



Habitat for Humanity®

Habitat World

December 2009

HELP BUILD IT

Habitat volunteers from all walks of life work to bridge the gap between families and homeownership. How can you get more involved?

Celebrating
25 Years
of
Habitat World

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Little House Helps Build Homes

Touring musical supports Habitat affiliates across the United States

Ma Ingalls: *Maybe our house isn't there in walls and windows quite yet.*

Pa Ingalls: *But if enough people think of a thing and work hard at it, it's pretty nearly bound to happen.*

— *Little House on the Prairie: The Musical*

A musical version of a beloved television series offers a new way to emphasize the importance of home. In October, *Little House on the Prairie: The Musical* began a 34-week, 25-city tour — and a partnership with Habitat whose local benefits will last even longer. In each market the production visits, the musical will make a minimum donation of \$1,500, and members of the cast and crew will help local affiliates build houses.

The musical and the mission are a perfect fit, says star Melissa Gilbert, who appeared as Laura Ingalls in the '70s series based on the books of the same name and now performs in the stage version as Ma.

"It's the perfect marriage between a show and an organization because our show is all about home — the importance of home and the value of home and what home brings to all of us as individuals and as a community," she explains. "As we travel across the country during the next year, we are looking forward to getting involved in a variety of ways in each city to do our part to aid in Habitat's mission to bring affordable housing to those in need. It brings more meaning to something that is already extraordinarily meaningful."

In August, before the tour began, Gilbert helped build a house alongside her fellow cast members at a Habitat New York City build site in the South Bronx.

"We are extremely grateful to Melissa Gilbert, the cast and producers of *Little House on the Prairie: The Musical* for supporting our mission and engaging audiences across the country to build greater awareness of the need for affordable housing," says Habitat CEO Jonathan Reckford. "The Ingalls family's struggles in difficult conditions parallel the challenges many families face today in trying to secure better futures for themselves and their children. It's our hope this new interpretation of an ageless classic will remind fans both young and old of the importance of a safe, simple and decent home."

Little House on the Prairie
The Musical

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PHOTO CREDIT

REMAINING TOUR DATES

St. Louis	Nov. 24-29, 2009	Raleigh, N.C.	March 16-21, 2010
Detroit	Dec. 1-5, 2009	Appleton, Wis.	March 23-28, 2010
Tempe, Ariz.	Dec. 8-13, 2009	Spokane, Wash.	April 8-11, 2010
Denver	Dec. 15-27, 2009	Sacramento, Calif.	April 14-25, 2010
Fayetteville, Ark.	Jan. 5-10, 2010	Houston	April 28-May 9, 2010
Omaha, Neb.	Jan. 12-17, 2010	Dallas	May 11-23, 2010
Madison, Wis.	Jan. 19-24, 2010	Sioux Falls, S.D.	June 1-6, 2010
Toronto	Jan. 27-Feb. 28, 2010	Fort Worth, Texas	June 8-13, 2010
Tampa	March 2-7, 2010	Atlanta	June 15-20, 2010
Naples, Fla.	March 9-14, 2010	Kansas City, Mo.	June 22-27, 2010