

# minds

FILM FESTIVAL 2020



SHAW THEATRES LIDO  
15 JAN •————• 19 JAN



# About MINDS Film Festival

In the last three years, MINDS has sought to broadcast powerful, interwoven stories that spark conversations and create awareness to support persons with intellectual disability (PWIDs) and those diagnosed with autism. The medium of film can powerfully and effectively personify and convey the values and beliefs of this community in a way that no media can.

Since its inception, the annual MINDS Film Festival has become a unique platform to showcase the meaningful narratives and uplifting possibilities that PWIDs experience. This year, for the first time ever, MINDS Film Festival will be rolling out free community screenings in the heart of two neighbourhoods — Tampines and Yishun — to bring the action and excitement of the festival into the heartlands as building an inclusive community for our differently-abled friends begins with the support of the community.



Infiltrating the heartlands is part of MINDS' efforts to educate and open up critical conversations about the special needs sector. The community screenings will feature award-winning Malaysian film, *Redha*, which tells a poignant story of the harsh realities faced by parents raising a child with Autism.



Headlining our film festival this year are six international titles hailing from America, Hong Kong, Italy, Korea and Spain. Despite the cultural diversity, these films share the common passion, beliefs and conviction to break down the walls faced by the special needs community.

In the spirit of inclusion, MINDSFF 2020 is pledging its support by introducing accessible rates for those in the special needs community. Alongside our efforts of fostering inclusivity, we are also heartened by the immense support and enthusiasm received from our friends and partners at the Embassy of France, Embassy of Italy, Embassy of the Republic of Korea and Embassy of Spain.

# Message from Chairman of MINDS

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We are pleased to usher in the New Year with MINDS Film Festival 2020. More than entertainment, storytelling through films has a transformative power that makes people listen, feel and connect.

This year, we have specially curated a catalogue of films exploring issues that are very dear to us. The films give a glimpse of the lives of these differently-abled individuals, touching on dynamic relationships between persons with special needs and their siblings, their aspirations and ambitions, and their journey of overcoming stigma and stereotypes. These films do not only tug at our heartstrings but also seek to

convey the importance of an inclusive society.

MINDS Film Festival began 4 years ago with the simple goal of bridging the gap between our special needs community and the wider population. Since then, we have seen people from all walks of life gather at the festival to see, learn and inspire change. Through these films and dialogues, it is our hope to see more communities rally together to support our differently-abled friends and their families.

We look forward to expanding the reach of the festival through fresh lenses to newer audiences. Thank you for being a part of MINDS Film Festival this year. We hope you enjoy our films!

Mr Augustin Lee  
Chairman of MINDS Board

# Festival Schedule



**The Peanut Butter Falcon** (Invite Only)

15 Jan 2020, Wednesday / 8.00pm



**Distinction** (非同凡响)

16 Jan 2020, Thursday / 7.00pm



**Champions (Campeones)**

17 Jan 2020, Friday / 6.50pm



**Intelligent Lives**

18 Jan 2020, Saturday / 1.00pm



**My Brother Chases Dinosaurs**

18 Jan 2020, Saturday / 6.50pm



**Innocent Witness (Jeugin)**

19 Jan 2020, Sunday / 1.00pm

Ticket sales start on 2nd Jan 2020, available at the Shaw Theatres box office and [www.shaw.sg](http://www.shaw.sg).

**\$10**

General Public

**\$8**

SFS Film Addicts and  
bulk purchases\*

**\$5**

MINDS Staff and  
caregivers\*\*

**Free**

DDR cardholders

\*For bulk purchases (10 tickets and above), please contact [marketing@singaporefilmsociety.com](mailto:marketing@singaporefilmsociety.com) directly.

\*\*Up to 2 caregivers are permitted the discounted price per DDR cardholder.

Discounts will be available for SFS Film Addict and DDR cardholders only if a valid membership card is presented at the box office physically upon purchase.

All screenings are at Shaw Lido, with the exception of the free community screenings of REDHA

## REDHA (Beautiful Pain)

2016 | Malaysia | Drama | Malay with English subtitles

115 mins | Rating PG

Director: Tunku Mona Riza

Cast: Namron, June Lojong, Harith Haziq

Upon the discovery that their only son Danial (Haziq) is autistic, Alina (Lojong) and Razlan's (Namron) world crumbles as they struggle to confront the harsh realities of raising a child disabled by a condition they hardly knew about. Razlan's inability to accept the truth causes friction within the family, but Alina's perseverance and maternal instinct help wade through the difficult times raising Danial. With her sister and a close friend by her side, they may have found a way to improve Danial's quality of life until a tragic accident causes the family to rethink its strategy.

**Screenings** *FREE ADMISSION*



**10 Jan (Friday)** 7.30pm  
Our Tampines Hub,  
The Central Plaza  
505 Tampines Avenue 5, 529652



**11 Jan (Saturday)** 4.00pm  
Tzu Chi Humanistic Youth Centre,  
The Great Hall  
30A Yishun Central 1,  
Singapore 768796

**Malaysian Film Festival 2017**  
Best Actor and Child Actor



15 Jan (Wednesday) 8.00pm (Invite only)

## The Peanut Butter Falcon

2019 | USA | Drama | English | 98 mins  
Rating PG13 (Some Coarse Language)  
Director: Tyler Nilson, Michael Schwartz  
Cast: Shia LaBeouf, Dakota Johnson, Zack  
Gottsgen

*The Peanut Butter Falcon* tells the story of Zak (Gottsgen), a young man with Down syndrome, who runs away from a residential nursing home to follow his dream of attending the professional wrestling school. A strange turn of events pairs him on the road with Tyler (LaBeouf), a small time outlaw on the run, who becomes Zak's unlikely coach and ally. Together they wind through deltas, elude capture, drink whisky, find God, catch fish, and convince Eleanor (Johnson), a kind nursing home employee charged with Zak's return, to join them on their journey.



SXSW Film Festival  
Audience Award for Narrative Spotlight

16 Jan (Thursday) 7.00pm

## Distinction 非同凡响

2018 | Hong Kong | Drama | Cantonese with English and Chinese subtitles  
100 mins | Rating PG  
Director: Jevons Au  
Cast: Jo Koo, Jennifer Yu, Kaki Sham

Despite her reluctance, a music teacher in a special education needs (SEN) school, Ms. Tsui (Koo), is being assigned to helm a musical performance with a Band 1 underachiever (Yu) and a Band 3 rebellious teenager (Sham). The three individuals take part in a musical they deem worthless but little do they know that an unexpected journey of self-discovery awaits them.



**38th Hong Kong Film Awards**  
Nominated for Best Actress &  
Best Original Film Song

Singapore Premiere

17 Jan (Friday) 6.50pm

## Champions (Campeones)

2018 | Spain | Comedy, Drama | Spanish with English subtitles | 124 mins | Rating TBA  
Director: Javier Fesser  
Cast: Javier Gutiérrez, Juan Margallo, Luisa Gavasa, Jesús Vidal, Daniel Freire

Marco Montes (Gutiérrez), the assistant coach for a Spanish basketball team who is ambitious, arrogant and has reached the end of his emotional tether. After publicly disgracing himself in a fight with his head coach, he drives drunk straight into the back of a police car and is sentenced to community service. To his dismay, Marco must now whip amateur basketball team into shape. But this could prove to be his greatest challenge yet, as the team is made up of players with varying mental disabilities.



Goya Awards 2019

Best Film, Best New Actor & Best Original Song

Asian Premiere

18 Jan (Saturday) 1.00pm

## Intelligent Lives

2018 | USA | Documentary | English

70 mins | Rating TBAv

Director: Dan Habib

Cast: Naieer Shaheed, Naomie Monplaisir, Micah Fialka Feldman

*Intelligent Lives* stars three pioneering young American adults with intellectual disabilities - Micah, Naieer, and Naomie - who challenge perceptions of intelligence as they navigate through high school, college, and the workforce. Academy Award-winning actor and narrator Chris Cooper contextualizes the lives of these central characters through the emotional personal story of his son Jesse, as the film unpacks the shameful and ongoing track record of intelligence testing in the U.S.



SXSW EDU 2019  
Official Selection

Asian Premiere

18 Jan (Saturday) 6.50pm

## My Brother Chases Dinosaurs (Mio fratello rincorre i dinosauri)

2019 | Italy | Drama | Italian with English subtitles  
102 mins | Rating TBA

Director: Stefano Cipani

Cast: Lorenzo Sisto, Francesco Gheghi, Gea  
Dall'Orto

Jack (Gheghi) always wanted a little brother, and when Gio (Sisto) is born, he believes his parents when they tell him that Gio is a superhero with amazing powers. As he grows up, however, Jack realizes that his brother actually has Down syndrome, a condition that Jack decides to keep secret in high school. When the truth comes out, Jack learns that his brother's energy, vitality, and unique perspective can indeed change the world—just like a superhero.



19 Jan (Sunday) 1.00pm

## Innocent Witness (증인)

2019 | South Korea | Drama, Crime | Korean  
with English subtitles | 129 mins | NC16 (Some  
Disturbing Scenes)

Director: Han Lee

Cast: Woo-sung Jung, Hyang-gi Kim, Yun-ah  
Song

An old man suffering from depression is found dead,  
and his housekeeper is charged with the murder. The  
housekeeper's defense attorney, Soon Ho (Jung), is  
surprised to learn the only witness to the crime is Ji  
Woo (Kim), a teenage girl with autism. Will Ji Woo be  
able to take the stand and provide a valid statement?



Korean Association of Film Critics Awards 2019  
Best Actress

# TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities may face difficulty understanding complex language and expressing themselves verbally. Here are some helpful tips to help you communicate with them effectively.



## 01

Use short, clear and simple sentences.



## 02

Speak to them using an age-appropriate tone of voice.



## 03

Make eye contact. Show respect, warmth and patience when communicating with them.



## 04

Speak slowly and allow time for them to think through and respond.



## 05

Rephrase the information if it is not understood, or present the information in another way.



## 06

Besides verbal communication, use other communication methods such as pictures, signs, and gestures to help them understand you better.



## 07

If the person does not verbally respond, never assume that he or she does not understand what you are saying.

## 08

Ask for clarification. If you are unsure what the person is saying, ask for assistance from someone who knows the person well and may be able to interpret what the differently-abled person is trying to say.

### Volunteer with MINDS today!

MINDS is a social service agency that embraces the Many Helping Hands approach to deliver services to persons with special needs in Singapore. Join us as a volunteer today!

Keen individuals, voluntary groups, companies and organisations can email us at [volunteer@minds.org.sg](mailto:volunteer@minds.org.sg) or call us at **6479 5655**.

If you wish to make a donation, you can do so online via [www.giving.sg/mindsg](http://www.giving.sg/mindsg).

## About MINDS



MINDS was founded in May 1962 by a group of philanthropists who saw the need to provide equal opportunities for children with intellectual disabilities to receive education and later, to be integrated as contributing and responsible citizens in Singapore.

MINDS is one of Singapore's oldest and largest social service organisations, and has 17 facilities comprising 4 Special Education schools, 3 Employment Development Centres, 8 Training and Development Centres, and a multi-service residential facility which contains a home for adults and one for children, a hostel, a Caregivers Support Services Centre, a Special

Student Care Centre, a Developmental Disabilities Medical Clinic and an Institute of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (MIIDD).

MINDS also delivers Home-Based Care Services, administers the Appropriate Adult scheme, and runs a befriender programme called Me Too! Club. Since then, MINDS has grown to be one of the largest social service organisations in Singapore, serving some 2,400 students, clients and their families from the age of six to their ripe old age.

To know more, visit <http://www.minds.org.sg>

## About SFS



Singapore Film Society (SFS) is the largest organiser of film festivals in Singapore. They have collaborated with a wide range of partners from theatrical distribution, diplomatic missions, academic and cultural institutions to present the best of international cinema in Singapore. SFS is renowned and popular for its leading-edge programming and organisational skills in film festival management and marketing.

Some of our key events include the annual European Union Film Festival, Japanese Film Festival, and

the Singapore Chinese Film Festival. The mission statement of the Singapore Film Society has been to promote film appreciation as art and entertainment, as we hope to bridge the gap between art house cinema and the commercial film industry.

You can find more information at <http://www.singaporefilmsociety.com>

# Special Thanks

MINDS would like to thank the following entities for their generous support

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## Organising Partner



## Venue Partners



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