

BROADWAY *Buzz*

Come From Away

Guest speaker Jeff Casazza, Professor of Theatre, PFW

October 25, 2023 at 6 PM

Embassy Theatre Ballroom



Jeff Casazza is a professor and the Head of Acting, Voice, and Movement at Purdue University Fort Wayne. One of his favorite musicals is *Jesus Christ Superstar* in which he had the pleasure of performing the role of Pontius Pilate early in his career and would love to play Caiaphas sometime in the future! He began his theatrical career in the third grade as a street urchin in Bizet's opera, *Carmen*. He went on to study acting and directing at Ball State University. Before pursuing his MFA in Directing at Florida State University, he worked in various positions at the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago where he was also the assistant director for a number of productions and directed *Antigone*. While in Chicago he also acted in and directed a number of other productions and wrote *The Count of Monte Cristo* which received a Joseph Jefferson Citation for Outstanding New Work/Adaptation. Before graduating with his MFA, he completed an internship in London working on Jonathan Miller's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Jeff's ongoing research and creative endeavor has allowed him to perform in, direct, and devise productions throughout the United States, Canada, and Italy and train with some of the world's most prominent theatre practitioners.