

Reading Theater Project
Embracing Our Humanity
25/26 Season Productions: Play Summaries & Character Descriptions

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All productions will rehearse at:
Holy Cross United Methodist Church
329 N. 5th Street
Reading, PA 19601

All productions will perform at:
WCR Center for the Arts
140 N. 5th Street
Reading, PA 19601

Play Readings perform at alternate locations, TBD.

Play information, including, titles, directors, summaries, roles, and scripts are below.

Keep scrolling.

Proud by Judd Lear Silverman

Rehearsals: Beginning Sept 4, 2025: Tuesday, Thursday evenings & Saturday or Sunday afternoons. Every actor will not be called to each rehearsal.

Tech: Load-In Sunday, November 2. Tech: November 4, 5, and 6

Performance Dates: November 7, 8, 9, and 14, 15, 16. Possible added performance or pickup rehearsal on November 13. Possible added performances on Saturdays November 8 and 15.

Director: Kimberly Patterson

SYNOPSIS

In May 2018, a three-day traffic jam persisted on the Schuylkill Expressway—a pride of peacocks, escapees from the nearby Philadelphia Zoo, were purposefully marching down the side of the highway on a top-secret mission. This is their story, from *their* POV.

CHARACTERS

The Peacocks:

Tom - great, heroic leadership skills; a scout and a scientist

Dick - an intellectual/historian who has read the great work of man and peacocks

Harry - a showman who has the respect of all, mainly for his tail prowess

Pat - smart and eager and willing to learn, but not yet mature

While all the peacocks/characters are male, the actor's gender is flexible (male-identifying, female-identifying, non-binary...)

The Humans:


State Policeman - a tired traffic cop

TV Anchor (Jim) - vain, hopping to move to bigger markets

TV Reporter (Andrea) - popular local television reporter / personality

Zoo official - Philly Zoo spokesperson, a zoologist

Link to script (**for auditioning purposes only – please do not copy or distribute**):

 Proud - RTP Audition Copy.pdf

Banshee by Adam Richter

Rehearsals: Beginning March 7, 2026: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings & Saturday afternoons. Every actor will not be called to each rehearsal.

Tech: Load-In Sunday, April 19. Tech: April 20-23.

Performance Dates: April 24, 25, 26, May 1, 2, 3. Possible added performance or pickup rehearsal on April 30

Director: Jody Reppert

Stage Manager: Sean Sassaman

SYNOPSIS

High above the River Bandon in Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland, Nancy Donough hears the cry of the banshee. But she's not the only one to hear it — nor is she the only one to be haunted by the plaintive wail that reaches across generations.

CHARACTERS

FATHER MACBRIDE: A priest. Male-identifying, 50s or older. The character is Irish but the actor may be of any race or ethnicity.

FINNBAR O'BRIEN: An Irish soldier in the English army. Male-identifying, 20s. The character is Irish but the actor may be of any race or ethnicity.

NANCY DONOUGH: A farmer. Female-identifying. In the beginning of the play, she is in her early 20s; at the end, she's in her 50s. The character is Irish but the actor may be of any race or ethnicity.

CATHLEEN: Nancy's mother. Female-identifying, 40s-50s. The character is Irish but the actor may be of any race or ethnicity.

BANSHEE: The harbinger of death, shown as an old woman. Female-identifying, any adult age. Can be played by the same actor who plays CATHLEEN.


HUGH: An American tourist in the present day. Played by the same actor who portrays FINNBAR O'BRIEN. 30s or 40s.

MARCIA: An American tourist in the present day. Black, female-identifying, 30s or 40s.

JAMES: An Irish tour guide in the present day. Can be played by the same actor who plays FATHER MACBRIDE.

Note: Irish accents will not be required at auditions, but are welcome.

Link to script (for auditioning purposes only – please do not copy or distribute):

 **Banshee_Auditions.pdf**