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50th Annual Michigan Student Film Festival

Free event at the Detroit Institute of Arts

On Saturday, April 28, 2018 the Detroit Film Theatre hosts the 50th annual Michigan Student Film Festival with special emcee Brad Galli, WXYZ Sports Anchor. The Festival showcases the best films by students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 in Michigan schools. According to the American Film Institute, it is the longest running student Festival in the country. The work ranges from delightful animation to narrative pieces, documentaries and public service announcements.

This event is organized by Digital Arts, Film and Television (DAFT) and is at the core of this educational non-profit organization's mission. Over 300 films from locations throughout the state are submitted and judged by panels of media professionals and educators with constructive critiques returned to every entrant.

The selected Best of Show films are screened in the beautiful historic theatre of the DIA with awards including scholarships and prizes of media equipment. A reception for the winners follows in the Crystal Gallery of the DIA giving participants the opportunity to meet and network with industry professionals and other student winners. This is the premiere event for media students in the state each year and is without parallel anywhere in the country for longevity and quality.

The Elementary and Junior portion of the Festival begins at 10:00 a.m. and the senior awards ceremony and screening begins at 12:30. The event is free and open to the public. In addition, another screening of selected films will happen on Sunday, April 29 at 2pm. This 90-minute screening will feature both elementary and senior Festival winning Best of Show films and is also free and open to the public.

For more information visit the DAFT website daftonline.org or contact Festival Co-Directors Kevin Walsh or Kathy Vander at <u>info@daftonline.org</u> or 248-408-6715.

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