

DREAM ON Film Festivals, Awards, & Endorsements

Festival Screenings

San Luis Obispo International Film Festival, San Luis Obispo, CA, *March 2015*
Palm Beach International Film Festival, Boca Raton, FL, *March 2015*
Worldfest-Houston, Houston, TX, *April 2015, Remi Special Jury Award, Political/International Issues*
New Jersey International Film Festival, New Brunswick, NJ, *June 2015*
Philafilm: Philadelphia International Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA, *June 2015, Leigh Whipper Silver Award*
Tiburon Film Society, Tiburon, CA, *July 2015*
Massachusetts Independent Film Festival, Boston, MA, *August 2015*
Harlem International Film Festival, New York, NY, *September 2015*
LA INDIE Film Festival, Hollywood, CA, *September 2015*
Wine Country Film Festival, Sonoma, CA, *September 2015*
New York City Independent Film Festival, New York, NY, *October 2015, Best Documentary*
Ojai Film Festival, Ojai, CA, *November 2015*
Kansas International Film Festival, Kansas City, KS, *November 2015*
Marda Loop Justice Film Festival, Calgary, Canada, *November 2015*
Atlanta Docufest, Atlanta, GA, *December 2015, Gold Spotlight Documentary Award*
Workers Unite Film Festival, New York, NY, *May 2016*
DC LaborFest, Washington, DC, *May 2016*
New Mexico Labor Film Festival, Albuquerque, *April 2016*
New Mexico Labor Film Festival, Santa Fe, *May 2016*

Endorsements

“*Dream On* is provocative investigation of the state of the American Dream. Combining the poignant and all too real stories of struggling Americans with the hilarious reflections of John Fugelsang’s stand up humor, this film succeeds in uncovering the myriad of ways in which the rigged rules of the American economy keep people from being able to make ends meet. Every American should see this film to understand that we as nation are choosing to build an economy where ever increasing numbers of Americans are locked out of the opportunity to get access to good family sustaining jobs.”

– **Deepak Bhargava, Executive Director, Center for Community Change**

“By asking if the American dream still exists, *Dream On* takes us on a journey that examines many of today’s most pressing social justice issues: economic inequality, mass incarceration, bigotry and education to name a few. It tells the compelling real-life stories of people affected by these issues, putting a human face on these problems and the stark reality confronting far too many Americans.”

– **Richard Cohen, President, Southern Poverty Law Center**

“*Dream On* is at once a pleasant and poignant reminder of how much so many Americans have lost as skewed economic rules and priorities concentrated ever-growing shares of wealth among so few. The landscape of loss the film movingly chronicles reminds us how great our challenge is. But the good humor and occasional optimistic notes peppering the story are grounds for hope that Ted Kennedy was right: The dream will never die.”

– **Christine L. Owens, Executive Director, National Employment Law Project**

“*Dream On* is compelling. It takes us on a journey to hear first-hand from people earning too little, earning less than before, or fearing their own children’s lives will be less secure as adults. The documentary asks a profound question about the spirit of our nation: what happens when a wall is built around the American Dream and many cannot dream on? Go see it, talk about it, and tear down that wall!”

– **Jodie Levin-Epstein, Deputy Director, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)**

"*Dream On* tackles pressing socioeconomic issues that millions of Americans struggle with every day — poverty, homelessness, deportation, discrimination, foreclosure, failing public schools, and more. The New York Public Library is on the front lines every day in helping people deal with these issues with information and education, so we understand how important it is that these poignant stories are brought to light."

– **Tony Marx, President, New York Public Library**

"John's road trip in search of the American dream uncovers many obstacles faced by working people today -- from low wages, unemployment, and corporate trade policies, to mass incarceration and a dysfunctional immigration system. It is clear that the economy is out of balance, and those at the top are winning while working people are bearing the brunt. And yet the American dream remains alive as working families organize and speak out together to change the rules of the economy and reclaim that dream."

– **Richard Trumka, President, AFL-CIO**

"*Dream On* offers a timely window into the lives of millions of Americans struggling on low wages and what's left of a decimated welfare system. It should be watched by anyone who wants to understand what happens when the uber-rich call the shots. The documentary is especially apt in a presidential election year where rising inequality is already taking centre stage. "

– **Mary O'Hara, The Guardian**

"Too often the public does not learn about the realities of poverty today – which then allows politicians to spread myths and lies about poor people and the programs they rely on. *Dream On* fills this void in compelling and vivid terms. Also, the most effective documentaries entertain and keep the viewer's attention while also communicating vital information. *Dream On* delivers."

– **Doug Lasden, Executive Director, Urban Justice Center**

"*Dream On*" brilliantly connects the reality of today's stunted economy to the human stories behind the mass economic frustrations. John Fugelsang's journey lays bare what has befallen our country in a way that defenders of the status quo cannot deny or defend. This is a vivid and original documentary that is more powerful than the work of all the policy-wonks combined. It deserves the widest possible audience."

– **Robert Kuttner, Co-Editor, The American Prospect**

"Although I figured I was as prepared as anyone for the content, many of the stories struck me more than I expected; there's no more powerful way to convey these difficult truths than with real people speaking and allowing others a glimpse into their lives."

– **Daniel Weeks, Author & Executive Director, Open Democracy**

"*Dream On* frames and assesses the current reality of the American dream. *Dream On* ought to be included in public and academic library collections and is recommended for students in the social sciences."

– **Educational Media Reviews Online**

"...Fugelsang hit the asphalt for an ambitious project: to retrace the steps of Alexis de Tocqueville's landmark tome *Democracy in America* to discover if the American dream is still alive. The result is the unique docu-road movie *Dream On*."

– **Boca Raton Magazine**

"John (Fugelsang) has an amazing ability to talk with a wide spectrum of people, and get anyone to be incredibly open on very sensitive topics...The people he reaches are vulnerable and real. Their emotional honesty will win over viewers as he brings together stories from fishermen, students, prisoners, and just regular guys...The film challenges so many stereotypes, but also shows people making a difference by doing what they can in their own way; it is at once depressing and inspiring."

– **Cleveland International Film Festival**