

## Association of Danish film clubs for children and young people (DaBUF)

DaBUF aims to expose children and young people to the film media in Denmark.

The organisation was established in 1952 and at the present time we represent app. 70 film clubs, showing films to around 60.000 children and youngsters. Most clubs are associated with a cinema. Others (DVD-clubs) are found in cooperation with schools, libraries and other institutions. DaBUF has members all over Denmark as well as in Greenland and Luxembourg.

DaBUF cooperates with actors in the film industry. In doing so we focus on education and activities which will support and inspire our members throughout the country, keeping them updated on what is happening in the area of children's films.

The raison d'être for DaBUF is making sure that children's films are being developed and are always in the hearts and minds of Danish politicians.

It is our belief that films are a spectacular vehicle for promoting vital issues concerning both children's and adolescent's life.

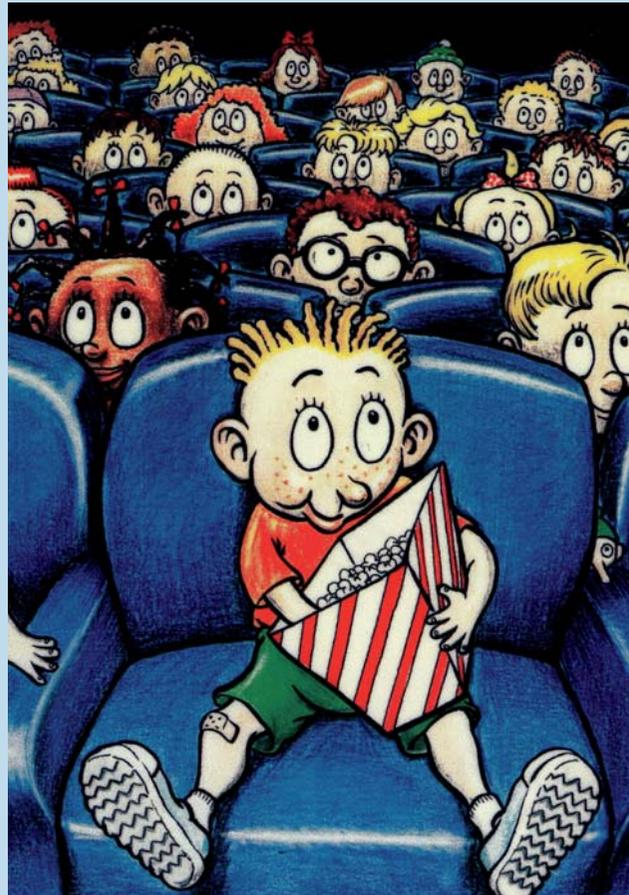
### Association of Danish film clubs for children and young people

Tina Just Hahn  
President

Front: Cinema Paradiso (Miracle film)

## The Danish film club for children and young people

When planning to start a film club for children and young people, the normal run of things is to gather a group of adults who have a desire to communicate film to youngsters. For the most part you will appoint a board for your club. The board will constitute itself with a chairman, a deputy chairman, a treasurer and a number of regular members. Furthermore, most clubs have a number of young people on their board. This is to ensure that they are taught democracy and can see how the board works.



Drawing by Erik Mogensen

## Work of the board

- The board makes arrangements with a cinema, a library, an art centre or a school in the area, setting times and prices for the shows.
- The board selects films to be shown to the members.
- The board decides on a price for the membership (what the youngsters are expected to pay).
- The board decides what age groups should be made available (e. g. 3 – 5 year olds; 6 – 8 year olds; 9 – 11 year olds; 12 – 14 year olds and 15 – 18 year olds).
- The board is responsible for printing a program, telling what films are shown to which groups in a current season.
- The board distributes programs to schools and kindergartens in the area.
- The board sees to that all films start with an introduction, opening the youngster's eyes to the themes and topics at hand. Also the board makes sure that order is upheld during the screening.
- The board apply for funding from governmental organisations and foundations.
- The board places its wishes for films to be shown in their club at DaBUF. DaBUF contacts the film companies.
- The board can acquire help and guidance from DaBUF.

## The history of Danish film clubs

Back in 1950 a number of teachers saw fit to expose children and young people to good quality films. Producing and showing films for children and adolescents was not common at the time.

One of the very first Danish children's films was produced in 1949.

Ever since this time things have become brighter for children's films. Today both realistic and fantastic films are being produced for children and adolescents in Denmark.

The 1980's saw a law dictating that 25 per cent of government funds used on film production should be used on children's and adolescents' films.

For more than 25 years (since 1983) DaBUF has handed out the most prestigious children's film award, Pråsen. This is given to a person having made an acclaimed effort for children's films in producing or communicating the media. Along with the award of 10.000 kroner the awarded person is given an illustration by a Danish artist.



*Gummitarzan, photo Johan Johansen (SandrewMetronome)*

## Adventures for children and young people

What the Danish youngsters achieve being a member of a film club

- At a reasonable price they will watch five or six films of a high standard within a season.
- The introductory presentation prior to each film will assure they become knowledgeable and critical spectators of film.
- They experience a community with classmates or kindergarten friends in the enchanted world of films.
- They are taught a habit of watching film and taking a critical standpoint in doing so, which hopefully will last for the rest of their lives.
- Film has a way of giving an extra perspective to their world and the world of others, and in this way gain better interpersonal understanding.
- Film gives the youngsters insight in to various issues of human interest and ways of dealing with problems. An insight they hopefully will be able to use in their future lives.
- Also the membership gives the youngsters an understanding of democracy and what happens when democracy is neglected.



*The fox and the child (Camera Film)*

## The Danish film club model - idea and reality



Association of Danish film clubs  
for children and young people

www.dabuf.dk · e-mail: sekr@dabuf.dk