

# Welcome to the Rock: Broadway's *Come From Away*

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Wednesday, September 7th  
6:30pm  
Fairfield Public Library



**Professor Gil Harel**

*Gil Harel, PhD is a musicologist, music theorist and award-winning professor currently teaching at Naugatuck Valley Community College. A Fairfield resident, his commitment to community-oriented learning spans many years. He has been a featured speaker throughout Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts.*

21st century Broadway musicals have often eschewed metaphor for direct takes on emotionally turbulent experiences (*Next to Normal*, *Jagged Little Pill*, *Dear Evan Hansen*). ***Come From Away*** sets the action in the unlikelyst of places: Gander, Newfoundland. A blip on the radar, the musical explores how the town sprang to life in the immediate aftermath of the September 11th terrorist attacks. With many planes diverted to what was once an important trans-Atlantic refueling station, the residents of Gander found themselves struggling to accommodate thousands of confused, tired and – like them – traumatized human beings coming to grips with an unimaginable tragedy.

Join **Professor Gil Harel** as we explore the many poignant moments found in a score brimming with expressivity and heart.



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