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Ford's Theatre Announces New Committee Marking 25th Anniversary of 9/11 and Production of *Come From Away*

President George W. Bush and Mrs. Laura Bush to Serve as Honorary Chairs

Washington, D.C.—Ford's Theatre announced the formation of a special committee convened in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks and in conjunction with its production of *Come From Away*. President George W. Bush and Mrs. Laura Bush will serve as Honorary Chairs of the committee, lending their names to elevate the importance of remembrance and unity.

The committee will be chaired by Anita and Tim McBride, who will help lead efforts to support programming, partnerships and dialogue that honor the spirit of resilience, service and community that emerged in the wake of 9/11.

"Laura and I are pleased to stand with Ford's Theatre as it marks the 25th anniversary of September 11," said President Bush. "We must carry forward the memory of those we lost by reaffirming the same strength and compassion that defined our nation in the aftermath of that day."

“The story of *Come From Away* reminds us that even in our darkest hours, the human spirit responds with grace and generosity,” said Mrs. Bush. “We are proud to support Ford’s Theatre in bringing this inspiring story to the stage.”

Ford’s Theatre Director Paul R. Tetreault underscored the significance of the committee’s formation at this time.

“At this 25-year milestone, Ford’s Theatre is privileged to serve as a forum for both reflection and resilience. We are deeply grateful to President and Mrs. Bush for their leadership as Honorary Chairs,” said Tetreault. “Their support allows us to open our doors for vital dialogue, ensuring the lessons of 9/11 continue to resonate with a new generation.”

Committee Chairs Anita and Tim McBride also shared their perspective on participating in both the production and this initiative.

“Being part of this 25th anniversary is deeply moving. *Come From Away* captures what Tim and I saw firsthand in 2001: the inspiring unity that emerged in the days following the attacks,” said Mrs. McBride. “I am proud to help Ford’s Theatre share a story that celebrates the strength and resolve that define the very best of who we are when we stand together.”

“It is an honor to serve on a committee dedicated to such enduring values. By pairing solemn commemoration with a story as uplifting as *Come From Away*, we aren’t just looking at history—we are engaging in an essential conversation about our shared humanity,” said Mr. McBride. “This work has never been more relevant.”

Additional committee members will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information about Ford’s Theatre and its programs, please visit fords.org or contact [Sarah Wilber](#).

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 the nation’s capital 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* 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 today endeavors 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.

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