

AUDITION INFO

Come From Away takes you into the heart of the remarkable true story of a small town that welcomed the world at a time of great uncertainty.

SYNOPSIS

The heartwarming and uplifting musical based on the true story of what happened when 38 planes were unexpectedly diverted to Gander, Newfoundland, on September 11th, 2001. In the days that followed, a small town welcomed thousands of stranded passengers with open arms, proving that kindness and humanity shine through, even in the darkest times.

The musical, written by Irene Selkoff and David Hein is based on real interviews with the locals and the visitors that shared in the experience across five days together.

The musical explores themes of culture shock, friendship, trauma and prejudice but also celebrates the connection, humor and joy that emerges from crisis. It reminds us of the power of kindness and community in times of adversity.

CHARACTERS

This is an ensemble-driven show where every performer plays multiple roles—so we're looking for confident actors who can sing, transform, and bring real, authentic characters to life.

- 6 male-identifying & 6 female-identifying actors (ages 20-70 years)
- Ability to speak with a Newfoundland accent and Canadian/American accent.
- All ages, shapes, sizes, and backgrounds—we want a cast that reflects the real world!
- Strong character actors who can switch between roles with ease.
- Singing ability is a must—this is a folk-rock musical with an Irish pulse and soaring harmonies.
- No formal dance required, but movement skills a plus!

TO AUDITION

Visit the Theater website at www.mountainplayhouse.org, complete the audition form and submit it by 5pm Monday June 8th, 2026. Applicants will be notified via email of a time for their in-person audition.

Successful applicants will be invited via email to an in-person audition

Friday 6/12 or Saturday 6/13 between 10:00am — 5:00pm at

Somerset High School Auditorium

645 South Columbia Avenue

Somerset, PA 15501

ACTING

Choose a monologue from the selections below to be performed two ways, presenting two different characters. We are looking at your ability to play multiple characters. Present the monologue as a character with a Newfoundland accent and then again as a different character with a different accent (American, English or other). Accents and character work is a big part of this show. We want to see your abilities in these areas. Please refer to the end of this document for monologues from the show or perform something of your choosing.

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SINGING

You should prepare approximately 32 bars of a song (approximately 1 minute per song is a good guide). This may be from the show, if you choose. It is encouraged to choose a song that showcases your range and storytelling abilities. Be prepared to be stopped and started throughout your song, and to take both musical and acting direction from The Panel.

An accompanist and playback facilities will be provided, but you may bring your own accompanist, or use the supplied facilities to play your CD or digital backing track (via 3.5mm jack). Ensure there are no vocals on the track.

- Please NOTE: If you are auditioning for the role of Pilot, Beverley Bass, please prepare **Me And The Sky** in its entirety.
- If you are auditioning for the role of Hannah, please prepare **I Am Here**.

CALL BACKS will be held on Sunday June 14 1pm — 5pm.

Final cast will be notified via email by Friday June 19th.

REHEARSALS

- Rehearsals begin Wednesday July 1st.
- All rehearsals will be held at the school auditorium.
- Tentative rehearsal schedule attached. These are just all POSSIBLE rehearsal blocks. Specifics will be coming. Not everyone will be needed for every rehearsal.

If you have any questions email — scott@mountainplayhouse.org

The show creators are encouraging as many venues as possible to produce this very special play. To that end, there are LOTS of references and source material online for free. Just google the title.

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SUGGESTED MONOLOGUES

CLAUDE ELLIOTT [Man 1] / Derm / Townsperson / Bus Driver / Police Officer

The gregarious and well-liked Mayor of Gander, Newfoundland. Loves his work. the townspeople and his daily traditions, but he's never had to deal with a crisis of this magnitude before. 40's — 60's Gruff, natural sounding Baritone.

"On the northeast tip of North America, on an island called Newfoundland, there's an airport- it used to be one of the biggest airports in the world. And next to it, is a town called Gander. It's a small place- on a giant rock in the ocean. Everybody knows everybody else. And everybody in this room has a story about how they started that day.

I start my day at Tim Hortons. Don't drink coffee. Don't drink tea. And I've no use for donuts. But I'll grab a Pepsi and get a lay of the land. As the Mayor, it's how I keep in touch with the people and such.

Everything starts and ends at Tim Hortons."

OZ FUDGE [Man 2] / Joey / Police Officer / Customs Agent / EMT / Townsperson

Quirky constable in the two-person Gander police force. When the town's population suddenly doubles, Oz helps out in unexpected ways. 30's — 50's Strong contemporary Tenor.

"That morning I'm in my car. The kids cross Airport Boulevard to get to school- and that time of day people are in a little bit of a rush to get to work and stuff, so normally I sit there and run my radar. And if they're speeding, I'll stop 'em and write out a warning ticket. I'll write STFD- Slow The Fuck Down.

Well, I'm running my radar when Bonnie comes by. She pulls up and she's wavin' at me like mad, so I roll down my window and she says "Oz, turn on your radio'. I tell her to slow it down but she's insistent and says "Jesus H. Oz! Turn on your radio!" So I do."

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BOB [Man 3] Muhumuza / Townsperson / Bus Driver / Chef

A hardened New Yorker, Bob is suspicious of where he's landed, fearing that it's World War 3, That someone is going to shoot him and steal his wallet — but instead, he ends up losing his New York jadedness. African American 20's — 40's Baritone.

"People are saying "we want you to come to our house." And I think, what is up with this? I mean, are they charging for these "free" showers? Or are they gonna go all Norman Bates...Anyway, I wasn't falling for it. But finally, I'm invited back to the Mayor of Appleton's house- that sounds fancy, but it's not- there's a Mayor for every town of a thousand people in Newfoundland. There's the Mayor of Gander, There's the Mayor of Lewisporte. There's the Mayor of Gambo. Anyway I'm staying with the Mayor of Appleton. His wife shows me where my bedroom is and where the shower is and through it all, I keep thinking- where am I going to leave my wallet? Some is gonna steal my wallet."

DOUG [Man 4] Nick Marson / Businessman / Townsperson / Airline Passenger / Radio Operator

An Air Traffic Controller, married to Bonnie, who tries to help his wife and the animals. 30's — 40's Warm, natural Baritone. Strong pop sensibility.

"There's only supposed to be two air traffic controllers on, but instead there's Fourteen...Everyone's here and they all showed up without even being asked. We're told there'll be over two hundred planes getting diverted across the country.

Lufthansa four one four, this is Gander Centre - squawk code seven two three five. Due to a recent development, you are ordered to land at Gander YQX immediately. Copy that. This is an order.

Yes sir. I understand you have VIPS onboard. I'll see you VIPs and raise you an international emergency.

Land your plane now."

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KEVIN T [Man 5] Garth / Flight Passenger/tourist / Townsperson / Volunteer

The head of an environmental energy company in Los Angeles, Kevin was on vacation with his boyfriend (and secretary, also named Kevin), when they are stranded in Gander. Inspired by the town's generosity, Kevin creates the Pay It Forward Foundation. 30's — 50's Strong contemporary Tenor.

"I finally convince Kevin to go for a walk. There's four of us to begin with. This Texan woman and this English guy with a disposable camera and huge stick up his ass. They're nice enough...Kevin and I are a little wary of telling people we're together. I mean you just don't know how redneck people can be.

Kevin breaks up with me. And then he quits and moves back home to New York. And I miss him. I miss his jokes. My new Secretary's name is Robin. Every year on September 11, I close my office and give each employee one hundred dollars to go and do random good deeds for strangers. It's my way of remembering what happened."

KEVIN J [Man 6] Ali / Chef / Townsperson / Father

Kevin's boyfriend and secretary. Sarcastic and unhappy, he wants to leave as soon as possible. 30's — 50's Tenor or Baritone.

"You never think about it but airplane doors are twenty feet in the air. And even if you survived the jump, they probably would have shot you. We'd been sitting there for 14 hours when we pull out the Grey Goose. Kevin and I were kind of hiding it because we didn't want to share it.

Anyway this woman, this hot mess behind us kept completely freaking out. I thought I was going to kill her. Excuse me! Would you like some Xanax? Because you are freaking out and it's freaking me out and we are all FREAKING THE FUCK OUT!!!!"ey little sister- yeah, still here where they eat rainbows for breakfast. Are you taking care of mom? No, I'm just freaking out. I wish I was home. No, not LA, Brooklyn. Shut up. You're such a brat. No. I just needed to hear your voice.

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BEVERLEY [Woman 1] Annette / Customs Off / Townsperson / Airline Passenger / Newfoundlander / Mother / Nurse

The first female captain for American Airlines Pilot, Beverley Bass has always loved flying, when her world suddenly changes. 50's Strong Mezzo.

"Good evening. I'm Captain Beverley Bass. Now I know this is going to be hard to hear, but the American airspace remains closed. I can't tell you how long we'll be in the ground, but we are going to be here for some time.

They take me and my crew in a separate van and I'm looking out the window, trying to see where we are, but it is pitch-dark. Now, I have flown over this area hundreds and hundreds of times. And it is just darkness- hardly any lights anywhere. And now here I am. Oh my god, this is just so remote.

I don't leave the hotel. I wait by the phone. Wait for someone to tell me we can fly again. Planes aren't made to just sit on the tarmac- planes are made to be in constant motion. They arrive, you switch crew, you switch passengers, you empty the honey buckets and the plane keeps going. When they sit still for too long, well, it's not good for 'em. They start to break down."

BONNIE HARRIS [Woman 2] Martha / Flight Att / SPCA Worker / Townsperson / Teacher / Mother

A no-nonsense mother of 3, Bonnie is the head of the Gander area SPCA. When she discovers animals are trapped on the planes she stops at nothing to ensure their safety — but in frustration, she often lashes out at those around her. 30's — 40's Mezzo.

"Hello? This is Bonnie Harris down at the Gander SPCA. I went down with the rest of the town to look at all those planes. Well, I got to wondering if there weren't any animals on them ...No?

There's no animals on those planes? Not a ONE?! Okay then. Thank you for your time. (hangs up phone and sees Doug is calling) Doug! (picks up) Doug, are there any animals on those planes? Probably? Are they 'probably' feeding them then? I'm heading over.

After security checks each plane- slow as cold molasses- we finally find eight dogs, nine cats- one of whom's epileptic- not to mention two rare Bonobo chimpanzees! And the female Bonobo is pregnant. We've got to get them off these planes! Hello? Is the Mayor there? It's Bonnie Harris again. Yes, I'll hold."

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DIANE GRAY [Woman 3] Crystal / Reporter / Airline Passenger / Townsperson / Teacher / Nurse

A traditional divorcee from Texas, who is terrified that her son may have been flying at the time of the attacks. When she finds out that he's safe, she's given a new lease on life and discovers a wilder, more carefree side of herself. 50's Warm, natural contemporary Soprano.

"We're told by our pilot to stay close to our shelters so we're ready to go again. I want to take one last look around and Nick decides to join me. We find a gorgeous lookout: the Dover Fault. It's beautiful.

Nick! You've gotta see this. I can't believe we're here. I can't believe we're leaving!

Look at this: Five hundred and forty million years ago, the continents of the world crashed together right here. And two hundred million years ago, they separated again, moving apart from each other. But a little part of them was left behind."

Nick lifts his camera, pointing it at her

"I should move. You're missing the scenery."

BEAULAH DAVIS [Woman 4] Delores / Church Vol / Townsperson / Teacher / Mother / Waitress

Head of the Gander Legion, with a firefighter son, who walks Hannah to her church and prays with her. 40's — 60's Mezzo.

"That morning, I'm in the classroom. It's our first day back and the school buses are on strike, so I'm covering for Annette, who's running late. She runs in and says 'Sorry Beulah! How's the kids?' And I tells her "not exactly thrilled to be inside on such a gorgeous day, so I told them we'd only have a half day this morning- and they were quite pleased- until I told them we'd have the other half in the afternoon.

Hello? This is Beulah Davis down at the Academy. I heard we might be getting some guests and I thought I'd see if I could help whoever in charge of getting the school organised- How many passengers can we take? Uh- well, we fit about 400 students- yes, we could probably do six hundred.

Or sure, seven hundred, if we really pack them in. When are they coming? Could be any time now? Well, I'm glad I phoned!"

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HANNAH [Woman 5] Margie / Townsperson / Passenger / Nurse / Mother

The mother of a firefighter in Manhattan, Hannah waits for news about her son and is comforted by Beulah. 40's — 60's African American Contemporary Soprano.

"My son sends me on this vacation- he says "Mom, you've never gone anywhere." And when I get back, I'm telling him- this is exactly why! The flight attendants keep telling us nothing's wrong- but I've got kids and grandkids- I know when someone's hiding something. And when parents need their kids to stop asking questions...They start playing movies.

They said it was Kev's day off but someone else said there were more men down there than was scheduled. I should be looking for him. He's always there for me- trying to make me laugh.

Tell me stupid jokes- he tells them to the kids at the firehouse, while he fixes their bikes. I should be there.

Beulah walks me to church- and when we get there, I light a candle for my son."

JANICE MOSHER [Woman 6] Britney / Flight Att / Store Clerk / Teacher / Reporter / Townsperson

Eager new local TV reporter, Janice is thrown into the deep end on her first day. Initially naive about the world, Janice must face the pain and confusion around her. 20 years old. Contemporary Soprano with strong pop belt.

"Is this on? Sorry. I'm new. This is Rogers TV Channel 9. My name is Janice Mosher and I'm reporting live from Gander Airport where the nineteenth plane has just touched down. Any available community buildings will be converted into shelters. With thousands of passengers arriving at any minute, the town is asking for help with- well anything you can do. The Baptist church needs a hand moving their pews...Dr O'Brien down at the pharmacy is ready to fill any prescriptions. On, and the Lion's Club is looking for some toilet paper, if you have any extra."