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## **Cinetopia International Film Festival Kicks Off Local Filmmaker Competition**

*Detroit Voices seeks fresh perspectives in film*

**Cinetopia International Film Festival** announces a call for entries for its short film competition, **Detroit Voices**. This is an opportunity for local filmmakers to share their talent and perspectives as Michigan filmmakers. Amateur and professional filmmakers working in all disciplines and genres (narrative, documentary, experimental, animation) are encouraged to submit their film, provided it has a Michigan connection.

The competition is separated into two categories: Youth Storyteller (filmmakers under 18) and Adult Storyteller. Youth Storytellers vie for the Most Promising Student Award with a cash prize of \$1000 and Adult Storytellers compete for the \$3000 Jury Award. Both categories are eligible to win either of the Audience Choice Award with a cash prize of \$1500 or the Special Mention Award with a \$500 cash prize for the film chosen by the judges as having "something special." Detroit Voices awards are made possible by Pure Michigan Film Office.

"We know that Southeast Michigan is rich with talented artists, each with their unique take on life in our area," said Cinetopia Artistic Director and Michigan Theater Executive Director Russ Collins. "We are thrilled to be able to offer an outlet for those voices and can't wait to celebrate these entries at our international film festival this summer."

The submission period ends on May 4, 2015. Final program determinations will be made by May 25, 2015 and winners will be announced at the Cinetopia International Film Festival, which takes place in Detroit and Ann Arbor from June 5-14, 2015. For more information or to submit an entry, visit this link: <http://www.cinetopiafestival.org/detroit-voices/>

In 2014, the first annual **Detroit Voices** competition received more than 100 submissions from local talent. The very best entries were packaged into a

program that was screened several times during the 2014 Cinetopia Festival. Last year's winners include **Detroit School of Arts** students, whose short film ***Sound and Fury*** won the youth competition and **Timothy Peoples**, whose short film ***Introspective*** won the adult competition.

**About Cinetopia International Film Festival (June 5-14, 2015):**

Created in 2012 by the Michigan Theater and the Detroit Film Theatre for the people of southeastern Michigan, Cinetopia International Film Festival features the best feature-length dramas, comedies, and documentaries from the world's best film festivals, including Sundance, Cannes, Venice, and Toronto.

Cinetopia International Film Festival would not be possible without the generous support of our presenting sponsors the Knight Foundation and the MASCO Corporation Foundation. Visit [cinetopiasfestival.org](http://cinetopiasfestival.org) for more information.