



Cinema/Chicago and the 47th Chicago International Film Festival
Education Outreach Program Screening: *CineYouth "Best of the Fest"*

Directors: various
95 minutes, not rated
In English

Please use the below synopsis, study ideas/questions and helpful websites to lead your students in preparation and post-screening discussion. Following the film, students are required to respond to the screening with a one-page essay. Essays (either all or select) must be sent to Cinema/Chicago.*

Synopsis: CineYouth "Best of the Fest" screens the winning films from the Chicago International Film Festival's youth festival, CineYouth. From drama to comedy, documentary to music video, these short films show the talent and creativity of young filmmakers today.

Recommended for: film and video students, humanities studies, theater students, cultural studies.

Appropriate for: grades 6-12.

Study Ideas/Questions:

1. Which film was your favorite? Why did you like it (story, cinematography, music, writing, etc.)?
2. Which film was your least favorite, and why?
3. Have you ever wanted to make a short film? What is the film you want to make about? How might you be able to actually make it?
4. Discuss genres. What are the themes, styles and plots that define them? What makes a horror film "horror," a drama film "drama," etc.
5. Have you ever made a film? What was it about, and how did you make it? Did you show it to anyone, and if so, how did they respond to the film?
6. Have you ever attended a film festival? How is the film festival experience different than a regular movie-going experience?
7. Are there resources at your school, in your community, church or after school program that might help you make a short film? What resources can you find in Chicago that assists young filmmakers?
8. If you were going to make a film, what is the first thing you would do? Write a script? Learn how to use the camera? Explain how you make your choice.

9. What is your favorite movie? Think back to all the films you have seen and choose one that is the best. Why is it your favorite?
10. How were the winning films in each CineYouth category different? How were the two winning comedies different, and how were they similar. How are the horror films, drama films, documentaries, etc. different and in which way can you compare them.

Useful Links and Resources:

CineYouth Festival submission information (click Entry Submission Guidelines):

<http://cinemachicago.org/cineyouth/>

Street Level Youth Media (filmmaking resources for students): <http://www.street-level.org/>

Information about Cinema/Chicago's Education Outreach Program:

<http://cinemachicago.org/education/>

*Schools who do not send in essay requirement will not be allowed to attend future Education Outreach Screenings.