

As young performers rehearse a new musical, they discover confidence, connection, and what it means to find a place called home.



SYNOPSIS

A Place Called Home is a heartfelt behind-the-scenes documentary capturing the creation of a world-premiere musical produced by Stages Theatre Company in Hopkins, Minnesota.

The film follows a vibrant cast of young performers as they bring a touching holiday story to life, one centered on kindness, belonging, and discovering what really makes a place a home. For many of the youth actors, the production becomes a journey of firsts, from learning puppetry and building ensemble skills to stepping into new artistic challenges with courage and curiosity.

Through rehearsals, collaboration, and moments both triumphant and tender, A Place Called Home reveals the dedication and heart behind children's theatre. More than a look at the making of a musical, it's a celebration of community, creativity, and the transformative power of storytelling, onstage and off.

Title: A Place Called Home
Genre: Documentary Short
Country: United States
Production Year: 2026
Language: English
Duration: 15:15
Aspect Ratio: 16x9
Frame Rate: 23.98
Shooting Format: Canon C70, 4K
Exhibition Format: DCP, ProRes
Sound: Stereo



















FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- **The North Film Festival - New York City -** *WINNER: Best Documentary Short Film*
- **San Diego International Kids' Film Festival**- *WINNER: Best Director*
- **KIDS FIRST! Film Festival -** *5/5 Star Review*
- **Canada International Children's Film Festival -** *NOMINEE: Best Documentary Film*
- **Atlanta Children's Film Festival** - *Official Selection*
- **Eagan Film Festival**- *Official Selection*
- **Hello From Fargo Film Festival** - *Official Selection*
- **Nosebleeds Film Festival** - *Official Selection*

WATCH TRAILER





DIRECTOR

Steve Fischer is an award-winning videographer and editor with over two decades of experience in documentary and non-fiction storytelling. His work includes projects for PBS, ABC's 20/20, Discovery Channel, The History Channel, and The Travel Channel.

His work has been recognized with a Peabody Award, multiple Emmy Awards, a New York Festivals Award, and the CINE Golden Eagle Award. He focuses on character-driven stories that explore human connection, creativity, and real-world experiences.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

For more than twenty years, I have worked in broadcast television and documentary film as a videographer and editor, helping shape and tell other people's stories. This film marks a personal milestone—the first time I have stepped forward to tell a story that intersects so closely with my own life.

I was initially drawn to documenting the creation of a world premiere musical at Stages Theatre Company as a story about process. But as filming unfolded, something deeper emerged. I witnessed young performers learning how to listen to one another, take creative risks, navigate failure, and celebrate each other's successes. In a world that often feels increasingly divided, I saw children practicing empathy, collaboration, and resilience in real time.

Stages Theatre Company has also shaped my own family in profound ways. It has been a place where my children found confidence, belonging, and a sense of identity rooted in acceptance and kindness. That connection guided my perspective. I approached this film not only as a documentarian, but as a parent who understands the quiet transformation that happens in rehearsal rooms long before the curtain rises.

This film is ultimately about possibility—the possibility that creative spaces can help young people discover their voices, build community, and grow into themselves. After two decades of telling stories for others, this project feels like coming home: to my craft, to my community, and to the belief that storytelling can bring us closer to one another.



WHY THIS FILM MATTERS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

- Encourages confidence and self-expression
- Highlights teamwork and empathy
- Shows real kids navigating challenges and growth
- Promotes creativity and arts participation





CREDITS

Director
Steve Fischer

Videography
Steve Fischer

Editor
Steve Fischer

Music
Jeff Zahn
Joe Troiano

Sound Design
Gretchen Katt

Sound Board
Maycee Klein

Puppetry Consultant
Gordon Smuder

Puppet Builder
Bil DeLong

Filmed at
Stages Theatre Company, Hopkins, MN

Special Thanks
Holiday Hill Farm Enterprises, LLC
Stages Theatre Company





★★★★★

- KIDS FIRST! Film Critics



PRESS

“An exceptional film that goes way beyond standard ‘how-it’s-made’ documentaries.”
— *KIDS FIRST! Film Critics*

“It beautifully paints a picture of the creative process.”
— *KIDS FIRST! Film Critics*

“The film carries many inspiring messages about collaboration, belonging, kindness, family, and finding your sanctuary.”
— *KIDS FIRST! Film Critics*

“A fascinating window into puppetry and stage production.”
— *KIDS FIRST! Film Critics*

“The power of creative spaces to help young people discover their voices, build community, and grow into themselves.”
— *KIDS FIRST! Film Critics*







CONTACT

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