Ben Stiefel
BIO

Ben Stiefel holds a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Music Education from the Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music. He taught music in the NYC public schools for the New York City Department Of Education for 25 years, from 1983 - 2008.

His early original musical compositions include *We're All One People - Under The Sun* - choral octavo published in 1992 by Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation, and *Light The Christmas Tree*, published by Warner Brothers Music Publishing Co.

Over the past thirty years, Ben has written and produced numerous creative projects for teachers and students, including the his best selling book, W*inning Over Your Toughest Music Class K-6*, and CD, *Just Be Cool - Follow The Rule!*

In 2013, composed, co-wrote, and self-produced his first original musical comedy, *I Love My Wi-Fi*. The show was an instant hit among his family and friends.

In 2014, Ben wrote and composed, *Stick A Fork In Me... I'm Done!*, an original musical comedy about life's little stresses and ways to cope. *Stick A Fork In Me... I'm Done!* was accepted into the Midtown International Theatre Festival.

In 2015, Ben wrote a 10-minute musical, *Speed Dial.* *Speed Dial* was accepted into the Equity Library Theatre Summer Play Festival.

In 2016, in hopes of putting a team of musical theater professionals together to stage PSM Off-Broadway, Ben held a staged reading in Manhattan, NY. It was attended by various industry professionals, including producers, directors, and theatre owners. Unfortunately, while he found both a producer and an Off-Broadway theatre owner who were

interested in staging the musical, it wasn't feasable due to the very high costs involved.

In 2017, Ben staged PSM locally in Brooklyn NY, to three sold out performances. The audiences loved the show, giving him the impetus to turn PSM into a feature length film.

The years 2018-2020 were spent adapting the stage play into a screenplay, tweaking the storyline and music, casting, and preparing for film production.

Early in 2021, with cast and crew set, pre-production for filming began. Ben met individually with each actor and film crew member, explaining his vision for the movie and exchanging ideas and concepts. With his co-producer and wife Elizabeth Stiefel, he then set about turning their home into The Sam 'n' Ella Ad Agency, recorded the soundtrack, directed many weeks of rehearsal, all leading to filming in late November.

In 2022, with the film completed, Ben chose Filmhub for worldwide distribution.

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