

## Ok, Boomer.

*The Trip to Bountiful* is set in the 1950s. Between 1946 and 1964, the **Baby Boom** generation was born. They were the largest ever generation until **Gen Z**, born between 1997 and 2012. Gen Z is about 25% larger than the Baby Boom generation.

But how does Gen Z stack up against Boomers?

### Baby Boom

- Born after WWII, much of their lives have been impacted by war. The United States fought in the Korean War from 1950-53, the Viet Nam War from 1964-1975, the Persian Gulf War from 1990-91, and the war in Afghanistan from 2001-21.
- Boomers were raised with strict binary gender roles.
- Boomers are the generation born during the “jet” age and the space race. But in the 1950s Americans are still paying by cash or check.

### Gen Z

- Until recently, Gen-Zers have lived with the U.S. fighting a war in Afghanistan for a large part of their lives.
- Gen-Zers have continued to redefine and expand gender roles to create a more inclusive environment for their generation.
- Gen Zers are digital natives. They’ve never known a world without an iPhone. Apps like Venmo or Zelle are now a common way to pay for things.  
Oh, and what’s a check?

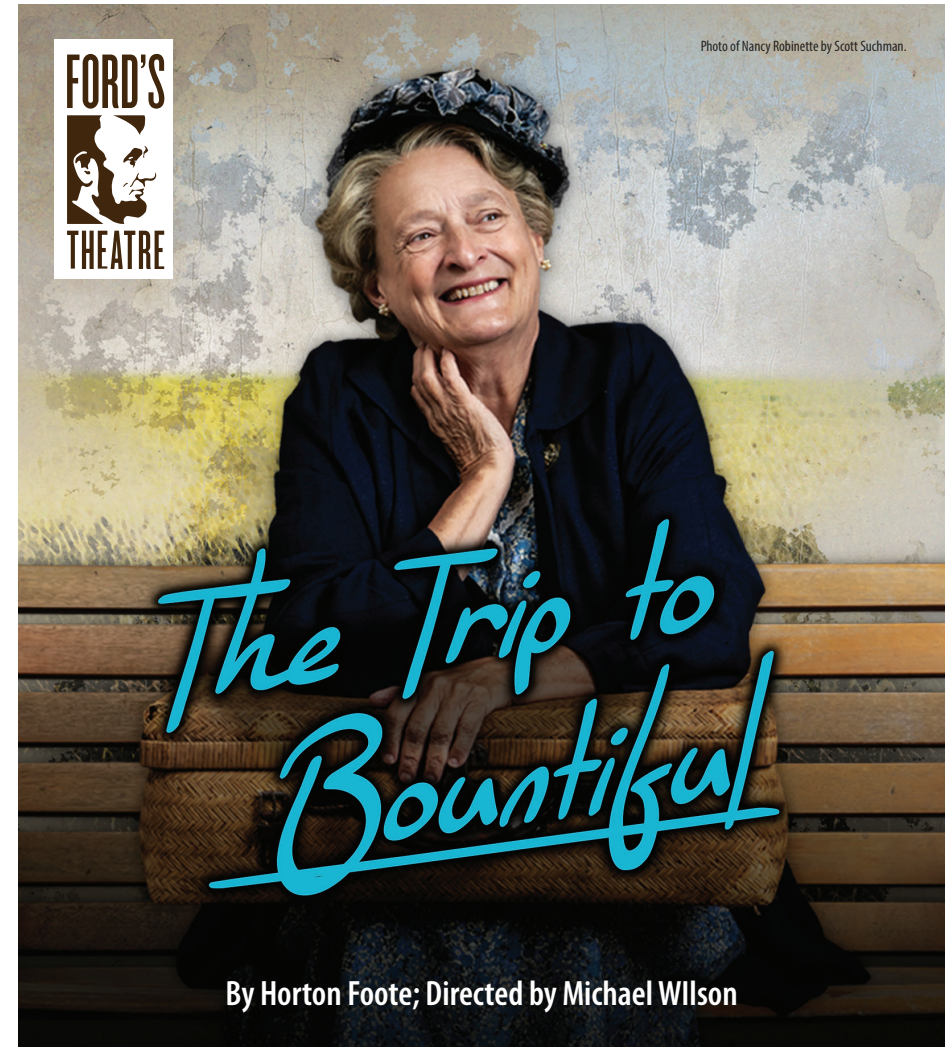
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**Tweet us @FordsEDU: How do you empathize with Mrs. Watts?  
Let us know #FordsBountiful**

Ford’s Theatre Student Matinee

# PROGRAM



#### Piscataway and Nacotchtank Land Acknowledgement:

Ford’s Theatre sits on the homelands of the Piscataway and Nacotchtank peoples, who have long lived, farmed, and worked on this land. Ford’s Theatre Society honors the continued traditions of both peoples, many of whom continue to live in their homeland.

## Who is Horton Foote?



Born on March 14, 1916, in Wharton, TX, Horton Foote dreamed of becoming an actor. Better with a pen than performing, he shifted his focus to writing and became a creative powerhouse during his lifetime. He wrote plays, screenplays, and television screenplays.

*The Trip to Bountiful* premiered on TV before it was produced on Broadway. While it is Foote's best-known play, he is also known for his nine-play cycle *The Orphan's Home Cycle*, inspired by his family history. Foote centered

his writing on family dramas, often set in Texas. His many awards include an Oscar for his screenplay of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the Pulitzer Prize for drama for his play *The Young Man from Atlanta*, and an Emmy in 1997 for his television adaptation of William Faulkner's short story *The Old Man*. Foote died of natural causes on March 4, 2009.

To learn more about Horton Foote, check out his biography on IMDB, or the Texas State Historical Association, [www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/foote-horton-jr](http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/foote-horton-jr)

### Coffee Chat: Turn and discuss with your neighbor.



***"I write to investigate, to try to figure out what happened and why it happened, knowing I'll never really know."***  
- Horton Foote

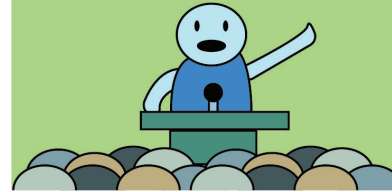
How do you make sense of what happens in your life?

## I got you. You good?

Mrs. Watts desperately wants to return to her childhood home before she dies. She remembers Bountiful as a happy, loving time in her life, free of stress or worry. Her family doesn't listen to her. They don't understand why she wants to return to Bountiful, and try to prevent her from going back there.

### In order to persuade people to understand my perspective, I...

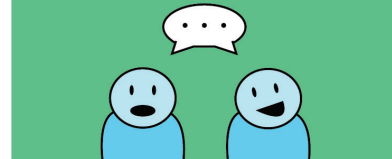
Keep talking until they do. I'm very persuasive.



Give up. They will never understand me.



Try to understand their perspective so that we can find a compromise.



It depends on the person and situation. Know your audience!



## The 91st Psalm

Mrs. Watts is religious and takes consolation in singing hymns throughout the day. She tells Thelma to say the 91st Psalm when worried about her soldier husband.

**"He will cover you with his feathers.  
He will shelter you with his wings.  
His faithful promises are your armor and protection."**

From the Book of Psalms in the Old Testament of the Bible called the Soldier's Psalm.  
Excerpt from Modern English version.

What do you think of when you need some comfort?  
Turn and talk to a friend. Share a fave song lyric, poem, quote, etc.