



Media Contacts:

Leah Yoon Frelinghuysen

Director of Communications and Marketing

press@fords.org

Carly Cloud

Associate Director of Marketing and Communications

press@fords.org

Ford's Theatre

511 Tenth Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20004

www.fords.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2026

FORD'S THEATRE SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2026-2027 SEASON

Come From Away

September 10–October 18, 2026

Book, Music and Lyrics by Irene Sankoff and David Hein

Music Directed by Clay Ostwald

Choreographed by Katy Tabb

Directed by Kevin McAllister

A Christmas Carol

November 19–December 31, 2026

By Charles Dickens

Adapted by Michael Wilson

Directed by Michael Baron

Featuring Craig Wallace as Ebenezer Scrooge

A First Look—A Festival of New Plays

January 2027

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

March 12–May 15, 2027

Music and Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by Rebecca Feldman
Additional Material by Jay Reiss
Music Directed by Christopher Youstra
Choreographed by Ashleigh King
Directed by Alan Paul

***One Destiny*—Daytime One-Act**
By Richard Helleesen
Runs March–June 2027

History on Foot
Investigation: Detective McDevitt
Walking Tours Continue from March–October 2027

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Ford’s Theatre Director **Paul R. Tetreault** today announced the Ford’s Theatre 2026–2027 season, featuring the Ford’s Theatre return of the Tony Award-winning ***Come From Away***, directed by **Kevin McAllister**; the beloved holiday classic ***A Christmas Carol***, with **Craig Wallace** reprising the role of Ebenezer Scrooge; and the Broadway hit, ***The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee***, directed by **Alan Paul**.

The season opens with the Tony Award–winning musical ***Come From Away*** (September 10–October 18, 2026), arriving back at Ford’s Theatre a decade after its debut and coinciding with the 25th commemoration of September 11. The acclaimed musical tells the true story of 7,000 stranded airline passengers and the small Newfoundland town that welcomed them in the days following the attacks.

The holidays bring the cherished Ford’s tradition of ***A Christmas Carol*** (November 19–December 31, 2026), adapted by Michael Wilson, with D.C. favorite **Craig Wallace** returning as Ebenezer Scrooge.

January 2027 will feature the return of ***A First Look – A Festival of New Plays***, the company’s free, ticketed showcase of new works in development.

The spring continues with Broadway favorite ***The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*** (March 12–May 15, 2027), alongside the Society’s popular educational offerings, including the actor-led ***History on Foot*** walking tours of downtown Washington, D.C., and daytime one-act performances of ***One Destiny***.

“The 2026–2027 season reflects Ford’s Theatre’s enduring mission to illuminate the American experience—through stories of compassion, courage and community,” said Ford’s Theatre Director **Paul R. Tetreault**. “We are especially proud to welcome back ***Come From Away*** ten years after its debut here. The musical returns to the Ford’s Theatre stage,

where Washington audiences first embraced its powerful story of kindness in the face of tragedy, following a celebrated world premiere at the La Jolla Playhouse. As we mark the 25th commemoration of 9/11, we honor the extraordinary generosity it depicts. From Craig Wallace’s return as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* to the continuation of *History on Foot*, *One Destiny* and *A First Look*, this season celebrates the artists, audiences and stories that make Ford’s such a vital part of Washington’s cultural life.”

The Ford’s Theatre 2026–2027 season is generously sponsored by **Chevron, Intuit** and **Lockheed Martin Corporation**.

Free Preview and Discounts

Ford’s Theatre continues its commitment to offer free and discounted performance tickets to the company’s mainstage productions during the 2026-2027 season. Tickets for the first preview performances of *Come From Away* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* will be offered free of charge via a TodayTix ticket lottery, and free tickets will also be made available for a preview performance of *A Christmas Carol*. The Free Preview initiative seeks to remove price barriers and build audiences in a more inclusive way, by inviting those who live and work in the Washington community who might not otherwise consider participation in the arts. Since the program launched in 2016, more than 11,000 tickets have been provided to Washington, D.C. audiences.

Discounts are available for groups, senior citizens and military personnel. Learn more about discounts and Free Previews here. To purchase tickets for a group, contact Group Sales at groups@fords.org.

Student Matinees and Teacher Preview Workshops

Ford’s Theatre is committed to serving local D.C.-metro area students and teachers and offers weekday student matinees and accompanying lessons plans. A limited number of free tickets to select weekday matinee performances are available to D.C.-metro area public and public charter schools, Title I schools and schools that have 40 percent or more students eligible for Free and Reduced Meals. Schools located within the Capital Beltway may also qualify for free bus transportation. Ford’s Theatre offers a free workshop and free tickets to a preview performance of each of the company’s mainstage productions to Washington-area teachers before they bring their students. Since the program launched in 2009, more than 30,000 tickets have been provided to local students. [Learn more on our student matinees webpage](#).

Accessibility

At Ford's Theatre, we are committed to ensuring visitors of all abilities can experience the performances, exhibits, history and programs our site has to offer. We offer sensory-friendly, audio-described, ASL interpreted and GalaPro closed captioned performances. Accessible seating and chair rental, assisted listening devices, large print programs and Braille programs are available upon request.

Since 2018, Ford's Theatre has offered relaxed sensory-friendly performances that are designed for those with sensory sensitivities who might benefit from an adjusted theatrical environment, including individuals with autism or other social, learning or cognitive disabilities. Sensory-Friendly performances are scheduled for *Come From Away* on Saturday, October 17, 2026; *A Christmas Carol* on Sunday, November 22, 2026; and for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* on Saturday, April 24, 2027.

[Find all performance dates and learn more about our accessibility offerings here.](#)

The Ford's Theatre 2026–2027 Season

Member Pre-Sale:

April 13, 2026: *Come From Away*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Public On-Sale:

April 27, 2026: *Come From Away*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Come From Away

September 10–October 18, 2026

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

Music Directed by Clay Ostwald

Choreographed by Katy Tabb

Directed by Kevin McAllister

Ten years after making its Ford's Theatre debut, Tony Award-winning *Come From Away* returns to our historic stage and tells the heart-warming true story of how a small Canadian town cared for 6,579 airline passengers stranded there on 9/11. When 38 planes were diverted to its doorstep, the town of Gander doubled in size, playing host to an international community of strangers and offering food, shelter and friendship. Featuring a rousing score of folk and rock, *Come From Away* honors the better angels of our nature, revealing hope and humanity in a time of darkness.

A Christmas Carol

November 19–December 31, 2026

By Charles Dickens

Adapted by Michael Wilson

Directed by Michael Baron

Featuring Craig Wallace as Ebenezer Scrooge

Join the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future as they lead the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge on a journey of transformation and redemption. Originally conceived by Michael Baron, this music-infused production captures the magic and joy of Dickens's Yuletide classic, with familiar characters, ghosts and a children's ensemble in the spirit of the holidays. Acclaimed actor Craig Wallace returns to play Ebenezer Scrooge in Ford's annual tradition heralded as a "rich visual and vocal treat" (TheaterMania) and "infectiously jolly" (The Washington Post).

A First Look—A Festival of New Plays

January 2027

Free Ticketed Event; Registration Dates and Titles to Be Announced

In its 5th edition, *A First Look* continues to showcase new plays in various stages of development including plays from the *Ford's Theatre Legacy Commissions*. The commissions seek to amplify lesser-known stories and heroes responsible for changing the course of civil rights, social justice and equality in America. The *Ford's Theatre Legacy Commissions* initiative is led by Senior Artistic Advisor Sheldon Epps, Director of Artistic Programming José Carrasquillo and The Ford's Theatre Legacy Commissions Advisor Sydné Mahone. [Learn more about the initiative here.](#)

The Ford's Theatre Legacy Commissions are generously supported by Lead Sponsor:
Boeing.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

March 12–May 15, 2027

Music and Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by Rebecca Feldman

Additional Material by Jay Reiss

Music Directed by Christopher Youstra

Choreographed by Ashleigh King

Directed by Alan Paul

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee follows six awkward adolescents through their daunting and hilarious championship quest. As they navigate the tournament's pressures, the eccentric coterie finds a new sense of belonging. Along the way, they learn

that there is more to life than winning a trophy. This charming coming-of-age tale also invites four volunteers from the audience to participate in each performance, ensuring new and unexpected comedy every night.

One Destiny

By Richard Helleesen

Directed by Mark Ramont

March–May 2027

Learn about Lincoln’s assassination from two men who were there. This 35-minute stage play at Ford’s Theatre explores the key facts of the assassination while capturing the emotions of that fateful night in 1865, as told through the eyewitness accounts of actor Harry Hawk and Ford’s Theatre co-owner Harry Ford, among others. As they reconstruct the sequence of events, they grapple with the question: Could John Wilkes Booth have been stopped? *One Destiny* was honored with The Washington Post Award for Innovative Leadership in the Theatre Community in 2011 and celebrated its 1,000th performance in the spring of 2016. Performance times for spring 2027 to be announced at a later date.

[Learn more about *One Destiny*.](#)

Our [One Destiny: On Demand streamed performance](#), featuring original actors Michael Bunce and Stephen F. Schmidt, is available for sale.

One Destiny is generously supported by **Southwest Airlines**.

History on Foot Walking Tours | Investigation: Detective McDevitt

By Richard Helleesen

Directed by Mark Ramont

March–October 2027

Join Detective McDevitt as he re-visits and re-examines the sites and clues surrounding the assassination of our nation’s 16th president. Performance dates and times for 2027 to be announced at a later date. [Learn more about *History on Foot*.](#)

Ford’s Theatre Society

One of the most visited sites in the nation’s capital, Ford’s Theatre reopened its doors in 1968, more than a hundred years after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Operated through a partnership between Ford’s Theatre Society and the National Park Service, Ford’s Theatre is the premier destination in Washington, D.C. to explore and celebrate Abraham Lincoln’s life and legacy.

Ford's Theatre Society was founded under the guidance of executive producer **Frankie Hewitt**, who, during her 35-year tenure, established Ford's as a living, working theatre producing performances that highlighted the diversity of the American experience. Since the arrival of **Paul R. Tetreault** as director, critics and the theatre-going public have recognized Ford's for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River*, to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln*, *The Guard*, *Grace*, *Something Moving* and *The American Five*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. Under the current leadership of Board of Trustees Chairman **Phebe N. Novakovic** and through the lens of Lincoln's leadership and legacy, Ford's Theatre endeavors today to advance Lincoln's "unfinished work" with programs and performances that cultivate empathy, encourage dialogue and bridge divides in American life.

For more information on Ford's Theatre and the Ford's Theatre Society, please visit www.fords.org.

###

Ford's Theatre on Instagram: @fordstheatre

Ford's Theatre on Facebook: @fordstheatre

Ford's Theatre on TikTok: @fordstheatredc

Ford's Education on Twitter: @fordsedu

Ford's Theatre Website: www.fords.org