

Ciao amici! Planning for the 2026 ST. ALi Italian Film Festival presented by Palace has already commenced and we are thrilled to announce the films in the 2026 school screenings programme.

The following films are now available for school bookings:

- *Incanto*
- *A Beautiful Day*
- *Classmates*
- *A Year of School*
- *La Scala: Force of Destiny*

The festival will be showing in cinemas nationally from 16 September – 18 October, with **school sessions available Monday to Friday from 3 September – 30 October**, with flexible morning and afternoon session times upon request.

Please see below for film information and booking contact details.

2026 School Screenings Film Selection:

INCANTO

Director: Pier Paolo Paganelli | 2025 | 96 min | Family, Fantasy | Italian with English subtitles | CTC

Recommended 6+. Content advice: Contains mild scenes of danger.

A magical family tale about the importance of imagination and kindness, *Incanto* is the debut feature from writer/director Pier Paolo Paganelli.

On his deathbed, Ludovico entrusts his ten-year-old daughter Margot to the housekeeper, Felicia (Vittoria Puccini), requesting the family villa be transformed into an orphanage so that the little girl can grow up with other children. But the wicked Felicia only wants the little girl's assets, so she exploits the orphaned children and neglects Margot, who is confined to a room upstairs. However, one night Margot manages to escape and, after overcoming the darkness of the woods, she comes across a travelling circus. Greeted by the white clown Charlie, Margot is introduced to the secret that makes their circus unique: the old big top is magical, capable of showing anyone who enters its ring for who they truly are.

Welcomed by her new circus family, Margot shines and begins to find her voice again. But the wicked Felicia is looking for her; will Margot be able to finally free herself from Felicia's clutches?



Watch trailer: <https://youtu.be/ruKOUTDQtEo?si=OC00rPtIjk4uY2Ag> (Note this trailer doesn't have English subtitles, but the film will have English subtitles)

A BEAUTIFUL DAY *Un bel giorno*

Director: Fabio De Luigi | 2026 | 93 min | Comedy, Family | Italian with English subtitles | CTC

Recommended 10+. Content advice: Contains mature themes. (Italian rating 6+)

Directed by and starring Fabio De Luigi (*When Mum is Away...With the In-Laws* IFF25) this tender romantic comedy about parenthood and making a fresh start explores what it means to fall in love after one has already built a family.

Tommaso (De Luigi) is a single father of four daughters. His life features a chaotic yet solid family routine, defined by responsibilities and quiet affection, with absolutely no time left for himself. When his daughters decide it is time for their father to put himself back out there romantically, Tommaso meets Lara (Virginia Raffaele, *A World Apart* IFF25), a brilliant and charming bank manager. It is an unexpected encounter that could change their status quo and encourage them to open up emotionally.

They immediately develop a rapport, but they are each hiding something significant. While Tommaso hides his family's situation from his new love interest, in turn Lara is hiding her past. But soon their secrets and misunderstandings begin to add up, with comedic consequences.



Watch trailer: https://youtu.be/hKsVbwR2Fyc?si=vP5z5A9GQd_jMvym (Note this trailer doesn't have English subtitles, but the film will have English subtitles)

CLASSMATES *Domani interrogo*

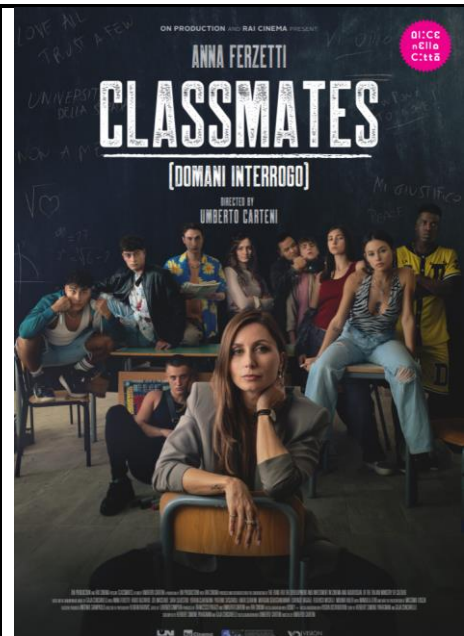
Director: Umberto Carteni | 2026 | 95 min | Drama, Comedy | Italian and Roman dialect with English subtitles | CTC

Recommended 15+. Content advice: Contains coarse language & drug/alcohol references.

Starring a splendid Anna Ferzetti (*La Grazia* IFF25) and based on Gaja Cencialrelli's eponymous, autobiographical novel, *Classmates* is an intergenerational dramatic comedy about the power of education, respect and community that sees the relationship between a driven teacher and her pupils transcend the school gates.

An English teacher (Ferzetti), who is convinced of the fundamental value of education, is assigned to a challenging high school in Rome's Rebibbia neighbourhood. Her colleagues have lost hope of making anything of the last class, a melting pot of the most difficult and reluctant students. Amid difficult lives, broken families, late-night antics, first loves, and preconceptions, the students are convinced that life outside of school is hostile.

Their teacher, or rather, "Pressoré," as everyone calls her, has three options. She could run away like her predecessors, turn a blind eye, or step into the lion's den. So, "Pressoré" attempts to find a way to reach their hearts and give meaning both to their school journey and her life as a teacher.



Watch trailer: https://youtu.be/9z_y2dHaVP0?si=8JUygidqjXZL-eJL (Note this trailer doesn't have English subtitles, but the film will have English subtitles)

LA SCALA: THE FORCE OF DESTINY *La forza del destino*

Director: Anissa Bonnefont | 2025 | 92 min | Documentary | Italian with English subtitles and English

Rated PG: Contains Mild Themes

Anissa Bonnefont's atmospheric documentary follows 900 artists, staff and technicians at Milan's legendary Teatro alla Scala over four months as they race to stage a new production of Verdi's *The Force of Destiny* for the theatre's traditional 7 December Opening Night gala.

Inside La Scala's creative hive, stage director Leo Muscato readies his vision with the set and costume design teams, as the chorus and orchestra rehearse under maestro Riccardo Chailly, and theatre staff prepare the 250-year-old venue. There is added anticipation with the arrival of the star international cast, set to fill the theatre's hallowed halls with their powerful voices. But with the clock ticking, the tension backstage builds. Will they be ready when the curtain rises?

Filed with unprecedented access, *La Scala: The Force of Destiny* is more than a behind-the-scenes chronicle. Beautifully capturing the remarkable endeavour of staging a major new production, it reveals the passion, apprehension and brilliance of these artists, and celebrates the grandeur and preciousness of the artform.



Watch trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhZ39KTmOpw>

A YEAR OF SCHOOL *Un anno di scuola*

Director: Laura Samani | 2025 | 102 min | Drama | Italian, English, Swedish, Triestine dialect with English subtitles | CTC

Recommended 15+. Content advice: contains mature themes.

Adapted from the 1929 novella by Giani Stuparich, this finely crafted coming-of-age drama follows an uprooted teenage girl who must navigate the challenges of growing up in a male-dominated world.

September 2007. Exuberant and curious, Swedish 17-year-old Fredrika 'Fred' (Stella Wendick) moves to Trieste with her family after her father takes on a new management job in the Northeastern Italian city. She enrolls in the local Technical High School for her final year but finds herself as the only girl in an all-male class.

Fred quickly becomes the centre of attention, especially for three friends: the fascinating and reserved Antero, the outgoing womaniser Pasini, and the sweet and protective Mitis. The three boys have been a unit for as long as they can remember, but Fred's arrival disrupts their equilibrium and puts their longstanding friendship to the test. As each of the boys secretly desires Fred, she yearns to be accepted into their circle and become one of them. But to truly belong, she is asked to increasingly sacrifice more.



"A fresh, vibrant, uninhibited, and sincere work that absolutely deserves to be seen and should be screened in all high schools." - Cinematik	
---	--

Watch trailer: https://youtu.be/bumvYD93VKo?si=PkjSCYpRPJL1HwRJ (Note this trailer doesn't have English subtitles, but the film will have English subtitles)

TICKET PRICES:

\$15.00 per person for Primary/Secondary school groups, with a minimum group size of 20.

One teacher admitted free for every 20 students.

TICKETING & BOOKING INFORMATION:

Bookings are essential. Films are subject to availability. Films are available Monday-Friday for a morning or afternoon session. Cinema locations may also be changed upon request and cinema availability. Please contact your city's Group, Functions and Events departments through the emails listed below for bookings and enquiries.

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CINEMAS DIRECTLY

Please note that bookings will not be taken over the phone at the cinemas, but only via the Groups, Functions and Events Department mentioned below.

PAYMENTS: BPAY, Direct Transfer, Credit Card or Cash

- BPAY or Direct Transfer - Remittance must be sent to GFpayment@palacecinemas.com.au no later than 3 days prior to the screening.
- Credit card – a 48-hour payment web-link can be provided at time of confirmation
- Cash - payment can be made in one lump sum at the box office on the day of your booking prior to the screening starting. Please allow an extra 30 minutes prior to your screening to allow time to make payment.

If payment is not made or remittance has not been provided by the start time of your screening, you and your students will not be permitted entry.

Total amount owing is based on your attendee numbers provided and is to be paid in full. There will be no refunds for absent students on the day.

CANCELLATIONS:

All booking cancellations must be advised by no later than 2 working days prior. Failure to do so may affect any other bookings you hold.

CINEMA INFORMATION & BOOKING CONTACTS:

MELBOURNE:

Palace Cinemas contact: events.vic@palacecinemas.com.au

Palace Balwyn

231 Whitehorse Rd, Balwyn VIC 3103

Palace Brighton Bay

294 Bay Street, Brighton, VIC 3186

Palace Church St

26 Church St, Brighton VIC 3186

Palace Cinema Como

Level 1, The Como Centre, 299 Toorak Road,
South Yarra VIC 3141

The Kino

45 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Palace Westgarth

89 High St, Northcote VIC 3070

Pentridge Cinema

1 Champ Street, Coburg, VIC 3058

Palace Penny Lane

17 Puckle St, Moonee Ponds, VIC 3039

Cinema Nova

380 Lygon St, Carlton VIC 3053

Contact: admin@cinemanova.com.au

SYDNEY:

events.nsw@palacecinemas.com.au

Palace Moore Park

122 Lang Rd, Moore Park NSW 2021

Palace Norton St

99 Norton St, Leichhardt NSW 2040

Palace Central

Level 3, Central Park Mall, 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008

BRISBANE:

events.qld@palacecinemas.com.au

Palace James St

39 James St, Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006

Palace Barracks

61 Petrie Terrace, Brisbane City 4000

PERTH:

Palace Cinemas:

events.wa@palacecinemas.com.au

Luna Palace Cinemas:

groupbookings@lunapalace.com.au

Palace Raine Square

300 Murray St, Perth, WA 6000 (Top level)

Luna Leederville

155 Oxford Street, Leederville, WA 6007

Luna on SX

13 Essex Street, Fremantle, WA 6160

ADELAIDE:

events@palacenova.com

Palace Nova Eastend Cinemas

3 Cinema Place, Adelaide, SA 5000

Palace Nova Prospect Cinemas

98 Prospect Rd, Prospect, SA 5082

CANBERRA, BYRON BAY/BALLINA, BALLARAT:

events.regional@palacecinemas.com.au

CANBERRA

Palace Electric Cinemas

2 Phillip Law Street (corner of Edinburgh Ave & Parkes Way), Canberra,
ACT 2601

BYRON BAY

Palace Byron Bay

108-110 Jonson St, Byron Bay NSW 2481

BALLARAT

Palace Regent Cinema

49 Lydiard St N, Ballarat Central VIC 3350

BALLINA

Ballina Fair Cinemas

47/84 Kerr St, Ballina NSW 2478

**BOOKING FORM:
ST. ALi Italian Film Festival 2026 Schools Screenings**

School Name

School Street Address

Suburb

Postcode

Teacher's Name

Phone / Mobile

Email (please print clearly)

FILM BOOKING

Cinema Location:

Film Title:

Film Date:

Film Time:

QUANTITIES

TICKETS

AMOUNT (\$)

	x students @ \$15.00 (GST included)	
	x teachers @ \$15.00 (GST included)	
	x teachers @ \$00.00 (1 teacher free per 20 students)	
	TOTAL SEATS	
Do your students have access to buy food and drinks food and drinks from the candy bar? (please circle)	YES NO	TOTAL AMOUNT

If yes, how many? _____

Conditions of Booking:

CANCELLATIONS

All booking cancellations must be advised by no later than 2 working days prior. Failure to do so may affect any other bookings you hold.

Booking forms due 5 days in advance of screening

PAYMENT: Payment can be made by cash, credit card or cheque. BPAY is possible however remittance must be sent via email no later than 48 hours before the screening. If the payment has not been made by the start time of your session, you and your students will not be allowed to attend the screening.

The total amount owing is based on your attendee numbers above and is to be paid in full on the day. **There will be no refund for absent students on the day.**