

# Snow Day

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Nestled in the southeastern French Alps, Annecy is a magical place, with cobbled streets, winding canals, and a crystal blue lake—like you see in a picture book. Every June, thousands of animation professionals and students gather from around the globe for the Annecy International Animation Festival. What made Annecy 2019 special was that it was five years after Sergio Pablos had pitched me *Klaus* at Annecy 2014—where I said, “Sergio, it would make a great children’s book.” At the following Annecy, Sergio showed up with a teaser piece he had animated. Was I ever wrong! I was completely sold and said, “We need to make this movie!” We were now inside a large snow globe at Annecy 2019, celebrating early Christmas in anticipation of the upcoming release. I cherish this photo because it’s a reminder of the power of imagination, hope and resilience. ■