



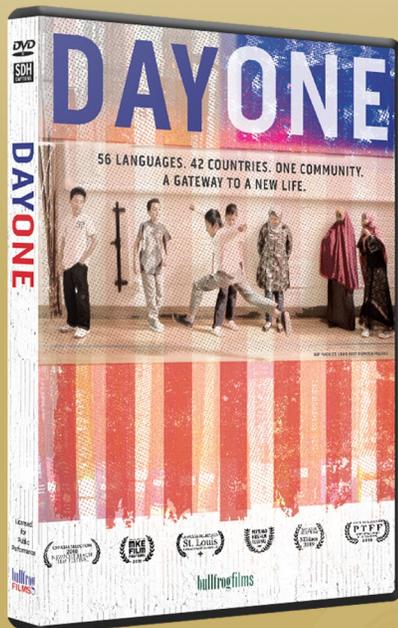
Community Screening & Discussion Guide

DAY ONE

Use your film screening of **DAY ONE** as a tool for educating your community about education, human rights and the immigrant experience in the United States. This guide offers some background information, helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

what you'll find inside!

- about the film & filmmaker
- ready to watch! screening guide
- ready to talk! discussion guide
- ready to act! handout



About the film

Day One follows a group of teenage refugees from war-torn countries who are enrolled at Nahed Chapman New American Academy, a unique public school for refugee and immigrant students in St. Louis, MO. They are guided through an inspirational program of education, healing and trauma intervention by devoted educators, some of whom have chosen to relocate to the inner city to support their students. Over the course of a year, the students progress through layers of grief and loss as they attend school, forge new friendships and prepare to be mainstreamed into local public high schools. Their triumphs and tribulations all unfold with the city of St. Louis as the backdrop: a rust-belt city that has taken the bold step of welcoming immigrants as a solution for their growing socio-economic problems.



About the filmmaker

Lori Miller is a seasoned producer known for her award-winning documentaries about arts and culture: *Virtuosity* (PBS), *Shakespeare High* (Tribeca FF, Showtime), and *They Came to Play* (New York Times Critics Pick). Her independent feature producing credits include: *Panic, The Last Supper*, and *Perfect Opposites*. "DAY ONE" is Lori Miller's directing debut. She is a graduate of Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY.

ready to watch!

Ideas and best practices to help make your community screening a success!

1. Publicize Your Event! This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/day_one to register and get the word out about your upcoming screening. You can also email us at info@bullfrogcommunities.com if you need help getting started!

2. Visualize Your Goal! What do you hope to achieve with your screening? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion about issues raised in the film, gain support or recruit volunteers for a local grassroots campaign, or raise funds for a group on your campus or in your community. Or, you can simply use the screening to provide an opportunity for your audience to watch and learn together.

3. Where To Host? Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating a community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, university and college venues, warehouses at a business and outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings.

4. Find A Partner! Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Speak on a panel discussion after the screening? Some potential partners include: student groups at schools, universities and colleges; a local public or campus library; representatives from local religious congregations or faith-based community groups; local chapters of national/global activist or grassroots organizations; faculty members at nearby universities and colleges; reporters/journalists from local news publications such as newspapers and magazines; local nonprofits; and any community organizations that share goals or views with the film you are screening.

5. Invite A Guest Speaker! Guest speakers and panelists are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact representatives of local non-profits, faith groups, journalists and reporters from local media outlets, or teachers and professors who have expertise and/or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend your screening and participate in a discussion or Q&A session with your audience.

6. Engage Your Audience! Use this discussion guide to engage your audience. Included in this guide is a section called Ready to Talk! with a few suggested discussion questions to get the conversation started, and a section called Ready to Act!— which can be used as a handout — listing additional resources for further investigation about key issues raised in the film.

7. Spread The Word! Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing your film screening to people in your community. Sending emails to a contact list, creating event notifications on Facebook, Google+, Eventbrite or an online community calendar, using Twitter to announce your event, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. In addition to this guide, you can find and download a screening poster and press photos at http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/day_one that can be used to help publicize your event.

8. Tell Us How It Went! Visit http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/day_one to tell us about your event. Contribute to the film's discussion page to help other student groups, universities, non-profits, congregations and community groups further the discussion and put on successful screening events of their own. Where was your screening held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? What did you discuss? Your feedback will help others to organize their own events, and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

ready to talk!

Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by DAY ONE. Here are some questions that will get people talking.

1. What was your reaction to the film?
2. What was your biggest takeaway about the kids in the film?
3. What was your biggest takeaway about the educators in the film?
4. Do you know of people in your community who are refugees or immigrants? What are some of the challenges they may be facing? Why are certain refugees placed in certain communities/cities?
5. Do you know of any similar programs or resources in your community?
6. What do you think are the greatest challenges for these students?
7. What are the challenges for the educators and school system?
8. These students and their families appear to have similar challenges as many disadvantaged in our country. Are there opportunities to implement programs like this in your community?
9. How do the stories presented in the film differ from our nation's past history of admitting refugees? What is the current system for refugees being admitted into our country?
10. What are the ways a community can be supportive and welcoming? What can we do as individuals? What can institutions such as schools and non-profit organization do?
11. How can we follow-up and advocate to our representatives to bring more refugees into the U.S.? How can we get this story and message out to others nationally?

The following discussion questions may be used if a representative of the film is in attendance and/or participating in a community screening event.

1. How are the students doing since they left this program? Are they having any struggles?
2. Why do some students go on to further their education while others don't?
3. Is it a challenge for the students to maintain their culture and identify?
4. What are some of the biggest differences these students are faced with coming to our country?

- 5.** Are there greater challenges for one gender versus another?
- 6.** What are the greatest needs to these students outside of the school?
- 7.** How do the stories presented in the film differ from our nation's past history of admitting refugees?
- 8.** Why are some students bullied outside of the school environment?
- 9.** Is it a challenge for the students to bridge their experiences with their parents? What are some of these challenges?
- 10.** How did this film come about? How did you become involved with the project?
- 11.** What has been some of the reactions from those who have seen the film?
- 12.** What is an ESL program and why is this important?

ready to act!

handout

International Rescue Committee — <https://www.rescue.org/>

The IRC responds to some of the world's worst crises, delivering aid that saves lives while paving the way for long-term recovery.

UNHCR — <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/>

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people.

Refugee Resettlement Program — <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr>

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) helps new populations maximize their potential in the United States by linking them to critical resources that assist them in becoming integrated members of American Society.

St. Louis Mosaic Project — <https://www.stlmosaicproject.org/>

The St. Louis Mosaic Project is a regional initiative within the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership and the World Trade Center St. Louis. St. Louis aims to be a cultural mosaic because they believe that immigrants invigorate their region.

International Institute St. Louis — <https://www.iistl.org/>

The International Institute is St. Louis' welcoming center for new Americans. Their mission is to help immigrants and their families become productive Americans and champion ethnic diversity as a cultural and economic strength.

Bilingual International — <https://www.bilingualstl.org/>

The Bilingual International's mission is to ensure equal access to healthcare, mental health, and social services for all, regardless of national origin or language ability, through advocacy, education, and direct multilingual services.

Welcoming America — <https://www.welcomingamerica.org/>

Welcoming America leads a movement of inclusive communities becoming more prosperous by making everyone feel like they belong. They believe that all people, including immigrants, are valued contributors who are vital to the success of their communities and shared future.

Refugee Services of Texas — <https://www.rstx.org/about>

Guided by the principles of human compassion and dignity, Refugee Services of Texas welcomes refugees, immigrants, and other displaced peoples and supports them in integrating and thriving in their new communities.

Girl Forward — <https://www.girlforward.org/>

GirlForward is a community of support dedicated to creating and enhancing opportunities for girls who have been displaced by conflict and persecution.

IRIS — <http://www.irisct.org/>

IRIS helps refugees and immigrants establish new lives, regain hope, and contribute to the vitality of Connecticut's communities.