



MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMMUNITY SERIES



COME FROM AWAY

Book, Music, and Lyrics by
IRENE SANKOFF and DAVID HEIN

Original Broadway Production Produced by
Junkyard Dog Productions

Orchestrations by August Eriksmoen
Arrangements by Ian Eisendrath

Come From Away was originally co-produced in 2015 by La Jolla Playhouse and Seattle Repertory Theater and presented in 2016 by Ford's Theatre. *Come From Away* (NAMT Festival 2013) was originally developed at the Canadian Music Theatre Project, Michael Rubinoff Producer, Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario Canada, and was further developed at Goodspeed Musicals' Festival of New Artists, in East Haddam, Connecticut. The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, and The Fifth Avenue Theatre, Seattle, Washington, also provided development support.

COME FROM AWAY is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

PG-13

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



MCT, Inc. acknowledges that the Missoula Children's Theatre is located on indigenous territory. As we gather together and celebrate theatre, we also want to honor the original stewards of this land and their descendants; many of whom continue to live, work, teach, volunteer, and learn in this community. We are committed to showing gratitude for the land and its indigenous people by respecting and remembering this in our thoughts and actions.

Salish Encampment on land that is now Missoula, Montana.

Photo Source: Indian Peoples of the Northern Great Plains Digital Collection

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MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

MCT is a non-smoking establishment.

Please turn off or silence all electronic devices. No photography or videotaping during performances.
Please take a moment to locate the nearest emergency exit. In an emergency, do not use the elevator.

MCT accommodates accessibility upon request. Some accommodations require advance notice.
Call the Box Office for more information. (406) 728-7529



Restroom available,
please see an usher.

COME FROM AWAY

PRODUCTION

Director.....Sarah Walker Thornton
Music Director/Conductor.....Ellen McKenzie
Choreographer.....Christine Kowalchik
Assistant Director.....Olie Kreimer
Stage Manager.....Annika Charlson
Set Designer.....Theresa K Jenson
Lighting Designer.....Blain Radford
Costume Designer.....Kylie Wallace
Sound Designer.....Gregory Boris
Lead Properties Designer.....Lesley Washburn
Dialect Coach.....Kamlin Cox
Technical Director.....Christina Burton
Master Electrician.....Blain Radford
Wardrobe.....Aurora Watkins
Production Manager.....Theresa K Jenson
Artistic Director.....Joseph Martinez
Light Board Operator.....Ryan Young
Sound Board Operator.....Thomas Crouse
Spot Light Operators.....Chuck Bloom, Lucas Ellaboudy, Eric Prim
Deck Manager.....Alexis Elensky
Deck Hands.....McKay Cheney, Barb Fortunate,
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Jerry Frankel • Latitude Link • Smith & Brant Theatricals
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Joshua Goodman/Lauren Stevens
Just for Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams Productions
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La Jolla Playhouse and Seattle Repertory Theatre

COME FROM AWAY

CAST

Diane & others.....Darci Monsos
Hannah & others.....Kateena Bell
Janice & others.....Olivia Tyrrell*
Beulah & others.....Melanie Charlson
Bonnie & others.....KJ Olds
Beverley/Annette & others.....Rachel Shull
Oz & others.....Steven Thomas
Kevin T./Garth & others.....James Lanman
Kevin J./Ali & others.....Christopher Enrique Mendez
Bob & others.....Daniel Goldhamer
Claude & others.....Tim Ballard
Nick/Doug & others.....James Cox

Flying Standby.....Petrea “Petey” Torma
Flying Standby.....Stu Kaplan

**indicates Missoula Children’s Theatre Community Series debut!*

ORCHESTRA

Keys.....Linda Stratton
Rehearsal Keys Sub.....Anne Bashor
Guitar.....Nick Barr
Mandolin & Celtic Strings.....Lucas J. Mesenko
Bass.....Wally Congdon, Ryan Davis
Violin.....Aidan Duffield
Celtic Whistles.....Julia Vasquez-Tate
Bodhran & Celtic Percussion.....Jacob Logan
Percussion.....Troy Bashor

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Darkness and Trees (reprise).....Company
Lead Us Out of the Darkness.....Company
Phoning Home.....Company
Costume Party....Diane, Kevin T, Beverley, Hannah, Company
I Am Here.....Hannah
Prayer.....Kevin T, Hannah, Company
On the Edge.....Company
Screech In.....Claude, Company
Me and the Sky.....Beverley
Stop the World.....Nick, Diane
38 Planes (reprise) / Somewhere.....Company
Something's Missing.....Company
Finale.....Claude, Company

My Heart Will Go On Words and Music by Will Jennings and James Horner.
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Matt Archibald in honor of Mary Archibald
Mike & Patricia Duke in honor of Madyn Harris

Naomi Lichtenberg in honor of Alex Fradkin
Natalie Seitz in honor of Wylder Seitz
Patsy & John Davis in honor of Jack & Andy Brodie
Paul Knapp in honor of Lina & Annalise
Phyllis Whitsell in honor of Lou Whitsell
Samuel & Marilyn Lemaich in honor Noah Lemaich
Susan Anderson in honor of Jenny Mueller
Tim Stoops in honor of Barbara Stoops
Traci Sullivan in honor of Cate Hjelt

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

While the devastating events on September 11th revealed some of the cruelest and darkest parts of our world, there was also an overwhelming light shone from the brightest parts of humanity. Through the helpers, the rescue workers, the people who banded together to care for those in need, we saw the strength of the human spirit triumph over evil. The people of Gander opened their hearts and their homes to around 7,000 strangers and showed them compassion and incredible generosity in what was arguably one of the most frightening of times. While a powerful, true account of the days following those tragic events, *Come From Away* is a heartwarming, joyful story about the importance of community and the goodness in people.

Sarah Walker Thornton
Director, *Come From Away*



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BIOS

IRENE SANKOFF & DAVID HEIN - WRITERS

Irene Sankoff & David Hein 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.

Their first show, *My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding*, based on David's mother's true story, has won Best Musical awards across North America, with Sankoff and Hein performing in many productions.

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.

DARCI MONSOS - DIANE & OTHERS

Darci is thrilled to take flight in this show playing the role of Diane on what should be a smooth flight to Gander, so please direct your attention to the actors on the stage. Though already an accomplished actress, Darci is unpacking a few new accents to cover all the characters that come from away. For now, keep your tables stowed, your seat in an upright position, and enjoy the performance.

KATEENA BELL - HANNAH & OTHERS

Kateena is a singer who acts. Or maybe an actor who sings? She's still deciding. Whether she's belting a ballad or strumming a guitar, one thing is for sure...she has rehearsal that night.

OLIVIA TYRRELL - JANICE & OTHERS

Olivia is thrilled to make her MCT debut as a part of this incredible production! She is a senior at the University of Montana, pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance and a BA in Communicative Sciences and Disorders. Favorite roles include Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Margaret Leavitt in *Silent Sky*. She thanks her family and friends for their endless support and encouragement!

MELANIE CHARLSON - BEULAH, DELORES & OTHERS

Melanie first stepped onto the MCT stage in 1986 and is thrilled to perform in *Come From Away*. On 9/11, Melanie was teaching in a Missoula classroom. After a 28-year teaching career with MCPS, she currently represents education unions from Darby to Kalispell. She would like to dedicate her performances to her late dad, Jerry. Thanks dad, for driving me to dance lessons so many years ago.



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BIOS

KJ OLDS - BONNIE & OTHERS

KJ is honored to return to MCT after debuting as Miss Hannigan in *Annie* last season, though beginning MCT at age 5 and years of MCT PAC starting at 11! KJ is a proud UM alumna, BFA Acting – Go GRIZ – holds her MFA in Acting from UC Irvine, has played stages across America, and spent years performing with Disney Entertainment. This one's for you, Bonnie!

RACHEL L. SHULL - BEVERLY, ANNETTE & OTHERS

Rachel is honored to get to tell this story alongside this stellar group. You may have seen her on this stage before as a man-eating plant or the ironically innocent butler. Rachel would like to thank her beautiful Rose for her patience and support through this process. Rose is a dog.

STEVEN THOMAS - OZ & OTHERS

Steven is honored to help tell this wonderful story. You may have spotted Steven on the MCT stage in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, or you may have seen him as the dead-ish body in MCT's *The Play That Goes Wrong*. He would like to remind you to fasten your seat belts, and to check for your nearest exit (it may be behind you).

JAMES LANMAN - KEVIN TUERFF, GARTH, & OTHERS

If you saw *Mamma Mia!* then it's no secret that if there's one thing James Lanman does well, it's playing "guy in complicated relationship on island." With *Come From Away*, he hopes to bring that niche acting expertise to the role of Kevin Tuerff, Garth, and others in this beautiful story of kindness, resilience and yes, complicated island relationships.

ENRIQUE MENDEZ - KEVIN J, ALI & OTHERS

Enrique is a University of Montana alum, working in customer service for a large solar company. He is very excited to be part of this incredibly impactful, beautiful show. He only hopes that he will be able to give his roles the justice and respect they deserve and that the show will impact others the way it did him.

DANIEL GOLDHAMER - BOB & OTHERS

Daniel has enjoyed every MCT show he's produced on and off stage but *Come From Away* is special. It's about community and belonging "wherever you are," and has given him meaningful opportunities to connect with his dad (also named Bob) and his NYC-based family. Offstage, Daniel loves spending time with his wife Aubrie (another MCT regular), playing D&D, and crafting obscure trivia for his UM Mansfield library coworkers.

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BIOS

TIM BALLARD - CLAUDE & OTHERS

Tim is an actor, historian, and school bus router. To celebrate ten years of performing in Missoula, here's a smattering of Tim's memorable roles: Beginning with George Banks in *Mary Poppins*, Tim has portrayed 4 dads, 2 mayors, countless policemen, several wizards, one ghost, a mysterious man, an FBI agent who is also a driving instructor, an invigilator, and three horses.

JAMES COX - NICK, DOUG & OTHERS

James has been involved in Children's and Community theaters for many years (tech, acting, administration). These communities are much like what we see in this story, welcoming those who come from away or feel on the outside. He is grateful to work with these talented creatives to bring that feeling of community to you in this story. Welcome to The Rock!

PETREA "PETEY" TORMA - STANDBY PASSENGER

Petey is honored to fly standby in *Come From Away* with this extraordinarily talented cast. She will be forever grateful for the opportunity she has had to learn from, laugh with, and create alongside these incredible artists. Petey considers this journey a true privilege—and is thrilled to be along for the flight!

STU KAPLAN - STANDBY PASSENGER

A Bonafide plane nerd, Stu is so happy to have had the opportunity of watching so many generations of MCT folks work together to tell this beautiful story of inclusion and community. A true fan of all-things aviation, he will be marking his 50th crossing of the Atlantic on KLM next month (sorry Beverly). By day he is the proud Executive Director of Camp Mak-A-Dream.

SARAH WALKER THORNTON - DIRECTOR

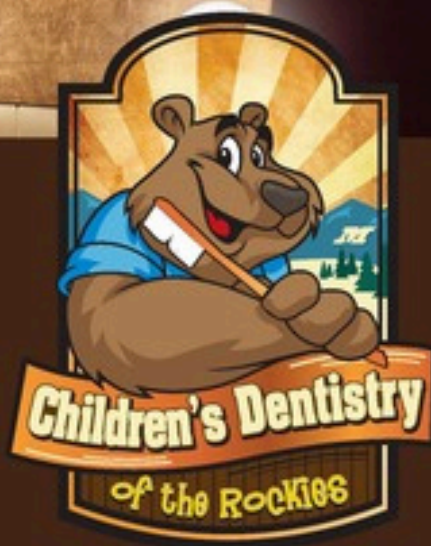
Sarah has a BFA in Theatre from Wright State University and an MFA from the Professional Actor Training Program at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. She joined the Actors' Equity Association in 2008. Sarah was a founding member of the NYC-based BAMA Theater Company, an Equity Shakespeare ensemble, while continuing her career as a professional actor-director-teacher-writer. She left NYC to be the Artistic Director of the Cloverdale Playhouse in Montgomery, Alabama for 6 seasons before moving to Missoula and working at MCT. Previous MCT credits: *Dragons Love Tacos*, *The Play that Goes Wrong*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Macbeth*. Many thanks to the whole CFA team for going on this adventure, and special thanks to Nathan and Ollie for being her soft place to land!



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BIOS

ELLEN MCKENZIE - MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ellen is the lucky director of choirs at Hellgate High School. In addition to spending her days with awesome teenagers, she has music-directed dozens of shows, most recently including *Hadestown* and *Mean Girls*. She's also acted on the MCT stage in *Waitress*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, and *West Side Story*. When not making music, Ellen enjoys reading voraciously, snuggling corgis, and spending time with her family.

CHRISTINE KOWALCHIK - CHOREOGRAPHER

Creating with MCT since 2013, it's projects like these that get her inspired. To be trusted to tell these stories right, she believes has been a true honor. Christine's most recent work at MCT was directing *Waitress* (2025) and choreographing *Rent* (2024). Owner of Show Tyme Academy is her full-time job, but her favorite is being the wife to her husband Alex, and mom to their incredible son, Zander.

OLIE KREIMER - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Olie is delighted to be back in a theater after many years spent doing other things, among them home repairs, roller derby, news reporting, learning and forgetting the same five chords on the guitar and trying to correct bad drivers from her bike. As a lifelong "come from away" everywhere she's lived, she is gratefully surprised to celebrate ten years in Missoula this fall.

ANNIKA CHARLSON - STAGE MANAGER

For this production, Annika is stepping out of her dancing shoes and into her organizational ones! Though typically a choreographer, Annika is pleased to be stage managing for MCT, a company she's been able to grow up in. She is overjoyed to be working on this show with both her mom, Melanie (Beulah), and partner, Nick (guitar player)!

KAMLIN COX - DIALECT COACH

Kamlin has a BFA focused in Acting from UM and is an MCT Tour alum. He recently appeared in MCT's *Annie* and *The Lightning Thief* productions and is delighted to be putting his obsession with accents and dialects to productive use for the cast of *Come From Away*. "Newfie" is a wholly unique blend of Irish musicality and Canadian cadence, and he would like to commend the entire cast for their hard work and dedication to not only that one challenging accent, but the many others within the play as well.



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