful town of Bollersdorf is known as the belly button of the world: located in the center of northern and southern Germany, and completely ordinary. It's so average, in fact, that it is taken over by a market research company determined to turn parents into consumer-driven puppets. Luckily, a ragtag group of kindergarteners known as the Coati Gang aren't falling for it. When their grandparents are kidnapped and dumped into nursing homes as a result of their youthful, overactive imaginations and adventurous past careers, the Coati Gang and their mascot (a coati/raccoon named Fiddlesticks) set out to make their town extraordinary using courage and creativity in this loopy, heartwarming live-action adventure for all ages! 82 min. All Ages. English Dubbed.



SUNDAY JANUARY 22, 2017

12:30pm BENJI (1974) KidFilm Classics

Meet the beloved, scruffy pooch that starred in five feature films! Stray dog Benji doesn't need an owner, preferring to roam freely all over his friendly Texas town. He delights in hectoring the cat of a local widow and can always rely on a kind shopkeeper for a handout. But when two children Benji loves are kidnapped and held for ransom, the dog springs into action, taking it upon himself to foil the crooks and save the day. Writer/director Joe Camp's timeless classic will get a well-deserved remake by son Brandon Camp in the near future! Special thanks to Joe Camp and the G. William Jones Film & Video Collection at SMU. 35mm print. 85 min. All Ages.



12:30pm THE SNOW QUEEN 3: FIRE AND ICE

After heroically defeating both the Snow Queen and the Snow King, Gerda still cannot find peace. Her dream is to find her parents who were taken away from Gerda and her brother by the North Wind. Thus, Gerda and her friends set out on a difficult journey to find her parents and encounter new challenges along the way. They discover an ancient magical artifact of the trolls – the Stone of Fire and Ice. From that moment on things don't go according to the initial plan. Will Gerda be able to tame the mighty forces of the magical elements and get her family back? Find out in this magical animated tale. 78 min. All Ages.



2:30pm KIKORIKI: LEGEND OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON

The lovable, simple residents of peaceful Kikoriki Island are thrown into a big animated 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. But when spineless young Wally tries to use the untested device to cure his cowardice, he ends up even more spineless -- by getting accidentally body switched with a squirmy little caterpillar! Now he's got more to fear than he ever dreamed, and so do his fellow villagers, as they are dragged into a madcap adventure packed with plane crashes, mistaken identities, erupting volcanoes and angry primitives on the warpath. Boy, do the Kikoriki Crew wish they could switch places now -- with anyone! 75 min. All Ages.



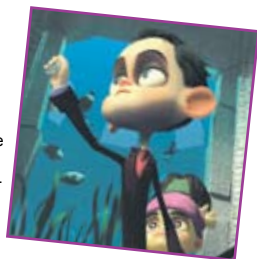
2:30pm SHEEP & WOLVES

In a magical faraway land lives a flock of carefree sheep, but their pastoral life is interrupted when a pack of wolves set up camp in the nearby ravine. While the sheep are trying to figure out how to live side by side with their new neighbors, the wolves are about to choose a successor to their retiring leader. The pack's favorite -- hopeless goofball Grey -- takes on a challenge of proving to everyone, including his fiancé Bianca, that he is worth becoming a leader. Things don't go quite to plan when he drinks a magic potion and ends up in the body of a ... Ram! 97 min. All Ages.



4:30pm HOWARD LOVECRAFT AND THE FROZEN KINGDOM

Well before he becomes the famed horror writer H. P. Lovecraft, young Howard Lovecraft is a curious and imaginative boy living with his mother. But after she unwittingly gives Howard the legendary Necronomicon, he is transported to a dangerous and frozen world populated by horrifying creatures. After saving and befriendng one such creature, Spot, Howard and his new friend set off on a perilous quest to save the kingdom and get Howard home. But Howard soon finds out that not everything is as it seems and not everyone is to be trusted in this fun and thrilling animated adventure. The film is an inventive alternate history for any Lovecraft fan that entwines actual events of the author's life and iconic elements of his writings, such as the Necronomicon, Cthulhu and more! 80 min. Ages 6 and up.



4:30pm MY FRIEND RAFFI

Hamster Raffi belongs to eight year old Sammy, and he is one very special rodent. Not only can he kick goals with a football, but he can also sniff out smuggled goods -- and he is better than any tracker dog! One day Raffi is ill, and it turns out to be worse than thought; he has a heart disease which requires operation. As if things weren't bad enough, Raffi gets accidentally kidnapped by a ruthless criminal! Neither Sammy's mother nor his sister have the time to help search for Raffi, and his father is away for work. So, Sammy embarks on a tremendous adventure through the big city of Hamburg to find his furry friend! 93 min. Ages 7 and up. English Subtitles

