

Gateway Players Theatre, Inc.
PO Box 171
Southbridge, MA 01550

founded 1975
April, 2026

Barbara Day,
editor since 1991



So much is going on here at Gateway- Charlotte's Web performances, auditions for Escape to Margaritaville, still basking in the glow of Godspell. We are very busy- and hope to see you all.



Gateway Players Theatre in Southbridge, MA presents the children's production of "Charlotte's Web". Adapted by Joseph Robinette, based on the book by E.B. White. Performance dates are May 1 and 2 at 7pm, May 3 at 2pm, and May 8 and 9 at 7pm. The performances are held at Fellowship Hall of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm Street in Southbridge, MA. Entrance is on Park Street (around the corner). Directed by Lou-Ellen Corkum, and produced by Stephanie Ruggiere this is presented by permission through special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and youth under 18. Tickets may be reserved by calling Gateway at 508-764-4531. Online credit card ticket sales are available at <https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/gateway-players/charlotte-s-web>

Synopsis:

The Children's Literature Association named this "the best American children's book of the past two hundred years," and Joseph Robinette, working with the advice of E.B. White, has created a play that captures this work in a thrilling and utterly practical theatrical presentation. The costumes and unit set may be simple or as colorful and elaborate as you wish; it's the story and relationships that make the show. All the enchanting characters are here: Wilbur, the irresistible young pig who desperately wants to avoid the butcher; Fern, a girl who understands what animals say to each other; Templeton, the gluttonous rat who can occasionally be talked into a good deed; the Zuckerman family; the Arables; and, most of all, the extraordinary spider, Charlotte, who proves to be "a true friend and a good writer." Determined to save Wilbur,

Charlotte begins her campaign with the "miracle" of her web in which she writes, "Some pig." It's the beginning of a victorious campaign which ultimately ends with the now-safe Wilbur doing what is most important to Charlotte.

The cast includes: Elise Servant (Fern Arable), Jackson Reed (John Arable), Naomi Cooper (Martha Arable), Lucas Betty (Avery Able), Cole Benoit (Homer Zuckerman), Lillian Benoit (Edith Zuckerman), Edgar Munoz (Lurvy), Greta Thompson (Wilbur), Doniel Lopez(Templeton), Brooke Swistak (Charlotte), Evelyn Alesbrook (Goose), Evelet Molina (Gander), Norah Stern (Sheep), Oliver Nuland (Lamb), Indira Fors (Narrator 1), Nathalia Ramirez (Narrator 2), Amora Mello (Narrator 3).

Additional ensemble: Selena Joy, Lily Ruggiere, Piper Nuland, Ava Diaz, Brynn Lamothe, Emilia Lamothe and Mila Fors.

Additional production members: Billy Bolster (stage manager), Jes Reed (costumes), Tiffany Betty, Felicia Benoit and Karina Adler (make up) Bobby Lamothe and Shawn Corkum (set), Lily Ruggiere (props), Mari Cordero (back stage) and David Corkum (tech).

Gateway Players Theatre in Southbridge, MA is hosting auditions for "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville", book by Greg Garcia and Mike O'Malley, music and lyrics by Jimmy Buffett.

Auditions will be held on Monday, May 4th at 6:30pm and Tuesday, May 5th at 6:30pm, in Fellowship Hall at Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm Street, Southbridge.

For auditions, please prepare a Jimmy Buffet song. There will also be cold readings from the script, and simple dance routines. Tap dance experience a plus. Performance dates are July 31, and August 1 & 2 at the Southbridge Middle/High School Auditorium. . Rehearsals are tentatively scheduled for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9pm. Directed by Patricia Haddock and produced by Kathi Grenier, and the musical director is Chris Rubenacker. For more information, please contact Gateway at 508-764-4531. Presented by permission through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. This musical-comedy has lead roles for 2 women ages 20-30, and 2 men in their 30's, and featured roles for 1 female in their 40's, 1 male in the 40-50 range, and one male or female 20-30, and various ensemble roles.

Synopsis:

On a small island in the Caribbean, vacation goes and the laid-back staff of the Margaritaville bar flirt, unwind and sip drinks under the sun. When an ambitious tourist named Rachel arrives with her friend Tammy for a much-needed vacation, she finds an unexpected romance with Tully, the island bartender and musician. As paradise collides with real life, both are faced with deciding what they want beyond the sandy beaches of Margaritaville. This tropical romantic comedy has plenty to laugh at and a sweet love story – all underscored by Jimmy Buffett's classic tunes, including "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Margaritaville," "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," "Fins," "Volcano," and many more. With a book by Emmy Award winner Greg Garcia (My Name is Earl, Raising Hope) and Emmy nominee Mike O'Malley (Survivor's Remorse, Shameless), this hilarious, heartwarming musical is the party you've been waiting for!



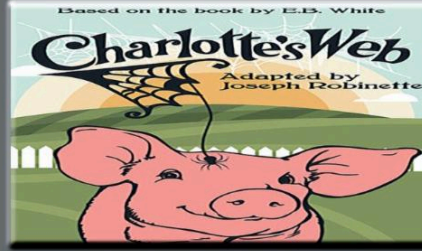
Many thanks to all who supported the staged reading of "A Pink Sponge in the Shape of a Flamingo Named Lucille". The sizable audience provided constructive feedback, as well as having a fun time. It is always exciting to see the progression of productions- from ideas to fulfillment. Congrats Kelly Dearn for sharing your work.



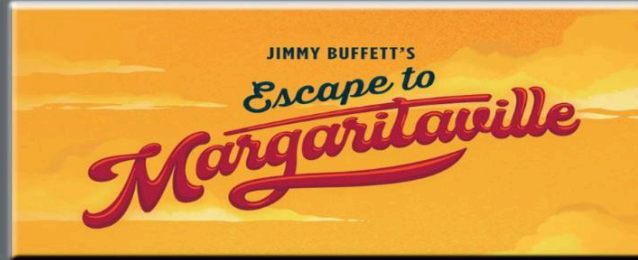
Gateway Players Theatre 2026 Season



Remedial
February 27, 28 March 6, 7 & 8



Charlotte's Web
May 1, 2, 3, 8 & 9



Escape to Margaritaville
July 31 August 1 & 2



The Outsider
October 9, 10, 16, 17 & 18



**The Spirit of Christmas or
The Story of Ernestina Scrooge**
December 4, 5 & 6

Call For Tickets 508-764-4531
Online at <https://gateway-players.ticketleap.com>

SEASON 2026 is moving along. What's after Charlotte's Web and the summer musical, Escape to Margaritaville? A political comedy, The Outsider, and a Christmas story will round up the season. If you dream of being on stage- there are 2 more opportunities this year. Backstage and production help is always needed. Just let us know if you are available.

Gateway offers a chance to grow, learn and have fun. Take a look at past productions. Below are casts from Anything Goes, 2004 and 1975



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