

Pay It Forward 9/11 Hosts The Great Gander Getaway Giveaway

One Lucky Winner Will Receive a Free, Unforgettable Trip to Newfoundland and a Real-Life "Come From Away" Experience; Winner Chosen July 3, 2025

ST. LOUIS, MO, UNITED STATES, June 16, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Pay it Forward 9/11](#), a nonprofit dedicated to promoting kindness and unity through service, announced today the launch of the Great Gander Getaway Giveaway, an extraordinary opportunity for one lucky winner and their guest to experience the heartfelt hospitality of Gander, Newfoundland, the true story behind the Tony® Award-winning musical *Come From Away*. No purchase is necessary to enter, and all donations to enter support Pay it Forward 9/11, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that encourages acts of kindness to honor the lives lost in the September 11, 2001, attacks.



Win a trip to Gander like Melissa and Haley and support [PayItForward911.org](#)

Theatre patrons in St. Louis have the opportunity to learn about the charity and the full story during performances of *Come From Away* at The Muny Theatre from June 26 to July 2, 2025. The "real Kevin T" portrayed in the musical, and founder of Pay it Forward 9/11 will share stories from his memoir, "Channel of Peace: Stranded in Gander on 9/11" at a free, pre-performance event at The Muny Purina Stage Saturday, June 26.

After the closing performance of *Come From Away* in St. Louis, the winner will be selected randomly through Betterworld on July 3, 2025. For official rules and to enter, visit [PayitForward911.org](#).

According to last year's enthusiastic contest winner and math teacher Melissa Lye of Austin Texas, "As a lifelong musical fan, Come From Away is one of my favorite musicals of ALL TIME! When the real Kevin T himself asked for donations to the Pay it Forward 9/11 organization for a chance to win a trip to Gander, I figured it'd be a long shot, but it was for a worthy cause! Turns out I WON, and next month, my work bestie Haley Behr and I will be drinking some 'screech' and kissing a cod to become Newfoundlanders ourselves! Not only will we get to experience this wonderfully beautiful, funny show again, but we'll get to MEET the lovely people the characters were based on. I didn't know people ever really won sweepstakes—but I'm so glad I donated!" Melissa and Haley will be sharing their adventure on Pay It Forward 9/11's Instagram (@payitforward911) starting on July 23rd.



We said we would "never forget" those who perished on 9/11 and the compassionate heroes who helped us restore faith in humanity.

Contest details: The Great Gander Getaway Giveaway prize package is valued at \$5,000 (estimated) and includes:

“

Come From Away is my favorite musical, so when Kevin T. asked for donations to Pay it Forward 9/11 to win a trip to Gander, I entered and WON! Soon I'll become a Newfoundlander... glad I donated!"

2024 winner, teacher Melissa Lye of Austin Texas

- Two (2) free roundtrip airline tickets from any U.S. airport to Newfoundland, courtesy of Air Canada
- Two (2) nights lodging at a hotel in Gander
- Two (2) tickets to Come From Away – You Are Here at the Joseph Smallwood Theatre, courtesy of producer Michael Rubinoff
- Guided local tours, including a meet-and-greet with real people portrayed in the musical
- A "Screech-in" ceremony at the Canadian Legion with Beulah Cooper, Brian Mosher, and retired Constable Os Fudge
- Tour of Appleton and a "Meet the Flynns" experience

- Two tickets to the North Atlantic Aviation Museum
- Supper at Little Cobb's Pond at the home of author Mac Moss, and a signed copy of his book, "Flown into the Arms of Angels"
- Signed copy of the book "Channel of Peace: Stranded in Gander on 9/11" by Kevin Tuerff,

founder of Pay it Forward 9/11

Airfare must be used between August 1, 2025, and August 1, 2026, for performances Thursday–Sunday. Travel is subject to availability in the applicable Air Canada booking class. Note: Local transportation is coordinated in Gander. Rental cars are not provided for those flying into St. John's.

Pay It Forward 9/11 was founded in 2002 by Kevin Tuerff, an airline passenger stranded on 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland, wondering if others would do the same where they lived. Tuerff, supported by a collection of 9/11 survivors and kind friends, created the nonprofit charity in tribute to the compassionate people of small towns in the island province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

Pay it Forward 9/11 is supported by the Come From Away musical and Junkyard Dog Productions, as well as Gallin & Son, Dell, and Air Canada. Pay it Forward 9/11, Inc. is a nonprofit organization registered in the State of New York and is a 501(c)3 organization registered with the Internal Revenue Service.

Contributions are tax-deductible. For additional questions or partnership ideas, email info@payitforward911.org.

###

Julie Dennehy
Dennehy PR
+1 5084799848
julie@dennehypr.com
Visit us on social media:

[LinkedIn](#)
[Instagram](#)
[Facebook](#)
[YouTube](#)
[TikTok](#)
[X](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/822760493>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2025 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.