

Alliance Française
French Film
Festival 2026
SCHOOL
SCREENINGS

SAVE THE DATE !



4 March – 8 April 2026
School screenings from 4 March 2026

The Alliance Française French Film Festival is pleased to present the
School Screening Selection for 2026!

Dear French Teachers,

The Alliance Française de Melbourne and Palace Cinemas are pleased to announce 5 films to be presented as special School Screenings for the 2026 Alliance Française French Film Festival. School Screenings will commence this year from the 4th of March until the 3rd of April. Educational booklets will be available for these films to help you conduct activities with your class before or after the screenings.

You will find below the screening programme with dates, times and cinemas as well as more information on the school screenings selection. **Please note that the films listed below are intended for school screenings only and have not yet been officially announced as part of the programme.**

Once you have chosen your film and session, please make sure to fill out our [booking form](#).

À bientôt,
Alliance Française de Melbourne

SCHOOL SCREENINGS FILMS - Teaching Kits Available



THE MUSICIANS

LES MUSICIENS

Director: Grégory Magne

Country: France

Cast: Valérie Donzelli, Frédéric Pierrot, Mathieu Spinosi, Emma Ravier, Daniel Garlitzky

Run time: 1h42 – 102' mins

Date of Release: 07/05/2025

Recommended: (15 – 17 years): Year 10 to Year 12

Genre: Comedy

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: PG

Trailer: TBC

Stills: TBC

Astrid Carson, heiress to her recently deceased father's vast fortune, takes the helm of his foundation with one goal: to fulfill his lifelong dream of bringing together four Stradivarius violins to perform a quartet he commissioned 25 years earlier from the renowned composer Charlie Beaumont. But assembling four extraordinary musicians for this once-in-a-lifetime concert proves far more challenging than she imagined. As rehearsals unfold, egos clash and tensions rise, turning the pursuit of perfection into a delicate balancing act.

In this intimate, music-filled drama, the world of classical music comes alive, revealing the intricate dynamics of creativity, ambition, and the human spirit.

PG CLASSIFICATION – CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering School Screening of **THE MUSICIANS** are advised of the following content:

- 3–4 scenes showing the composer smoking during breaks
- 2 scenes in which wine is served and consumed at dinner
- 1 brief scuffle/squabbling between two musicians
- Artistic pressure, Professional rivalry, Creative frustration

THE MUSICIANS – FROM YEAR 10

Programmed Sessions:

- **Wednesday 11 March at Kino Cinema & Palace Brighton Bay**
- **Friday 20 March at Palace Como & Palace Balwyn**
- **Tuesday 24 March at Palace Church St & Palace Westgarth**

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2026 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete festival line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.



LITTLE AMÉLIE OR THE CHARACTER OF RAIN

AMÉLIE ET LA MÉTAPHYSIQUE DES TUBES

Director: Maïlys Vallade, Liane-Cho Han

Country: France

Cast: Loïse Charpentier, Victoria Grosbois, Yumi Fujimori, Cathy Cerdà, Marc Arnaud

Run time: 1h17 - 77' mins

Date of Release: 25/06/2025

Recommended: (9 – 13 years): Year 4 to Year 8

Genre: Animation

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: PG

Trailer: TBC

Stills: TBC

Amélie, a little Belgian girl born in Japan, spends her early years trapped within her own body: until she is two and a half, she sees herself as a simple “tube,” unable to act or express her feelings. In her innocence, she believes herself at the center of the world, almost divine, watched by adults who try to pierce her silence.

Everything changes on her third birthday. A single piece of white chocolate sparks a breathtaking transformation: the child awakens to life. Light, fear, joy, sounds, and words surge within her like an explosion of discovery.

Amélie learns language, explores her family, the paradisiacal garden surrounding her home, as well as her first passions and aversions. Guided by her friend Nishio-san, every moment becomes an adventure, every feeling a revelation.

Japan from the 1960s emerges in vibrant colours and delicate textures, reflecting Amélie’s emotions and her innocent, naïve, and wide-eyed perspective. This adaptation of Amélie Nothomb’s novel celebrates the transition from early childhood to childhood, and the awakening of a mind marveling at the beauty of the world.

PG CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *LITTLE AMÉLIE OR THE CHARACTER OF RAIN* are advised of the following content:

- Themes of religion and faith (references to God/the divine).
- Scenes of children arguing, including brief physical fighting.
- Discussions of death and grief, including the death of the grandmother (but not pictured).
- Discussions related to war (but not pictured).

LITTLE AMÉLIE OR THE CHARACTER OF RAIN – FROM YEAR 4

Programmed Sessions:

- Wednesday 4 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Como
- Monday 16 March at Palace Brighton Bay & Palace Balwyn
- Thursday 26 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Westgarth
- Tuesday 31 April at Palace Brighton Bay & Palace Como

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2026 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete festival line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.

ARCO



ARCO

Director: Ugo Bienvenu

Country: France

Cast: Margot Ringard Oldra, Oscar Tresanini, Swann Arlaud, Alma Jodorowsky, Vincent Macaigne

Run time: 1h28 - 88' mins

Date of Release: 22/10/2025

Recommended: (11 - 17 years) : Year 6 to year 12

Genre: Animation

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: PG

Trailer: TBC

Stills: TBC

In 2075, a young girl named Iris lives in a world where augmented reality serves as a veil over a ravaged Earth, constantly struck by natural disasters. One day, a mysterious boy dressed in a rainbow suit falls from the sky: Arco, a child from the year 2932, coming from a utopian future where harmony with all living things prevails and where time travel is possible. For Iris, he becomes living proof of a better world, and the embodiment of a wondrous secret

Lost and disoriented, Arco must find a way to return home. Iris decides to help him at all costs, embarking on a journey where Arco's purity exposes the absurdity of the world humanity is heading toward. Together, they cross a fragile future, revealing the beauty, fear, and contradictions of an Earth on the brink of collapse.

As they move through this precarious future, where nature, technology, and illusion collide, their encounter becomes a delicate quest, balancing wonder and awakening, illuminating what remains to be saved.

Presented in Official Selection at the Cannes Film Festival, Arco, an animated film by Ugo Bienvenu, won three awards at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival, including the Cristal for Best Feature Film.

CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering a School Screening of ARCO are advised of the following content:

- Death of the robot.
- Close-up of a scar, with a bit of blood. Surgical procedure implied (the robot stitches Arco's scar, but the image stops at the thread passing through the eye of the needle).
- Low-impact car accident.
- Scenes of wildfires.
- Brief knockout of secondary characters.
- Arco is shirtless while receiving medical care.
- Some language: débile, idiot, cafteuse
- The robot appears in the dark with red eyes that can be slightly frightening.

ARCO – FROM YEAR 6

Programmes Sessions:

- Thursday 12 March at Palace Como & Palace Brighton Bay
- Tuesday 17 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Westgarth
- Wednesday 25 March at Palace Brighton Bay & Palace Como
- Monday 30 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Balwyn

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2026 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete festival line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.



JEAN VALJEAN

JEAN VALJEAN

Director: Eric Besnard

Country: France

Cast: Grégory Gadebois, Bernard Campan, Isabelle Carré, Alexandra Lamy, Dominique Pinon

Run time: 1h38 – 98' mins

Date of Release: 19/11/2025

Recommended: (15 – 17 years): Year 10 to Year 12

Genre: Drama, Book Adaptation

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: TBC

Trailer: TBC

Stills: TBC

In this compelling new adaptation of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, *Jean Valjean* (2025) focuses on the transformative first arc of the legendary tale. After 19 years of brutal hard labour for stealing a loaf of bread, Jean Valjean is released on parole — but freedom proves harsher than prison in a society that refuses to let him forget his past. When a generous bishop shows him unexpected kindness, Valjean faces a choice that will define his life.

Blending historical authenticity with deeply felt performances, the film revisits Hugo's timeless questions of justice, mercy, and human resilience. A gripping, elegantly told drama that invites a new generation to rediscover the moral power of Valjean's journey.

CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering School Screening of *JEAN VALJEAN* are advised of the following content:

- Mature themes: Social Injustice, Poverty, Stigma
- Moderate violence (bloodied faces, beating) and violence against animals (short fight with a dog)
- Moderately frightening scenes: murder (mauling), dead bodies
- Mention of deadly disease (coughing blood) and hunger
- Minimal swearing and use of alcohol

JEAN VALJEAN – FROM YEAR 10

Programmed Sessions:

Friday 6 March at Palace Como & Palace Westgarth

Tuesday 10 March at Palace Church St & Palace Balwyn

Thursday 19 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Brighton Bay

Friday 27 March at Palace Brighton Bay & The Kino Cinema

Wednesday 1 April at Palace Balwyn & Palace Como

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2026 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete festival line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.



TREASURE HUNTERS: ON THE TRACKS OF KHUFU

LE SECRET DE KHÉOPS

Director: Barbara Schulz

Country: France

Cast: Fabrice Luchini, Julia Piaton, Gavril Darteville, Johann Dionnet, Camille Japy

Run time: 1h37– 97' mins

Date of Release: 05/03/2025

Recommended: (12 – 17 years): From Year 7 to 12

Genre: Fiction

Classification: PG

Trailer: TBC

Stills: TBC

What if Egypt's greatest treasure – the lost treasure of Pharaoh Khufu – were not buried beneath the sands, but hidden in the heart of Paris?

This crazy theory obsesses Christian Robinson (Fabrice Luchini, *The Mystery of Henri Pick*, AF FF20), a brilliant yet wildly unconventional archaeologist who becomes convinced of it after uncovering a strange inscription during illegal excavations in Cairo... Certain that the key lies in the clues left behind by the first director of the Louvre, Robinson launches into an extraordinary treasure hunt across Paris. From the labyrinth of the Louvre's archives to the shadowed chambers of the Château de Malmaison, Robinson follows a trail that may rewrite history. He is joined – willingly or otherwise – by his daughter Isis (Julia Piaton, *Like a Prince*, AF FF25) and his grandson Julien (Gavril Darteville), forming an unlikely trio propelled by the dream of uncovering the most spectacular archaeological find of the 21st century.

Directed by Barbara Schulz, the film is inspired by true historical threads, including Napoleon's Egyptian campaign and the astonishing artefacts brought back to France. With wit and imagination, it blends fact and fiction into a spirited adventure through time, museums and family bonds.

PG CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *TREASURE HUNTERS: ON THE TRACKS OF KHUFU* are advised of the following content:

- The film has no particular content concerns, apart from a few mild fight scenes.
- Note that the grandfather encourages his grandson to lie to his school about his absence, in order to take him on the adventure.
- Regarding language: several French expressions such as "merde", "putain", "fait chier", and "tu m'emerdes" appear in the film. They are used in a natural, light-hearted, and friendly way, without any intention to be aggressive or insulting. In English, they would correspond to mild expressions such as "damn" or "leave me alone."

TREASURE HUNTERS: ON THE TRACKS OF KHUFU – FROM YEAR 7

Programmed Sessions:

- Thursday 5 March at Palace Balwyn & Palace Brighton Bay
- Friday 13 March at The Kino Cinema & Palace Westgarth
- Wednesday 18 March at Palace Como & Palace Church St
- Monday 23 March at Palace Brighton Bay & Palace Como
- Thursday 2 April at The Kino Cinema & Palace Penny Lane

A teaching kit will be available.

Booking/ticketing information

TEACHING KITS

Teaching kits will be emailed to you with your booking confirmation. So don't miss out on this opportunity for your classes!

PRICE

The cost is **\$15** per student with a complimentary ticket for one accompanying teacher for every 20 students per group. Please note, we need a **minimum number of 20 tickets** sold for the school screening discount to apply.

Bookings **under 20 students** will receive the regular student pricing of **\$25** (Children under 17 - \$20.00).

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: To Alliance Française de Melbourne

Fill out the booking form. You can access it [here](#) or by copying and pasting the URL:

<https://forms.gle/oANvps2e2hx3MNF39>

We will review and confirm your booking. Once confirmed, we will send you an invoice alongside the teaching kit.

Payment must be made directly to the cinemas. You can pay by **cash** at the cinema's box office or by **credit card**. A link to pay via credit card can also be provided. **If you are paying by EFT**, payment must be made **before your screening**. Failure to provide remittance for the screening will result in your screening being cancelled.

Please note that bookings will not be taken over the phone at the cinemas, but only via the Alliance Française de Melbourne's booking form. Please note that all bookings must be made at least 3 business days before the preferred session.

The total amount of original booking is to be paid in full. There will be no discount for absent students on the day, or any refund. Payment must be made on or before the screening date.

Please note that once an invoice goes out if there are any changes that need to be made, an administration fee of \$2.50 may apply. For any queries regarding the school screenings, please contact FFFschools@afmelbourne.com.au

CINEMA LOCATIONS

Palace Balwyn

231 Whitehorse Rd, Balwyn | 03 9817 1277

Palace Brighton Bay

294 Bay St, Brighton | 03 9596 3590

Palace Como

Level 2, Como Centre, Cnr of Toorak Rd & Chapel St, Sth Yarra | 03 9827 7533

Palace Church Street

26 Church St, Brighton | 03 9592 7815

The Kino

Lower ground floor, 45 Collins St, Melbourne | 03 9650 2100

Palace Penny Lane

17 Puckle St, Moonee Ponds | 03 8579 5388

Palace Westgarth

89 High St, Northcote | 03 9482 2001