

International Education Film Festival Growing up in cinema

festival film international du d'éducation

Des
histoires
de vie à
partager



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Editorial

Over the five days of the festival, the films on offer and their directors' perspectives tackle major issues relating to education, childhood and youth, cultural and intergenerational transmission, and the fight against all forms of discrimination, through the stories and life journeys of children, young people and adults.

These fiction films, documentaries and animated films, in all formats, are aimed at a very wide audience, including parents, educators, community leaders, politicians, local authorities and the general public. A programme for young audiences also brings together films designed to help them discover the world, dream and marvel, selected for different age groups, from nursery school through to secondary school. The festival also offers young people numerous educational and cultural opportunities to discover and create images and stories.

Several conferences, round-table discussions and public debates with filmmakers are held during the festival.

The festival, for over 20 years, thus provides a wonderful space for discussion, the exchange of perspectives and dialogue. It is a cultural venue for building connections among all citizens and for innovation among all those involved in education. It is a place for critical education and for teaching young people about images and cinema.

It is also a space for "popular education", combining the "viewing" of films with the "discussions" led by key figures, which allows us to continually explore the issues of education. It thus promotes the role of passing on a living heritage of powerful European and international works, in Normandy, mainland France and the overseas territories, in Europe and beyond, through the formats of the "Decentralised Educational Film Festival", the festival's "Échos", the "Hors les murs" Festival and the "En itinérance" Festival, which extend the festival's reach throughout the year.



FILMS THAT TELL LIFE STORIES TO BE SHARED

WITH ITS SELECTION OF FILMS AND ITS PROGRAMME, THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FILM FESTIVAL IS FIRST AND FOREMOST A FILM FESTIVAL THAT OFFERS VIEWERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS AND THOSE INVOLVED IN THE WORLD OF EDUCATION IN THE BROADEST SENSE.

The screened films tell tales of education that echo our current concerns. Starting from an organised action, they depict an event or meeting, life journeys that are chosen or endured, situations of transmission, initiation or learning or periods of rupture, in a sequence that transforms one or more characters so that, by the end of the film, they have changed. These films may take a variety of forms (fiction, documentary and animation, short, medium or full-length films). Education films may involve childhood, adolescence, the family world, work, school, social and professional insertion, disability, sport, leisure, social and cultural diversity and any situations that involve living together, authority, the fight for human rights and emancipation, a sustainable future for the planet.

Over and beyond the emotions they arouse, the films invite viewers to ask questions and provide opportunities for individual or collective reflection. Education films help us to rise to the challenges that we all have to meet once, "having held our children in our arms, we then find ourselves burdened with them". Education films portray what keeps people upright, what stops them from collapsing in their present lives, namely a concern for the future.

50 international
film industries

The Festival is expanding internationally

For more than ten years, the Education Film Festival took a significant international dimension.

Historically, “echoes” of the Festival have emerged in Uruguay (organized by the NGO El Abrojo) and Brazil (in partnership with the Brazilian festival Ciranda de Filmes), and the festival has been established for many years in Belgium (Soif d’idéal) and Russia (Festival Grandir ensemble in Chelyabinsk). More recently, partnerships have been established (Longue vue sur le court in Montreal, Quebec; Film Days international Festival in Cyprus), or are continuing to be developed in Oceania (FIFO, Papeete), Greece (Thessaloniki International Film Festival and Evosmos Cultural Center), Morocco (FICAM, French Institute of Meknes) and Spain (Barcelona). Today, after the Covid period, which weakened these partnerships and the actions themselves, FIFE France has relaunched its partnership with Uruguay



(Festival de película/ El Abrojo), Brazil (Ecofalante festival) and the Quebec festival Regards à Saguenay.

These partnerships provide an opportunity to share filmographies, introducing FIFE’s award-winning films to an international audience and enriching the programming in Évreux with cinematic gems from Morocco, Russia, Oceania, Brazil, and Quebec.



The International Education Film Festival seized by young people

The CEMÉA/FIFE have designed this cultural event, over and beyond the relation between the films and the audience like any other festival, as a place that can and must host educational projects for young people from Normandy and elsewhere. High school students and young participants of the *Écris et fais ton cinéma* project, build their paths, choose their own programme and decide how they are going to explore the festival according to their own project, whether within the framework of their school, association, youth club or government department.

With this approach, the CEMÉA guide young people and their organizations through their specific projects, having as a common goal, to help them to actively make the film festival their own, integrating an approach that involves educating young people in the role of images and media. Therefore, the young people invited to the festival are, web-reporters, jury members, film critics, short film directors... Their participation is the result of a preliminary work conducted before the festival and provides opportunities to extend those projects after it.



Around **100** films
selected each year

Nearly **1000** film screenings a year

FILMMAKERS, GUIDES TO THE FUTURE

When cinema addresses education, it serves the public interest... Because cinema invites everyone to look at the world and at others; because it is a journey, an exploration of new or different frontiers... Because it dares to show... Cinema opens up experiences to forge links between all these images presented to us and those within us, to confront perspectives and tastes. Presenting images, documentary films, is to exchange, to shift perspectives... Pioneers of the future, the poets, the documentary-makers, the filmmakers...



Christian Gautellier,
Director of the festival



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Des histoires de vie à partager



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