



**Press Release:**

## **Doha Film Institute and Aspire Zone celebrate Garangao with a free, open-air screening of the animated fairy tale *Ponyo* in Freej Aspire**

**Doha, Qatar; June 24, 2015;** Doha Film Institute and Aspire Zone will celebrate the mid Ramadan children's festival Garangao with a special, free screening of Hayao Miyazaki's animated classic "Ponyo" to take place on Wednesday 1st of July, at 11PM in Freej Aspire. Entry is subject to capacity and granted on a first come, first served basis.

'**Ponyo**' (2008) tells the charming tale of a goldfish princess who falls in love with a five-year-old boy. Sōsuke, a good-natured youngster, finds a beautiful fish trapped in a bottle. He frees the creature, names her Ponyo and takes her everywhere in his green bucket, promising to look after her forever. Touched by Sōsuke's kindness and fascinated by his life on land, Ponyo decides she wants to become human, throwing their world out of balance. The film won five awards at the Tokyo Anime Awards in 2009, including Anime of the Year, Best Original Story and Best Director.

Hayao Miyazaki was born in Tokyo in 1941. His lengthy filmography includes '**Princess Mononoke**' (1997) and '**Spirited Away**' (2001), an international phenomenon that broke every Japanese box-office record and won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature in 2003.

For more information, please visit [www.dohafilminstitute.com](http://www.dohafilminstitute.com).

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**About Doha Film Institute:**

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Youth Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

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