

THEATREWORKS SILICON VALLEY PRESENTS
INTERNATIONALLY-ACCLAIMED HIT MUSICAL

Come From Away

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Irene Sankoff and David Hein

Directed by Robert Kelley

April 15 – May 10, 2026 (*opening night: April 18*)

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA (26 February 2026) — **TheatreWorks Silicon Valley** will stage the Olivier Award-winning Broadway musical sensation *Come From Away*, helmed by TheatreWorks Founder/Artistic Director Emeritus **Robert Kelley**. Written by husband and wife duo **David Hein** and **Irene Sankoff**, *Come From Away* tells the remarkable true story of the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed 7,000 passengers from all over the world as flights were diverted during the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Featuring an infectious score, this heartwarming musical is a testament of the best aspects of human nature, as the citizens of tiny Gander, Newfoundland threw open their doors to stranded strangers and forged enduring friendships across cultural differences. *Come From Away* will perform **April 15 – May 10, 2026** (*press opening: April 18*) at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro Street. For tickets (\$34-\$115) and more information, the public may visit **TheatreWorks.org** or call **877-662-8978**.

“TheatreWorks is thrilled to be the first regional theatre in Northern California to present *Come From Away*,” said TheatreWorks Artistic Director **Giovanna Sardelli**. “This extraordinary, inspiring musical reminds us of the indefatigable power of community and offers us an uplifting celebration of the human spirit. Our production serves as a homecoming in many ways, not only for our founder Robert Kelley, but also for composers Irene Sankoff and David Hein who have developed works in our New Works Festival.”

This production represents a notable reunion between former TheatreWorks Managing Director **Randy Adams** and the company where he spent more than 20 years. Through his company

Junkyard Dog Productions, Adams shepherded *Come From Away* from its earliest readings to being the global producer for the Broadway, London, and Toronto productions and national and international tours. “I’m ecstatic to see this show that is so near and dear to my heart come to my former artistic home,” said Adams. “I know my longtime collaborator Robert Kelley will do an excellent job bringing this special musical to life for Bay Area regional theatre audiences.”

Come From Away performed more than 1,600 performances on Broadway, where it was nominated for seven Tony Awards, winning for the award for Best Direction of a Musical, as well as winning the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Musical. In London’s West End, it also enjoyed a long run, winning the Olivier Award for Best New Musical and Outstanding Achievement in Music. This vibrant musical has since been embraced by audiences around the world. *The Globe and Mail* called it a “Gem of a musical. A celebration of humanity.” *The New York Times* called it a “Big bearhug of a musical. Even the most stalwart cynics may have trouble staying dry-eyed during this portrait of heroic hospitality under extraordinary pressure.” *TimeOut* called it “a swelling heart of a musical,” while *The Guardian* called it “Hugely entertaining. An ode to kindness and the power of community.”

TheatreWorks is committed to creating an environment that is accessible for all audiences in its community. In collaboration with Gravity Access Services, TheatreWorks will offer audio descriptions to assist patrons who are visually impaired at the performance **2pm Sunday, April 26** (to utilize audio description, patrons should pre-register at **877-662-8978** after purchasing tickets). American Sign Language interpretation will be available for the performance **7:30pm Thursday, April 30** and open captioning (a screen displaying all dialogue and a description of sound effects) will be offered for the performance **2pm Sunday, May 3**. Assistive listening devices are offered at every performance with no advance registration required.

TheatreWorks will host a Backstage Banter pre-show conversation with TheatreWorks founder/Artistic Director Emeritus **Robert Kelley** from **6:15-6:45pm Thursday, April 16** and will hold post-show discussions with the cast following the **Wednesday, April 22; Wednesday, April 29;**

and **Wednesday, May 6** performances. TheatreWorks will require face masks to be worn for **2pm Sunday, May 3** performance.

Director Kelley has assembled a talented cast to bring this thrilling musical to the stage. **Melissa WolfKlain** returns to TheatreWorks as pilot Beverley Bass and other roles. She also performed in TheatreWorks' *Being Alive: A Sondheim Celebration*, *Ragtime*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Tinyard Hill*, as well as TheatreWorks New Works Festival workshops of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Caraboo*, and *Asphalt Beach*. She won a Theatre Bay Area (TBA) Award for *Dames at Sea* at 42nd Street Moon as well as San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (SFBATCC Awards) for her appearances in Broadway By the Bay's *Singin' in the Rain* and *Crazy for You*. Seen in the national tours of *White Christmas* and *42nd Street*, WolfKlain has also performed at regional theatres including San Francisco Playhouse, Hillbarn Theatre, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, and Arizona Repertory Theatre. Her film and TV credits include FOX TV's "America's Most Wanted" and Lifetime's "The Truth about Jane."

Seen in TheatreWorks' *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*, **Heather Orth** returns as Beulah, the head of the Gander Legion, and other roles. Orth has also appeared onstage at San Francisco Playhouse, Hillbarn Theatre, Broadway By The Bay, Berkeley Playhouse, 42nd Street Moon, Ray of Light Theatre, and Custom Made Theatre Company.

Alison Ewing returns to TheatreWorks as divorcee Diane and other roles. Ewing appeared in TheatreWorks' *It Ain't Nothin' But the Blues*, *Harold & Maude: An Intimate Musical*, *Jane Austen's EMMA*, and *Into the Woods*. Ewing has been seen on Broadway in *Mamma Mia!* and Roundabout Theatre Company's *Cabaret*. She has performed in the national tours of *Anastasia*, *An American In Paris*, *Cabaret*, *Flashdance*, and *Mamma Mia!*. In the Bay Area, she's appeared onstage with San Francisco Playhouse, San Jose Stage Company, Marin Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Center Repertory Company, Playhouse West, and Theatre On San Pedro Square. Her TV and film credits include "Ally McBeal" and "Six Feet Under."

Bay Area theatre veteran **Michael Gene Sullivan** returns to TheatreWorks as an English oil engineer Nick and other roles. Sullivan has also been seen at TheatreWorks many times over the last 20 years, including in *Ragtime*, *Simple Gifts*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Cyrano*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *33 Variations*, *Violet*, and *Once on This Island*. A 2022 Guggenheim Fellow, Sullivan is also a resident playwright for the San Francisco Mime Troupe and has performed with the Denver Center Theatre Company, American Conservatory Theater, Marin Theatre, Aurora Theatre Company, Magic Theatre, among others.

Performing in TheatreWorks' *Georgiana and Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley* and *Pride and Prejudice*, **Monique Hafen Adams** returns as no-nonsense mother Bonnie and other roles. She also appeared in TheatreWorks New Works Festival readings of *Revival* and *Past, Present, Future*. Hafen Adams won SFBATCC Awards for her performances in San Francisco Playhouse's *Company*, *She Loves Me*, and *My Fair Lady* as well as Center Repertory Company's *The Liars*. She has also performed with American Conservatory Theater, San Jose Stage, The Pear Theatre, and San Jose Repertory Theatre.

Dawn L. Troupe returns as Hannah, the mother of a Manhattan firefighter, and other roles. Her TheatreWorks performances include *Steel Magnolias*; *Memphis*; *Book of Days*; *Once on this Island*; *Big River*; and *Caroline, or Change*, as well as New Works Festival readings of *Once Upon a Rhyme*, *Memphis*, *The Water*, and *The Giver*. Seen in Roundabout Theatre Company's *1776* on Broadway, Troupe has also performed at American Repertory Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Joe's Pub at The Public Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Ground Floor, California Shakespeare Theater, Marin Theatre, Aurora Theatre Company, Oakland Theatre Project, Shotgun Players, San Jose Stage Company, Hillbarn Theatre, and Broadway By the Bay.

Colin Thomson returns to TheatreWorks as Gander's mayor Claude and other roles. He appeared in TheatreWorks' *Ragtime*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *All My Sons*, and the New Works Festival reading of *Something Wicked This Way Comes*. Thomson has also performed at American Conservatory Theater, Portland Center Stage, San Jose Stage Company, 42nd Street Moon, Hillbarn Theatre, and in Berkeley Repertory

Theatre's Ground Floor. He can be seen in Lionsgate and NBC Universal's "Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist," Paramount and Netflix's "13 Reasons Why," Sony Pictures' *Blue Jasmine*, and NBC Universal's *Trauma*.

Christopher Reber returns to TheatreWorks as Oz, Gander's quirky constable, and other roles. Reber's TheatreWorks performances include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Rags*, *Cyrano*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and the New Works Festival reading of *Something Wicked This Way Comes*. Reber's film and TV credits in Paramount's *The Tiger Woods Story* and TNN's "18 Wheels of Justice." He has been seen onstage at San Francisco Playhouse, 42nd Street Moon, Jewel Theatre Company, Hillbarn Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Cabrillo Stage, and Hangar Theatre.

Nick Nakashima returns to TheatreWorks as Kevin T., the head of an environmental energy company, and other roles. He was featured in *Being Alive: A Sondheim Celebration*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sense and Sensibility*, both TheatreWorks productions of *Jane Austen's EMMA* (2007 & 2015), *The Learned Ladies of Park Avenue*, and *A Little Night Music*, as well as TheatreWorks New Works Festival workshops of *Alice, Formerly of Wonderland; Jane Austen's EMMA; Burnt Part Boys*; and *Unlock'd*. Nakashima has appeared in productions at 42nd Street Moon, Foothill Music Theatre, San Jose Musical Theatre, Jewel Theatre Company, and American Musical Theatre of San Jose.

Adam Qutaishat makes his TheatreWorks debut as Kevin J., Kevin T.'s boyfriend, and other roles. Qutaishat has acted with TheatreSquared, Writers Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Skylight Music Theatre, Next Act Theatre, and Renaissance Theaterworks.

Seen in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, **Anthone D. Jackson** returns to TheatreWorks as hardened New Yorker Bob and other roles. Jackson has acted with California Shakespeare Theater, Coastal Repertory Theatre, Hillbarn Theatre, Broadway By The Bay, Ray

of Light Theatre, Tabard Theatre, African-American Shakespeare Company, Boxcar Theatre, Oakland Theater Project (Ubuntu), SFBATCO, and South Bay Musical Theatre.

Kaylee Ann makes her TheatreWorks main stage debut as TV reporter Janice and other roles. She was seen in TheatreWorks' 2025 New Works Festival reading of *Alice, Formerly of Wonderland* and understudied roles in *Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean: A New Musical*. She has performed with Hillbarn Theatre, Coastal Repertory Theatre, Ray of Light Theatre, Foothill Music Theatre, and Presidio Theatre.

Come From Away features music direction by **William Liberatore**, choreography by **Alex Perez**, scenic design by **Wilson Chin**, costume design by **B. Modern**, lighting design by **Pamila Z. Gray**, and sound design by **Cliff Caruthers**. **Randall K. Lum** is stage manager with **Megan Hall** as assistant stage manager.

Irene Sankoff and David Hein (Book, Music, and Lyrics) are the Olivier-award winning, Tony and Grammy nominated, Canadian writing team behind the worldwide award-winning hit musical *Come From Away*, currently playing to over 100 countries on Apple TV+, and around the world onstage. Their first show, *My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding*, based on Hein's mother's true story, has won Best Musical awards across North America, with Sankoff and Hein performing in many productions. It received a reading in TheatreWorks' 2017 New Works Festival. Together, they have written for Disney, Netflix, Warner Bros., HBO, and the CW as well as Marvel Comics and the Canadian government. They are the recipients of the Four Freedoms Good Neighbor Award and the Meritorious Service Cross of Canada which recognizes Canadians' exceptional accomplishments. *Vienna*, their new musical currently in development, was featured in TheatreWorks' 2025 New Works Festival.

Robert Kelley (Director) is TheatreWorks' Founder. In 2020, Kelley retired from his post as Founding Artistic Director, where he had served as artistic head of the company since its inception in 1970. During his 50 seasons at the helm of the Tony recipient regional theatre, he directed more than 175 TheatreWorks productions, including many World and Regional

premieres. In 2024 he co-created and helmed TheatreWorks' World Premiere tribute to Stephen Sondheim, *Being Alive: A Sondheim Celebration*. In 2003 Kelley was honored with the SFBATCC Paine Knickerbocker Award for Lifetime Achievement, in 2016 was awarded the Jerry Friedman Lifetime Achievement Award from the SFBATCC, and in 2019 he received a TBA Legacy Award. Kelley received a TBA Award for his direction of *Daddy Long Legs* and SFBATCC Awards for Outstanding Direction for his productions of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Jane Eyre*, *Into the Woods*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Rags*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Another Midsummer Night*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, and *Caroline, or Change*.

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, led by Artistic Director **Giovanna Sardelli** and Executive Director **Phil Santora**, presents a wide variety of contemporary plays and musicals and revitalizes great works of the past. Founded in 1970 by **Robert Kelley**, TheatreWorks has grown from a truly original Silicon Valley start-up to become one of the nation's leading professional non-profit theatre companies. TheatreWorks was recently honored as the recipient of the 2019 Regional Theatre Tony Award. TheatreWorks also champions new work, offering artists support and a creative home as they develop new stories for the American theatre. Offstage, TheatreWorks' arts education programs in local schools and arts engagement programs in Silicon Valley neighborhoods uplift its audiences and strengthen community bonds. Onstage and off, TheatreWorks welcomes the mosaic of people that embody the Bay Area and beyond, celebrating the transformative power of theatre to ignite imagination, inspire conversation, and enliven souls.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: **TheatreWorks Silicon Valley** will stage the Olivier Award-winning Broadway musical sensation *Come From Away*, helmed by TheatreWorks Founder/Artistic Director Emeritus **Robert Kelley**. Written by husband and wife duo **David Hein** and **Irene Sankoff**, *Come From Away* tells the remarkable true story of the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed 7,000 passengers from all over the world as flights were diverted during the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Featuring an infectious score, this heartwarming musical is a testament of the best aspects of human nature, as the citizens of tiny Gander, Newfoundland threw open their doors to stranded strangers and forged enduring friendships across cultural differences.

- WHEN:** Previews: Wednesday, April 15 – Friday, April 17, 2026
Opening: 8pm Saturday, April 18, 2026
Closes: Sunday, May 10, 2026
- SHOWS:** Tuesdays: 7:30pm
Wednesdays: 2:00pm, 7:30pm
Thursdays: 7:30pm
Fridays: 8:00pm
Saturdays: 2:00pm, 8:00pm
Sundays: 2:00pm, 7:00pm
- ACCESS:** **Audio Description:** 2pm Sunday, April 26, 2026
Please register in advance, as service includes a pre-show talk 30 minutes before the performance.
ASL Interpretation: 7:30pm Thursday, April 30, 2026
Open Captioning: 2pm Sunday, May 3, 2026
Masks Required: 2pm Sunday, May 3, 2026
Assistive Listening Devices available at every performance
- EVENTS:** **Backstage Banter pre-show conversation with director Robert Kelley:**
6:15pm Thursday, April 16, 2026
Post-show discussions with cast: Wednesday, April 22, 2026; Wednesday, April 29, 2026; Wednesday, May 6, 2026
- WHERE:** **Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts**, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA
- TICKETS:** Single tickets (\$34-\$115) are available. Pricing inclusive of fees and subject to change.
- INFO:** For information visit theatreworks.org or call **877-662-8978**
- PRESS:** Contact Lauren Goldfarb, Carla Befera & Co., lauren@cb-pr.com
- PHOTOS:** Downloadable high-res photos are available: <https://cbpr.co/press/comefromaway>

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