

Film Guide

Ajyal Youth Film Festival

1-6 December, 2014



أجيال

مهرجان أجيال السينمائي
Ajyal Youth Film Festival



Presented by

مؤسسة الدوحة للأفلام

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How to Use this Guide

All films at Ajyal are selected and recommended according to age-appropriateness and are divided into four programmes: Bariq, for audiences ages 4 and up (see page 12); Mohaq, for audiences ages 8 and up (see page 14); Hilal, for audiences ages 13 and up (see page 16); and Bader, for audiences ages 15 and up (see page 18).



General Audience. Suitable for audiences ages 4 and up.



Parental guidance is advised. Some material may be inappropriate for young children.



Parental guidance is advised for viewers under the age of 13. Individuals under the age of 13 are not admitted into cinemas unless accompanied by an individual over the age of 18.



Parental guidance advised for viewers under the age of 15. Individuals under the age of 18 are not admitted into cinemas unless accompanied by an individual over the age of 18.

Festival Venues

Event and screening locations are identified as follows:

Katara 12 Theatre A: κ12-A

Katara 12 Theatre B: κ12-B

Katara Opera House: κ16-OH

Katara Drama Theatre: κ16-DT

SONY Pop-Up Cinema: κΕ-SPUC

For more information, please see page 29 in this guide.

Subtitles

Unless otherwise noted, all films are shown in their original language with English and Arabic subtitles as necessary. Interpreters are onsite for all panels, workshops and Q&A sessions.

Free Screenings

Free screenings and events presented in Festival venues other than the SONY Pop-Up Cinema require a ticket for admission. Free tickets may be reserved online or requested at any ticket outlet location. All screenings at the SONY Pop-Up Cinema are free and do not require tickets. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Rediscover Cinema at the Second Annual Ajjal Youth Film Festival

It's time for the second edition of Ajjal, Doha's own film festival for young people. Six days of some of the best family-friendly cinema the world has to offer will bring generations of film-goers together for an enlightening and entertaining experience.

Over the course of the Festival, film enthusiasts young and old will be rushing from cinema to cinema, taking in our special focus on films made right here in Qatar, films for kids as young as four, brilliant examples of animation, drama and comedy, or fascinating, informative documentaries that bring the world's stories home to Qatar.

Doha Film Experience jury members – young people from Doha and around the world – will be deciding which of the films will be the Ajjal competition winners. And let's not

forget that 'ajjal' is the Arabic word for 'generations'. Film is a wonderful medium for bringing people together – whether families, cities or the whole world. Ajjal gives youth the opportunity to learn about other cultures, times and places – and it gives them a space to express their opinions, forge international friendships and drive positive change for the future.

As well, there are lots of special events that go along with the Festival – you'll find more information throughout this guide.

We have scoured the world in search of the best films for you and your family, and we're proud to bring this selection to our home audience. See you at the movies!

Doha Film Experience



Engagement of young people in the Ajjal Youth Film Festival is centred on the juries of the Doha Film Experience, who select the awards in the Festival's competitions. By providing young people from the ages of 8 to 21 with access to international cinema and filmmakers from around the globe, Ajjal helps them develop their understanding of how the world tells its stories in a spirit of cultural exchange. The Doha Film Experience inspires creative thinking, cooperation and problem solving – and leads to friendships that will last a lifetime.

Juries

There are three Doha Film Experience juries in three age groups. They are:



Mohaqa

Mohaqa means 'New Moon' in Arabic, and these are Ajjal's youngest jurors, aged 8 to 12. The young people of this jury will watch two programmes of short films and two feature-length films.



Hilal

Ajjal's jurors aged 13 to 17 make up the Hilal jury – the term means 'Crescent Moon' in Arabic. Four feature films and two programmes of shorts make up the Hilal jury's festival programme.



Bader

The most mature of Ajjal's juries, Bader (Arabic for 'Full Moon') jurors are aged 18 to 21 and will select their favourite films from four features and two programmes of short films.

Awards

Ajjal's juries select a total of five Best Filmmaker awards – each jury selects a best filmmaker in the short film category, and the Hilal and Bader juries also select awards in the feature film category.

Best Filmmakers are awarded funding toward their next film, so jurors are empowered to support and promote future content that is relevant and important to them, in a proactive way.



Speed Sisters PG-15



Meet Marah, Mona, Betty, Noor and Maysoon – the first all-woman rally-racing team in the Middle East. Passionate, dedicated and tough as nails, these five women are taking the auto-racing world of Palestine by storm, one screeching doughnut at a time.

Given the state of affairs in Palestine, it might come as a surprise that the nation has an organised racing culture in the first place. In fact, the Palestine Racing Federation owns no land and operates its events in empty lots, while drivers practise their techniques anywhere they can find enough space. Supported by their families, their friends and the racing community at large, the team members face down

criticism, disappointment, arbitrary rulings and the ever-present restrictions brought about by the Israeli military occupation.

Director Amber Fares gains intimate access to the daily lives of her subjects, leaving no doubt that they were born to drive, but also finding the quieter moments that show us where their inner strength springs from. Fuelled by gasoline, girl power, the desire for freedom and a kickin' soundtrack, 'Speed Sisters' paints a high-octane portrait of a group of charismatic and resilient women who are living their lives on their own terms – and finding the glory they richly deserve.

World Premiere

Original Title: **Al Sabbaqat**

Director: **Amber Fares**

Palestine, USA, Qatar / Arabic, English / 2014 / 80 mins

Mon 1 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-OH (by invitation only)

Mon 1 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-DT / QR 40 Doors open at 5:30 PM and close at 7:00 PM

Thu 4 Dec / 10:30 PM / K16-DT / QR 25

Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet PG



Since its publication in 1923, Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran's 'The Prophet', has been a classic around the world; one of the bestselling books of the 20th century, it has been translated into more than 40 languages. Turning this collection of poems into a feature film is a monumental task, but writer-director Roger Allers (Disney's 'The Lion King') has risen to the occasion. The result is a beautiful and charming tale that remains faithful to the spirit of Gibran's original text.

Mustafa, a political prisoner, obtains his freedom the same day he meets mischievous young Almitra, who follows him on his trek through the town to the ship that will take him home. Along the way, the townspeople ask for Mustafa's opinion on several of life's questions, and his wisdom is illustrated by glorious animated sequences by eight acclaimed animation artists, among them celebrated

Gulf director Mohammed Saeed Harib (of 'Freej' fame) and Academy Award winner Joan Gratz ('Mona Lisa Descending a Staircase').

Co-funded by the Doha Film Institute, and produced by Salma Hayek Pinault – who also lends her voice to the film, along with Liam Neeson – 'Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet' had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, after a sneak preview screening at Cannes. It is a magnificent accomplishment, one that is certain to bring Gibran's beloved poetry to a new generation of admirers.

The winners of our poetry competition, held in collaboration with the Cultural Creativity Centre, will be announced at the closing night screening – an excellent accompaniment to a work inspired by one of the most celebrated poets of the Arab world.

MENA Premiere

Director: **Roger Allers**

Canada, France, Lebanon, Qatar, USA / English / 2014 / 84 mins

Sat 6 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-OH (by invitation only)

Sat 6 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-DT / QR 40 Doors open at 5:30 PM and close at 7:00 PM

Made in Qatar

Come celebrate our homegrown talent! Ajyal's Made in Qatar series continues with a selection of films made by filmmakers from Qatar, and those who call Qatar home. The showcase includes independent Qatari productions and several short films made as part of two of the Doha Film Institutes' filmmaking challenges.



Made in Qatar Red Carpet at Ajyal Youth Film Festival 2013

Programme 1 PG-13



New Day

Programme 1 includes several short films made as part of a collaboration between the Doha Film Institute and Seha, the National Health Insurance Scheme for the State of Qatar. The directors have made short films about Qatar's tradition of care, and we are proud to include a selection of them in the Made in Qatar competition. These films precede the films listed below.

10%

A young man is obsessed with his mobile phone, but when it gets him into all kinds of trouble, it might be the end of the affair.

Original Title: **Ashrah Fi Almeya**
Director: **Yousef Almodhadi**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 7 mins

Amreeka Laa

Yousif wants to go to university in New York City, but his father is adamantly opposed to the idea. How will Yousif make the choice that lies ahead?

Director: **Hind Al-Ansari**
Qatar / Arabic, English / 2014 / 15 mins

The Big Dream

Mohamed is a ten-year old Algerian boy born in Qatar who hopes to become a champion swimmer. 'The Big Dream' follows his hopes and aspirations.

Director: **Nadia Tabib**
Qatar / Arabic, English / 2014 / 22 mins

He Will Steal It

When a young boy sees a driver leave his mobile phone in the car without locking it, temptation is almost irresistible. Will the boy's morals be stronger than his impulse to steal it?

Original Title: **Sayasroqha**
Director: **Abdulaziz Al-Saadi**
Qatar / No dialogue / 2014 / 3 mins

New Day

An ill woman faithfully prays for assistance until, one day, she receives news that will change her life

Director: **Ali Ali**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 2 mins

Qarar

The suspenseful tale of a young married couple trying to survive an epidemic that has turned the population of Doha into zombies.

Director: **Ali Al Ansari**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 16 mins

T Boy

An IT professional ends up in a job making tea in this crushing film that sheds unforgiving light on the tough life of immigrant labourers.

Director: **Maryam Al Sahli**
Qatar / English, Hindi / 2014 / 7 mins

Thu 4 Dec / 7:00PM / K16-DT / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Programme 2 PG-13



Coucou

Coucou

When an upstairs neighbour's laundry lands on her balcony, 80-year-old Samira's fragile mental state shatters. With its disturbing atmosphere, 'Coucou' captures the distorted reality of a senile mind.

Director: **Meriem Mesraoua**
Qatar / Arabic / 2013 / 10 mins

Hind's Dream

Hind, a young bedouin woman, spends weeks alone while her husband is away. Their tent is her entire world, yet her dreams and thoughts carry her miles away.

Original Title: **Hilm Hind**
Director: **Suzannah Mirghani**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 9 mins

Lumière

An abstract symphony of images that plays on the stark contrast between light and shadow, open and closed space, and urban and natural landscapes.

Director: **Aisha Abduljawad**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 3 mins

Public Phone

Four people from different backgrounds make calls to all corners of the globe and show they are all united in their human struggles.

Director: **Ethar Ahmed Hassaan, Leena Al-Musalmani**
Qatar / Arabic, English, Urdu / 2014 / 4 mins

After My Death

The soul of a recently deceased young woman pays a visit to her mother, her husband and her girlfriends, but she is in for some bitter surprises.

Director: **Mohamed Al Hamadi**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 15 mins

Kings and Queens of Qatar

'Kings and Queens of Qatar' focuses on Qatar's women's chess team, the nation's first generation of female players, during the 40th World Chess Olympiad held in Istanbul.

Director: **Shamir Allibhai**
Qatar / English / 2014 / 36 mins

Temsah

'Temsah' follows Abdulaziz as he prepares to visit Dubai's comic convention, where he hopes to find a publisher for 'Skanwah', the first comic book from Qatar.

Director: **Latifa Al-Darwish**
Qatar / Arabic / 2013 / 12 mins

Programme 2 includes this collection of titles from the 'Tarsheed Short Filmmaking Competition', a collaboration with Kahramaa in celebration of Earth Day 2014 that aims to raise awareness about water and electricity conservation.

Monsters

Saving water and conserving energy are as easy as flipping a switch... but some people seem to need more encouragement than others.

Director: **Nesma Sherif, Islam Sherif**
Qatar / No dialogue / 2014 / 1 min

Takrir

A Korean refrigerator, a German toilet, a French washing machine and a Chinese lamp teach us an invaluable and funny lesson about electricity and water consumption.

Director: **Ghassan Kairouz**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 2 mins

7amood Kahraba

7amood's obsession with electricity - more specifically, with using as much of it as he possibly can - is off the hook, until he goes one step too far.

Director: **Mohammed Abdulla Shaheen**
Qatar / No dialogue / 2014 / 1 min

dRAIN

This clever video shows that conserving water - one of the world's most precious resources - is almost as easy as wasting it, and the results are a whole lot tastier.

Director: **Papanapattu Ganesh**
Qatar / No dialogue / 2014 / 3 mins

Reasons Why You Need to Conserve Water and Electricity

This film dispenses precious information about water and electricity consumption, giving us some practical tips on how to save energy and so reduce harm to Planet Earth.

Director: **Tala Abu Samaan**
Qatar / English / 2014 / 3 mins

Secure the Future

Through clever editing, this smart animated short forces us to consider important issues like wasting water without using a single word.

Director: **Hadi Al Marzouki**
Qatar / English / 2014 / 2 mins



dRAIN

Fri 5 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-0H / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Bariq

Our youngest audiences sparkle with energy and the films in this section are selected to satisfy the excitement and curiosity of children from the age of 4, and are appropriate for the whole family.

G

5m8o

Have you ever wondered what would happen if a herd of giraffes was let loose in an aquatic centre? Find out in this clever and playful film.

Director: **Nicolas Deveaux**
France / No dialogue / 2013 / 6 mins

Caminandes: Llama Drama

A llama comes to the side of a highway. But every time a hoof touches the asphalt, the empty road is suddenly jammed with speeding traffic....

Director: **Pablo Vazquez**
The Netherlands / No dialogue / 2013 / 2 mins

Carrot Crave

A rabbit goes to the vegetable patch in search of lunch and is overjoyed to find the world's biggest carrot - or is it?

Director: **Vernon James C. Manlapaz**
The Philippines, Canada / No dialogue / 2012 / 3 mins

Chickens

Chickens don't fly... or do they? This clever animated film shows us that, in the movies, anything is possible - and that you never know what's going on behind the scenes!

Original Title: **Les Poulets**
Director: **Sotir Gelev**
Bulgaria / No dialogue / 2012 / 2 mins

The Giant Carrot

If everyone works together, that giant carrot in the garden will make a tasty addition to the soup! Vibrant animation brings this funny story of dinnertime antics to life.

Original Title: **La Carotte géante**
Director: **Pascale Hecquet**
France / No dialogue / 2013 / 5 mins

Jack

Jack is made of junk, but he's missing part of an arm. He searches for something to replace it, but finds something unexpected.

Director: **Quentin Haberham**
The Netherlands / No dialogue / 2013 / 3 mins

Kiburi

A young lion cub is lost in the wilderness, but a simple act of kindness may be the key to finding his mother and family.

Director: **Justin Melillo**
USA / No dialogue / 2013 / 4 mins

Little Matryoshka

Every family has a rebel who refuses to play by the rules, and Little Matryoshka, the smallest doll of all, is in search of her own adventure.

Original Title: **Kucuk Matruska**
Director: **Serin Inan, Tolga Yildiz**
Turkey / No dialogue / 2014 / 8 mins

Monsters

Saving water and conserving energy are as easy as flipping a switch... but some people seem to need more encouragement than others.

Director: **Nesma Sherif, Islam Sherif**
Qatar / No dialogue / 2014 / 1 min



Mr Grab Funfair

This delicate animated film places us in the place of a funfair robot, showing us that in life, there's always the possibility of a second chance.

Original Title: **Monsieur Grappin**
Director: **Julien Chéry**
France / No dialogue / 2014 / 4 mins

My Little Croco

Mr. Croco's life changes forever when he finds himself looking after an unusual baby.

Original Title: **Mon petit croco**
Director: **Étienne Bagot-Caspar, Yohan Cohen, François Mancone, Maïckel Pasta, Milian Topsy**
France / No dialogue / 2013 / 7 mins

My Little Moon

The night sky becomes a wondrous sea of adventure for a little girl who travels to the moon in a paper boat to bring the moon back to her mother.

Director: **So-Young Kim**
South Korea / No dialogue / 2013 / 7 mins

Roommates

A guitar-playing hare and an electro-disco-loving grizzly bear share a house, with hilariously disastrous results.

Original Title: **Les Colocs**
Director: **Sandrine Minatchi, Maureen Rigaud, Fabien Leclerc**
France / No dialogue / 2013 / 3 mins

The Sunshine Egg

When one hen defies the never-ending daily routine of the battery farm, she discovers the joy freedom brings, as well as the courage it takes to claim it.

Original Title: **L'oeuf du bonheur**
Director: **Michael Haas**
Germany / No dialogue / 2012 / 6 mins

SuperBot - A Magnifying Mess

When a robot gets out his trusty magnifying glass to get a better look at a tiny creature, he finds himself in a big mess that just keeps getting bigger!

Director: **Gervasio Rodríguez Traverso, Pablo Alberto Díaz**
Argentina / No dialogue / 2013 / 3 mins

Fri 5 Dec / 2:00 PM / K16-DT / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Mohaq

The new moon is full of hidden secrets and endless possibilities. The critical minds of young people will be challenged and stimulated by the films in this section, which are appropriate for audiences 8 years of age and older.



Mohaq screening during Ajyal Youth Film Festival 2013

Antboy PG



Twelve-year-old Pelle's life changes forever when he is bitten by an ant that has escaped from a strange science experiment. Suddenly endowed with super strength and the ability to climb walls, the only conclusion is that Pelle must become a superhero. Antboy is born! Now Pelle finally attracts the attention of the lovely Amanda – but every superhero has a nemesis, and it's not long before Antboy meets his evil match in The Flea. Will Pelle be able to save the day?

Director: **Ask Hasselbalch**
Denmark / Danish / 2013 / 77 mins

Fri 5 Dec / 3:00 PM / K16-OH / QR25 /

Come and walk the Special Kids' Red Carpet dressed in costume as your favourite superhero!

Finn PG



Life is quiet for young Finn and his widower father until the day a crow leads Finn to an abandoned farmhouse, where a gruff old violinist named Luuk has taken up residence. When Finn hears Luuk play, he has a vision of his late mother – whom he only knows from photographs. Finn immediately wants to learn to play, but his father has other ideas. Full of surprises and twists, 'Finn' warms the heart – and it might even make you believe in magic.

Director: **Frans Weisz**
The Netherlands, Belgium / Dutch / 2013 / 90 mins

Thu 4 Dec / 4:30 PM / K16-OH / QR25

Sat 6 Dec / 11:00 AM / K12-B / QR25

Song of the Sea PG



Six-year-old Saoirse and her brother live with their father in a lighthouse. When they discover a shell flute that belonged to their mother, it unlocks a magical and mysterious world. Directed by Oscar-nominated Tomm Moore (who also directs a beautiful segment of 'Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet'), 'Song of the Sea' is a dazzling hand-drawn film inspired by Irish legends of the selkies, enchanted creatures who live as seals in the water and as humans on land.

Director: **Tomm Moore**
Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, Luxembourg, France / English / 2014 / 93 mins

Thu 4 Dec / 8:00 PM / K16-OH / QR25

Hilal

Carried along by the crescent in their teenage years, soon-to-be adults will find films in this section that trigger new thoughts and ideas, and encourage their self-expression. Films are suitable for audiences 13 years of age and older.

Gente de Bien PG-13



Ten-year-old Eric and his father face eviction from their home in a poor quarter of Bogota. A wealthy client invites them to stay at her family's luxurious villa, but tensions soon tarnish the hosts' façade of kindness, and the gap between social classes is exposed. Playing on the double meaning of its title – which means both 'rich people' and 'good people' – 'Gente de Bien' is a delicately nuanced example of the Latin American cinematic tradition of compelling social dramas.

Director: **Franco Lolli**
Colombia, France / Spanish / 2014 / 86 mins

Thu 4 Dec / 9:15 PM / K12-B / QR25
Fri 5 Dec / 10:30 PM / K16-OH / QR25

If I Had Wings PG-13



Alex has a big dream: to run with his school's cross-country team. There are a few things standing between Alex and his goal, however – the most significant being the fact that he is completely blind. His chance comes when he is paired up with Brad, a mouthy kid who is always in trouble with the law. Together, the young men work to find solutions that will let them overcome the obstacles in their path.

Director: **Allan Harmon**
Canada / English / 2013 / 89 mins

Tue 2 Dec / 9:15 PM / K12-B / QR25
Sat 6 Dec / 12:00 PM / K16-OH / QR25

Macondo PG-13



Ramasan, an 11-year-old Chechen boy, lives in Macondo, a refugee camp near Vienna. He does his best to take care of his widowed mother and his younger sisters. When a stranger turns up, saying he is a friend of Ramasan's late father, the youngster's life is turned upside down. A sensitive portrait of a fatherless boy who is trying to become a man in a foreign, hostile environment. The film had its premiere at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Director: **Sudابه Mortezaei**
Austria / German, Chechen / 2013 / 98 mins

Wed 3 Dec / 9:15 PM / K12-B / QR25
Thu 4 Dec / 8:30 PM / K12-A / QR25

The Tale of Princess Kaguya PG-13



Acclaimed Japanese anime director Isao Takahata (co-founder of the legendary Studio Ghibli with Hayao Miyazaki) turns a 10th-century Japanese folk story into a visual masterpiece with 'The Tale of Princess Kaguya'. A bamboo-cutter and his wife adopt an infant with magical powers and an otherworldly destiny in this cautionary tale about the empty promises of materialism and beauty, believed to be one of the very first works of science fiction in world literature.

Original Title: **Kaguyahime no monogatari**
Director: **Isao Takahata**
Japan / Japanese / 2013 / 137 mins

Fri 5 Dec / 4:30 PM / K16-DT / QR25*
* Free entry to first 70 people in anime costume!
Sat 6 Dec / 9:15 PM / K12-B / QR25

Theeb PG-13



In 1916, in a Bedouin encampment in the Arabian desert, Theeb and his elder brother Hussein go about their daily lives. Meanwhile, the Arab Revolt is about to change life on the Arabian peninsula forever. When a mysterious British soldier arrives at the camp, Theeb finds himself on a more significant journey than he ever could have imagined. Director Naji Abu Nowar received a Best Director award at Venice for this affecting coming-of-age story that is inflected with the epic scope of a classic Western.

Director: **Naji Abu Nowar**
Jordan, Qatar, UAE, UK / Arabic, English / 2014 / 100 mins

Tue 2 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-OH / QR25
Sat 6 Dec / 2:45 PM / K16-DT / QR25

Bader

Young adults have closed the circle of youth and are now taking their own steps on the path of life. Their opinions resonate more strongly and this appealing programme exposes them to cinema as a contemporary art form.



#chicagoGirl: The Social Network Takes On a Dictator

PG-15



'#chicagoGirl' follows a young Syrian woman as she assists the revolution in her home country – from her bedroom in Chicago. Armed with a laptop, a mobile phone and formidable devotion to a cause, 19-year-old Ala'a uses her social media connections to contribute to protests happening in Syria. Ala'a's engaging presence and her success exposing the plight of the Syrian people make this documentary a timely testament to the power of young people to change the world.

Director: **Joe Piscatella**
USA, Syria / Arabic, English / 2013 / 74 mins

Wed 3 Dec / 8:30PM / K12-A / QR25
Sat 6 Dec / 5:45PM / K12-B / QR25

Difret

PG-15



Hirut, a bright 14-year-old girl, was kidnapped on her way home from school. Trying to escape, she shot one of her abductors with his own rifle. Now she faces a complex legal trial, which becomes a fight against law and tradition, especially when her lawyer sues the Ministry of Justice. Directed by first-timer Zeresenay Berhane Mehari, with Angelina Jolie as executive producer, 'Difret' is this year's Ethiopian Oscar hopeful.

Director: **Zeresenay Mehari**
Ethiopia / Amharic / 2014 / 99 mins

Wed 3 Dec / 9:00PM / K16-DT / QR25
Fri 5 Dec / 9:15PM / K12-B / QR25

Sepideh: Reaching for the Stars

PG-15



Sixteen-year-old Sepideh has a dream: she wants to study astronomy and become an astronaut. Her role models are Albert Einstein and her heroine, astronaut Anousheh Ansari, the first Iranian in space. Stargazing gives her hope, but in Iran, it is inappropriate for girls to go out at night – an obstacle not easily overcome. Heartbreaking and inspirational, this documentary is an emotional rollercoaster between hope and despair that teaches the power of persistence and the importance of dreaming big.

Director: **Berit Madsen**
Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Iran / English, Persian / 2013 / 90 mins

Tue 2 Dec / 8:30PM / K12-A / QR25
Sat 6 Dec / 2:45PM / K12-B / QR25

Whiplash

PG-15



An ambitious young drummer clashes with his ferocious instructor at a cutthroat music academy. In a twisted way, the two seem cut out for each other: the teacher ruthlessly preys upon the youth's perfectionism, driving him to the brink of insanity. Winner of both the Grand Jury and Audience Awards in Sundance, 'Whiplash' demolishes the clichés of coming-of-age stories about child prodigies, plunging us into a sizzling melodrama that hits all the right notes.

Director: **Damien Chazelle**
USA / English / 2014 / 106 mins

Tue 2 Dec / 9:00PM / K16-DT / QR25
Fri 5 Dec / 11:00PM / K16-DT / QR25

Shorts Programme 1 PG-15

Shackled

A Ceremony for a Friend

Mansour has gone too far this time, so his friends decide he must be punished in this brilliant jet-black comedy that considers an all-too-common horror.

Original Title: **Marasemi baraye yek doost**
 Director: **Kaveh Ebrahimpour**
Iran / Farsi / 2014 / 14 mins

Dinola

In a far-flung Georgian village, custom dictates that a widow must marry the first man who demands her hand. But what if this forces her to abandon her children?

Director: **Mariam Khatchvani**
Georgia / Georgian / 2013 / 15 mins

Hijabi Girls

Convinced that 'hijabi girls love fashion', designer Barjis Chohan has launched a line of clothing that allows women to dress in a modest but stylish manner.

Director: **Nada Al-Hudaïd**
UK / Arabic, English / 2013 / 5 mins

The Runaway

Sabrina, a troubled teenager, has a court date today, and her lawyer and her probation officer are confident she is on the right track. However, things don't go quite as expected.

Original Title: **La Fugue**
 Director: **Jean-Bernard Marlin**
France / French / 2013 / 23 mins

Shackled

Emilia Clarke ('Game of Thrones') stars in this tale of a woman's plan to flee with her husband from the circus that holds her prisoner.

Director: **Nour Wazzi**
UK / English / 2013 / 11 mins

T Boy

An IT professional ends up in a job making tea in this crushing film that sheds unforgiving light on the tough life of immigrant labourers.

Director: **Maryam Al Sahli**
Qatar / English, Hindi / 2014 / 7 mins

Fri 5 Dec / 8:30 PM / K12-A / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Shorts Programme 2 PG-15

The Nostalgist

Amreeka Laa

Yousif wants to go to university in New York City, but his father is adamantly opposed to the idea. How will Yousif make the choice that lies ahead?

Director: **Hind Al-Ansari**
Qatar / Arabic, English / 2014 / 15 mins

The Nostalgist

A technological illusion conceals the ugly reality of the futuristic world of Vanille, where a man desperately tries to maintain a normal relationship with his son. Starring Lambert Wilson.

Director: **Giacomo Cimini**
UK, Italy / English / 2014 / 17 mins

Keys of Heaven

During the Iran-Iraq war, 15-year-old Majid is forced into a terrible situation in order to do what is best for his younger brother.

Original Title: **Paratiisin Avaimet**
 Director: **Hamy Ramezan**
Finland, Turkey / Farsi / 2014 / 28 mins

Qarar

The suspenseful tale of a young married couple trying to survive an epidemic that has turned the population of Doha into zombies.

Director: **Ali Al Ansari**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 16 mins

Director: **Ali Al Ansari**
Qatar / Arabic / 2014 / 16 mins

Nieta

A little girl living in a black-and-white world experiences the joy of a summer's day in the park as dramatic explosions of colour.

Director: **Nicolas Villarreal**
Argentina / No dialogue / 2014 / 6 mins

TrueLoveStory

The romantic excesses of Bollywood meet life on the mean streets of an Indian metropolis when a flower seller falls for a poor young woman.

Director: **Gitanjali Rao**
India / No dialogue / 2014 / 19 mins

Sat 6 Dec / 8:30 PM / K12-A / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

BraveHearts PG-13



Ajyal is pleased to present this wonderful programme of three very special films. Individually, each illuminates the incredible impact that education – or the lack of it – has on the lives of young people. Together, they demonstrate the power of knowledge to make the hopes and dreams of children become the reality of the future.

Faridullah's Day Off

Eleven-year-old Faridullah and his family live in a brick factory in Afghanistan, where they work all day long to pay off their debts. Faridullah's father promises things will change, but every winter he must borrow money, so the cycle of labour never ends. Still, Faridullah dreams of getting an education and of one day owning a restaurant, in a heartrending clash of reality and imagination that is a harsh reminder of the suffering of many of the world's children.

Original Title: **Faridullahs Fridag**
 Director: **Jens Pedersen**
Denmark, Afghanistan / Afghan / 2013 / 17 mins

Fire in Our Hearts

Until the late 1970s, illegal slavery affected many tribespeople in India. Activism secured their emancipation, but education was a luxury they could not afford until union members built a school for them. Director Jayshree Janu Kharpade, one of the school's students, unveils how this has made her and her classmates the first generation of literate women in their tribes. 'For too long we have been assaulted by injustice,' they sing, 'but now there is a fire in our hearts and we will fight for change!'

Director: **Jayshree Janu Kharpade**
India, USA / Marathi / 2013 / 27 mins

Poet Against Prejudice

Seventeen-year-old Faiza Almontaser emigrated with her family from Yemen to New York City when she was in middle school. Her parents wanted to ensure a brighter future for her, but she had a lot to overcome, including being bullied because of her Islamic faith. Mentored by direct-cinema giant Albert Maysles, Faiza shows in her documentary how she has been able to inspire others through her courage, her humanity and her fierce poetry skills.

Director: **Faiza Almontaser**
USA / English / 2014 / 26 mins

Sat 6 Dec / 5:00 PM / K12-A / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Qatar Year of Culture Cinema Showcase PG-13

Throughout 2013, we have partnered with the Qatar Museums Authority and the Embassy of Brazil in Qatar to present monthly screenings celebrating some of the best classic and contemporary films coming out of Brazil. To mark the end of this programme, Ajyal presents a special

screening of Alê Abreu's magnificent animated film, 'The Boy and the World'. Next year, Qatar shares its Year of Culture with Turkey, so we look forward to a robust film programme in 2015 with Serhat Karaaslan's 'Ice Cream'.

The Boy and the World



Cuca lives happily in the countryside, but when his father embarks for the capital in search of work, the boy journeys to reunite with his father – an adventure that opens his eyes to the harsh reality of a hostile world of technology and consumerism. Using a stunning array of animation

techniques, the award-winning 'The Boy and the World' tackles an eco-friendly subject with an emotional impact and visual mastery rarely seen on screen.

Original Title: **O Menino e o Mundo**
 Director: **Alê Abreu**
Brazil / Portuguese / 2013 / 80 mins

Preceded by



Ice Cream

Eleven-year-old Rojhat is incorrigible at the best of times, but when the ice cream man visits his remote Turkish village, his naughtiness goes into overdrive.

Original Title: **Berfeşir / Dondurma**
 Director: **Serhat Karaaslan**
Turkey / Kurdish / 2014 / 16 mins

Wed 3 Dec / 7:00 PM / K16-OH / QR 25

Inside Out: The People's Art Project PG-13



From Haiti to Tunisia, Mexico to Palestine, communities have raised their voices on important causes by pasting giant portraits on buildings, bridges and rooftops as part of the world's largest participatory art project. This global call to action was inspired by French photographer JR's stated desire to 'change the world by turning it inside out'. Director Alastair Siddons followed JR's travels, and the result is this inspirational documentary that celebrates the transformative power of art.

Director: Alastair Siddons,
France, UK / English / 2013 / 70 mins

Tue 2 Dec / 5:00 PM / K16-DT / QR 25
Thu 4 Dec / 11:00 PM / K16-OH / QR 25

Photography Exhibition

Ajyal
Event

From 2 to 6 December, come to Katara Building 19 to explore the marvels of photography!

Cinema is called the art of the moving image, but technically every movie is really a huge number of still photographs that we see very quickly, one after another. Indeed, cinematography has been linked to photography from its very inception, and we can trace its origins back to the magic lantern, that wonderful device that projects still images. It makes perfect sense, then, that a film festival would pay homage to photography.

Throughout Ajyal, there will be two galleries dedicated to the art of the photograph. One gallery will host a beautiful collection of antique cameras (remember the good old days

when you had to put film into a machine to snap a picture?), as well as an exhibition of work by 10 Doha photographers, who will explore many different facets of the art form, from street photography to fashion photography and everything in between.

In the second space, photography club members and amateur photogs can meet and greet to discuss the foundations, aesthetics, techniques and the latest discoveries in the field. There will be screenings and workshops to provide plenty of food for thought.

Free Event
2-4 Dec / 10:00 AM-10:00 PM
5 Dec / 2:00 PM-10:00 PM, 6 Dec / 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

SONY Pop-Up Cinema PG-13

Nothing beats watching movies under the stars. Especially if what's on the screen is one of the most successful epic fantasy sagas of all time!

Located at the north end of the Katara Esplanade, Ajyal's SONY Pop-Up Cinema will transport you to Middle Earth with screenings of 'The Lord of the Rings' trilogy and the first two chapters of 'The Hobbit' - the perfect way to prepare for



'The Lord of the Rings' trilogy follows the hobbit Frodo Baggins as he and several friends embark on a perilous journey through Middle Earth. Their great task: to destroy the One Ring by dropping it into a volcano in the gloomy land of Mordor, thus ensuring the destruction of the ring's maker, the Dark Lord Sauron. Jackson's epic rendition of Tolkien's magnum opus is an extraordinary accomplishment, its bravery, scope and ambition matched only by its visionary talent. Together, the three films were nominated for 30 Academy Awards.

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

Tue 2 Dec / 8:00 PM / KE-SPUC / FREE - Limited seating

The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

Wed 3 Dec / 8:00 PM / KE-SPUC / FREE - Limited seating

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

Thu 4 Dec / 8:00 PM / KE-SPUC / FREE - Limited seating

the upcoming release of 'The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies'.

Together, director Peter Jackson's adaptations of J.R.R. Tolkien's master works are a visual tour de force that gave a new generation its own 'Star Wars'. Now, you can see it all in a unique open-air binge-viewing experience which is sure to redefine your concept of movie magic.



Set sixty years before Frodo's escapades in 'The Lord of the Rings', 'The Hobbit' recounts the adventures of Frodo's ancestor Bilbo Baggins. Bilbo leaves his peaceful life in the Shire to accompany 13 dwarfs on a quest to reclaim the Lonely Mountain from the dragon Smaug. Along the way, he becomes lost and has a fateful encounter with the One Ring, which sets in motion the cycle of events that reach their conclusion in 'The Return of the King'.

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey

Fri 5 Dec / 8:00 PM / KE-SPUC / FREE - Limited seating

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug

Sat 6 Dec / 8:00 PM / KE-SPUC / FREE - Limited seating

Ajyal Events

An exciting range of free activities is taking place alongside the film screenings during the second edition of the Ajyal Youth Film Festival. Explore them with us!

Sandbox



The Sandbox is an interactive environment that provides hands-on access to the latest digital gadgets and widgets used in filmmaking, gaming and all around fun. Featuring futuristic installations, educational games, apps and cool new tools, this interactive playground provides a fun experience in an exciting atmosphere that is sure to inspire and entertain anyone who is fascinated by technology and the movies.

Stop by for this unique combination of imagination, creativity and innovation.

The Sandbox is open 2 to 6 December in Katara Building 3.



2-4 Dec / 10:00 AM-10:00 PM
5 Dec / 2:00 PM-10:00 PM
6 Dec / 10:00 AM-10:00 PM

Ajyal 2014 Family Weekend

The Ajyal Family Weekend offers all sorts of delightful and creative activities for parents, children and people of all ages.

This year we have really knocked it out of the park, to create a spellbinding environment where families will have the opportunity to play in the Ajyal Game Centre, learn how a TV network works at the Ajyal Media Centre, and even

star in their own films at the Ajyal Studio. To top it off, live performances by local youth and international talent will take place on the Ajyal Stage.

Come on 5 and 6 December to the Family Village, located on the Katara Esplanade. Be awed and inspired, and take home some great Festival memories!



In Conversation: Roger Allers



Roger Allers



Mohammed Saeed Harib

One of the world's greatest animation film directors and screenwriters – he was nominated for an Academy Award for his short film 'The Little Matchgirl' in 2006 – Roger Allers is perhaps best known as the director of Disney's magnificent classic 'The Lion King'. His most recent film is an extraordinary adaptation of Kahlil Gibran's 'The Prophet', which closes Ajyal this year. Come and see fellow animator Mohammed Saeed Harib – creator of the Gulf television phenomenon 'Freej' and a contributor to 'Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet' – in conversation with Allers, when the two will discuss the secrets of the beautiful art of animation.

Fri 5 Dec / 8:00 PM / K16-DT / FREE - Please reserve a ticket for admission

Doha Film Institute Film Ratings Guide

All films exhibited by the Doha Film Institute are presented in their original, uncut versions. Based on their content, films are assigned approved ratings from the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage.

Viewer discretion is advised for all screenings and may be guided by the rating system outlined below. Parental guidance is advised in selecting films for young people at the Ajyal Youth Film Festival.

G General Audience

Suitable for all audiences ages 4 and up. Films do not contain material that is inappropriate for children.

PG Parental Guidance

Parental guidance is advised. Some material may be inappropriate for young children. Parents should note that films may contain mature themes, strong language and/or depictions of violence.

PG-13 Parental Guidance under the age of 13

Parental guidance is advised for viewers under the age of 13. Individuals under the age of 13 are not admitted into cinemas unless accompanied by an individual over the age of 18.

Parents are cautioned that films may contain mature themes, coarse language, violence and/or adult situations that may be inappropriate for those under the age of 13. Parents are strongly encouraged to find out more about the content of films before deciding whether they are appropriate for their children.

PG-15 Parental Guidance under the age of 15

Parental guidance advised for viewers under the age of 15. Individuals under the age of 18 are not admitted into cinemas unless accompanied by an individual over the age of 18.

Please note: Identification may be required as proof of age. Parents are strongly cautioned that films may contain mature themes, coarse language, graphic violence, horror and/or intimate adult situations that may be inappropriate for those under the age of 15. Parents are strongly encouraged to find out more about the content of films before deciding whether they are appropriate for their children.

Tickets

Tickets go on sale 18 November.

Prices

Regular Screening Tickets: **QR 25**

Premium Screening Tickets: **QR 40**

Tickets are available for purchase 24 hours a day at www.dohafileminstitute.com/filmfestival

Customers may purchase a maximum of six (6) tickets per screening per order.

Ticket Outlets and Timings

Ajyal Festival Booth, City Center Mall, West Bay

Tuesday, 18 November–Saturday, 6 December

- 18 November: 1:00 PM–10:00 PM
- 19 November–6 December:
2:00 PM–9:00 PM (Saturday–Wednesday)
2:00 PM–10:00 PM (Thursday–Friday)

Doha Film Institute Katara Drama Theatre Ticket Outlet, Katara Building 16

Tuesday, 18 November–Thursday, 27 November

1:00 PM–8:00 PM (daily)

From 28 November, the Ajyal Katara Main Box Office is located in Katara Building 12.

Ajyal Katara Main Box Office, Katara Building 12

Friday, 28 November–Saturday, 6 December

- 28–30 November: 1:00 PM–8:00 PM
- 1–5 December: 1:00 PM–10:00 PM
- 6 December: 10:00 AM–10:00 PM

During the Festival (1 to 6 December), the box office in Katara Building 16 opens approximately one hour prior to an event's start time.

Please note that all events at the SONY Pop-Up Cinema are free (limited capacity; first-come, first-served) and do not require tickets.

Free Screenings

Free screenings and events presented in Festival venues other than the SONY Pop-Up Cinema require a ticket for admission. Free tickets may be reserved online or requested at any ticket outlet location. All screenings at the SONY Pop-Up Cinema are free and do not require tickets. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ajyal Film Circle Card – QR 15

(available while supplies last)

Bring your 2013 Ajyal Film Circle Card to the box office and exchange it for a complimentary 2014 card!

- Entitles cardholder to a QR 5 discount on all Ajyal screening tickets
- Cardholder may purchase up to six (6) discount tickets per screening per transaction
- The Ajyal Film Circle Card is only available for purchase in person at ticket outlet locations
- Discounted tickets must also be purchased in person
- Card must be presented at time of purchase
- Tickets purchased online at full price will not be refunded or credited
- Purchase of this card does not guarantee tickets to any Festival event. All tickets subject to availability
- This card does not grant access to Festival parties or Gala Events

Rush Sales

For sold-out screenings, a Rush Sales line forms at the event venue approximately 45 minutes prior to the event's start time. Admission begins approximately five minutes before the start time and is based on availability. Admission is not guaranteed.

Note: Rush Sales are cash only and are limited to one (1) ticket per person.

Will Call

Beginning Wednesday, 19 November, online ticket purchases are available for pickup at Festival ticket outlets during their scheduled business hours. During the Festival, the preferred pickup location is the Ajyal Katara Main Box Office located in Katara Building 12.

Admission

To guarantee admission, all ticket holders must be present in line at the venue 30 minutes prior to the scheduled screening or event start time.

Doha Film Institute Ticket Policy

- All tickets subject to availability
- All attendees must present a ticket to access screenings and/or events. A badge or card alone does not grant admission
- Ajyal Film Circle Cards and discounted tickets are only available for sale at ticket outlets
- No children under the age of 4 will be admitted to any Ajyal screenings or events. Children 12 years of age and

under must be accompanied by an adult to all public ticketed Ajyal screenings. Please refer to the Doha Film Institute Film Ratings Guide for film attendance policy and age restrictions

- To guarantee admission, all ticket holders must be present in line at the venue 30 minutes prior to the scheduled screening or event start time
- Late seating is at the discretion of the venue management team and is not permitted 30 minutes after the start time of any screening or event
- Any and all audio or video recording and/or photography is strictly prohibited at all events
- All sales final. No refunds. No exchanges. No reprints.

Screening Venues

All Ajyal Youth Film Festival screenings and events are held at the Cultural Village Katara.

Katara Building 16

Katara Building 16 is to the right when entering from the underground parking facility. This venue houses both the Katara Opera House and the Katara Drama Theatre. Please follow the signs from the parking garage.

- Katara Opera House (κ16-ΟΗ)
- Katara Drama Theatre (κ16-ΔΤ)

Katara Building 12

Katara Building 12 houses two cinemas, and is also home to the Ajyal Katara Main Box Office. It is to the left when entering from the underground parking facility. Please follow the signs from the parking garage.

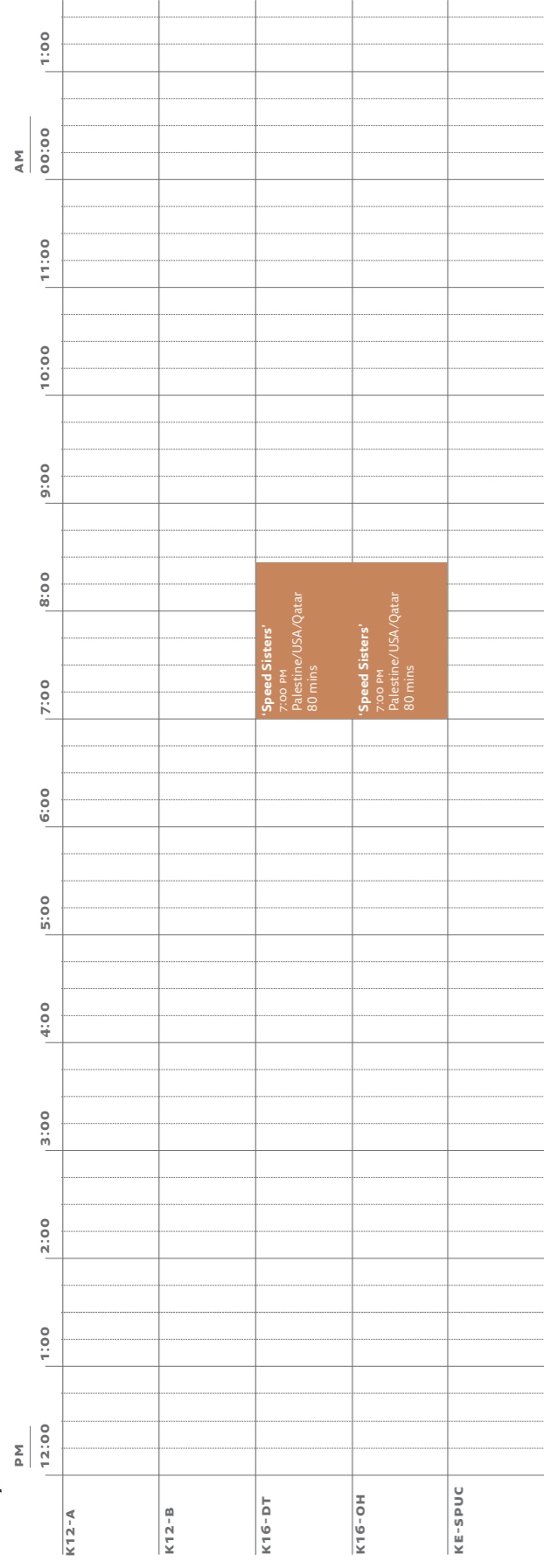
- Katara 12 Theatre A (κ12-Α)
- Katara 12 Theatre B (κ12-Β)

SONY Pop-Up Cinema

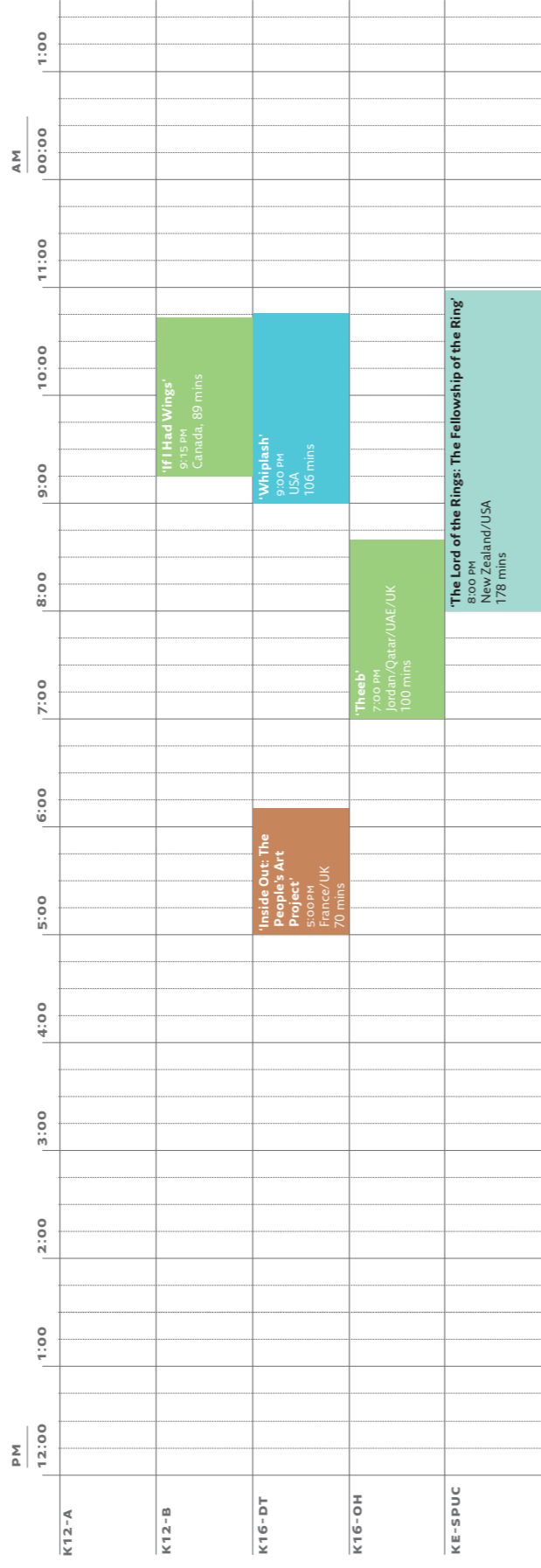
The SONY Pop-Up Cinema is located at the north end of the Katara Esplanade. All programming at this venue is free. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

- SONY Pop-Up Cinema (κΕ-SPUC)

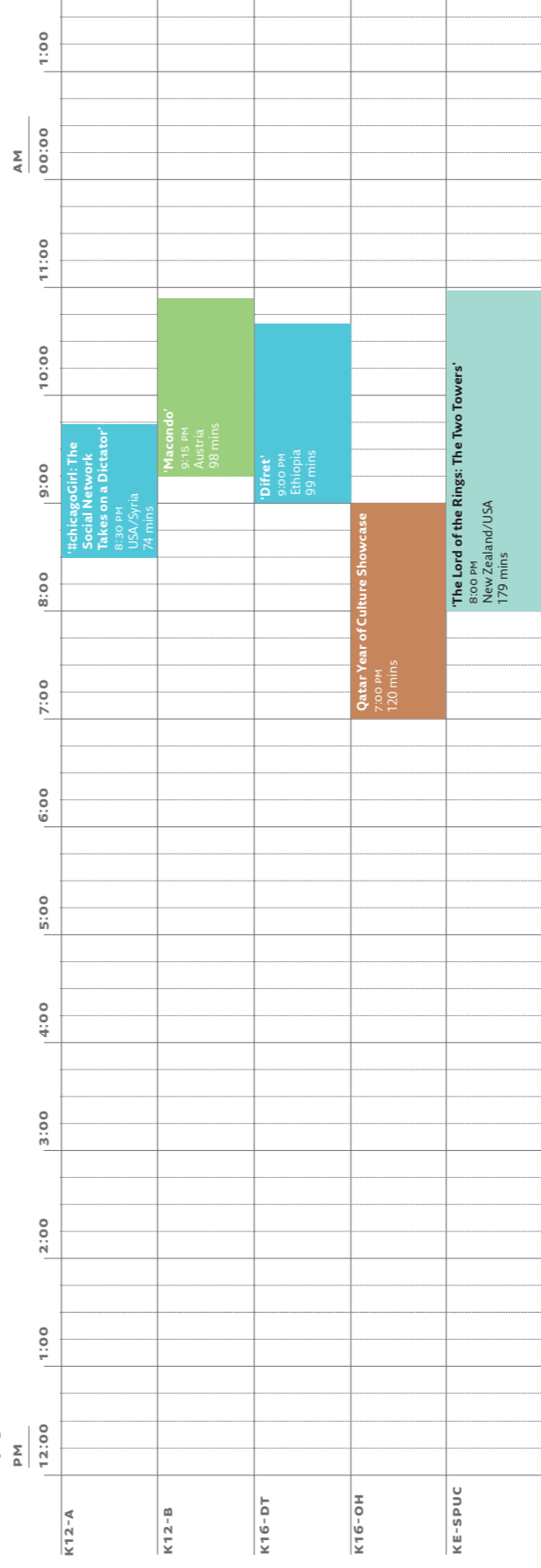
Monday, 1 December



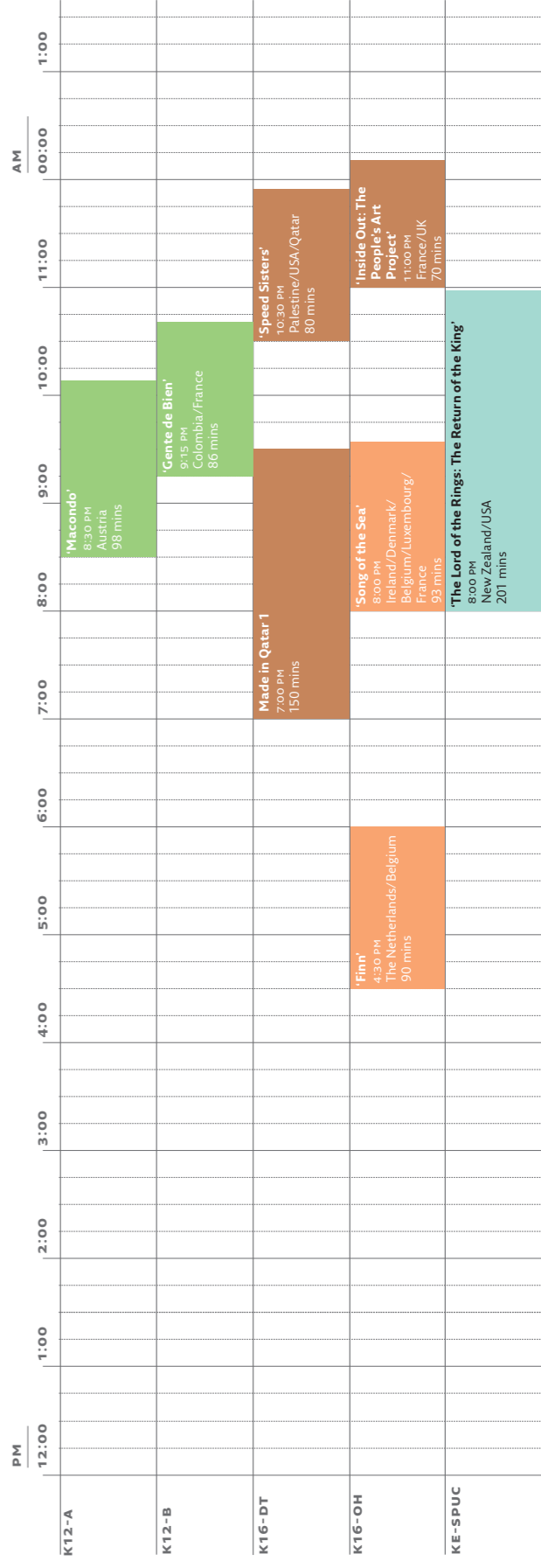
Tuesday, 2 December



Wednesday, 3 December



Thursday, 4 December



Friday, 5 December

	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM	1:00 AM
K12-A									Bader Shorts 1 8:30 PM 90 mins				
K12-B									'Diffret' 9:15 PM Ethiopia 99 mins				
K16-DT			Bariq Shorts 2:00 PM 60 mins		'The Tale of Princess Kaguya' 4:30 PM Japan 137 mins				In Conversation: Roger Allers 8:00 PM 60 mins			'Whiplash' 11:00 PM USA 106 mins	
K16-OH				'Antboy' 3:00 PM Denmark 77 mins				Made in Qatar 2 7:00 PM 90 mins				'Gente de Bien' 10:30 PM Colombia/France 86 mins	
KE-SPUC									'The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey' 8:00 PM New Zealand/USA 169 mins				

Saturday, 6 December

	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM	1:00 AM
K12-A											Bader Shorts 2 8:30 PM 90 mins			
K12-B					'Sepideh: Reaching for the Stars' 2:45 PM Denmark/ Norway/Sweden/ Germany/Iran, 90mins		BrawlHearts 5:00 PM 70 mins 120 mins	'ChicagoGirl: The Social Network Takes on a Dictator' 5:45 PM USA/Syria 74 mins				'The Tale of Princess Kaguya' 9:15 PM Japan 137 mins		
K16-DT					'Theeb' 2:45 PM Jordan/Qatar/UAE/UK 100 mins				'Kahlil Gibran's the Prophet' 7:00 PM Canada/France/ Lebanon/Qatar/USA 120 mins					
K16-OH									'Kahlil Gibran's the Prophet' 7:00 PM Canada/France/ Lebanon/Qatar/USA 120 mins					
KE-SPUC									By invitation only					
														'The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug' 8:00 PM New Zealand/USA 161 mins