



Mid-December 2024

Dear Friends of Switzerland,

As 2024 comes to an end, wonderful winter traditions bring cheer and good spirits to the shorter, darker days. For example, you may have seen or visited a Christmas market here in the DC area. But did you know that Christmas markets are extremely popular in Switzerland as well? At the Zurich Christmas market (one of the largest in Switzerland), the line to enter and enjoy the warm drinks, sweets, and hand-crafted goods can often stretch around the block! However, this is not the only place where patience is needed at this time of year: ski season is in full swing in the Swiss Alps and you may have to wait for the ski lift to get in a beautiful run at some of Switzerland's most famous skiing areas, such as Zermatt, Davos, or Grindelwald. Luckily you don't have to wait to experience some Swissness right here in the U.S! There is plenty to look forward to as we head into the holidays: enjoy the documentary *Becoming Giulia* and the discussion with its protagonist, Giulia Tonelli, now streaming online as part of the Swiss Film Club; express your creativity and redesign our beloved mountain character *Heidi* using AI technology; and if you are a young researcher we are excited to announce that applications for the ThinkSwiss research scholarships are now open!

Please continue to check our website, social media channels, and events calendar, where we are providing regular updates, for more cultural content. Have you found something we're missing? What would you like to see more of? Let us know – [we would love to hear from you.](#)

We hope you continue to enjoy, and take care!

Film



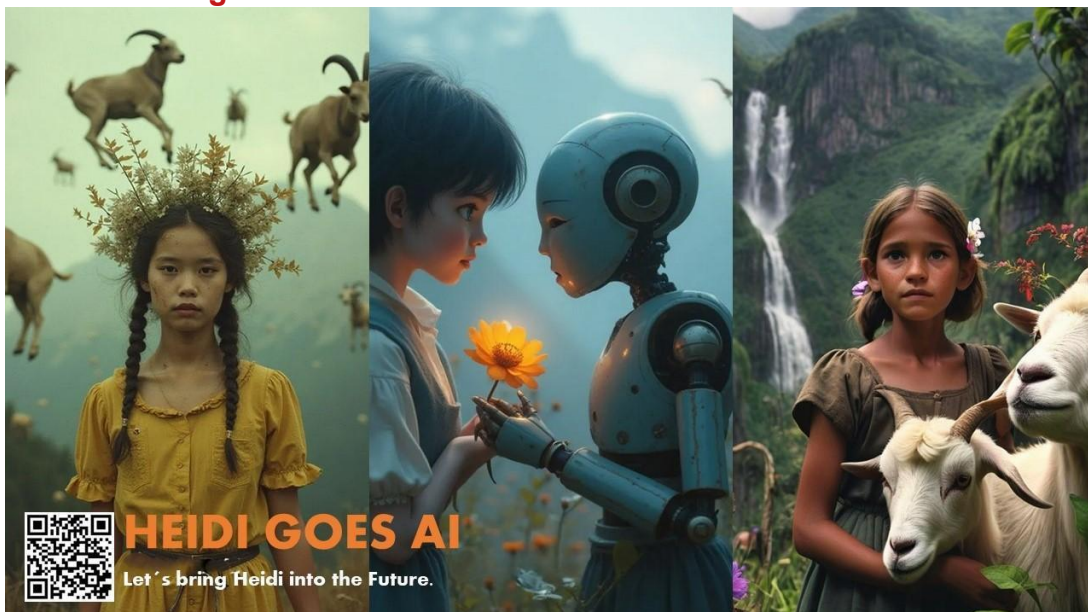
Source: [Swissfilms.ch](https://www.swissfilms.ch)

Swiss Film Club: *Becoming Giulia*

Available for streaming through December 20, 2024
Accompanied by Film Discussion

Join the Embassy of Switzerland for a special online screening of the documentary *Becoming Giulia* as well as an online discussion with the film's protagonist. The experiences and messages of the film will be familiar to anyone balancing parenthood with demanding careers, passions, and identities. After you watch the film, check out the discussion with Prima Ballerina Giulia Tonelli. *Becoming Giulia* follows her journey as she returns from maternity leave and works to find a new balance between her demanding career and her new family life. The documentary offers a rare look behind the scenes of the Zurich Opera House and an intimate look at the journey of a woman who reclaims her own body and identity to make her way back to the stage. Learn more and register [here!](#)

Artificial Intelligence



Source: [Swiss Impact](https://www.swissimpact.ch)

Call for Submissions: *Heidi Goes AI*

Deadline: December 31, 2024

The Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco and the Heidiseum (home of the UNESCO Heidi Archive) have extended the deadline for artists, professionals, and aficionados from all backgrounds from the United States and Switzerland to showcase their unique interpretations of the Swiss icon Heidi. The beloved character from Johanna Spyri's classic novel has enchanted audiences worldwide since 1880, but in the age of AI and generative technologies, how would you reimagine Heidi? Does Heidi's love for nature change in a world of AI? We'd love to see your creative answers to these questions! We are looking for artwork that not only explores the creative potential of AI to reimagine Heidi, but also involves and expresses ethical, cultural, and artistic implications of AI in reshaping traditional narratives of Heidi. Winners will be selected by our international jury, and in addition to cash prizes selected art will be part of a two-month long exhibition in San Francisco in spring 2025 and discussed during panels on topics such as the impact of AI on art and copyright. The deadline for submissions is December 31. Learn more [here](#).



Education

+think swiss

Brainstorm the future.

Source: thinkswiss.org

Study in Switzerland: Scholarship Opportunity

Application Deadline: January 15, 2025

Have you ever wondered about the research landscape in Switzerland? Here's your chance to learn more: applications for the 2025 ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship are now open! The North America program offers students from the United States and Canada an opportunity for a fully-funded research project in a Swiss laboratory of their choice. Wondering if this ThinkSwiss scholarship is right for you? ThinkSwiss is looking for candidates enrolled at an accredited U.S. or Canadian university or research institution, for PhD, or Master's studies, or who have completed the second year of an undergraduate degree by the time the research stay in Switzerland begins. We especially encourage U.S. applicants with an interest in climate innovation, space, quantum, and bioengineering to apply. For eligibility criteria, application requirements and more details, visit the [ThinkSwiss website!](https://thinkswiss.org)



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