



# ANNOUNCING OPEN AUDITIONS

for an April production of

## ***The Humans***

By Stephen Karam

**Directed by Erin Nicole Harrington**

**January 3rd & 4th at 6:30PM**

**At Home Made Theater's Wilton Mall headquarters, near the Saratoga Hospital Annex**

As we may be in the Wilton Mall past mall hours, **please use Home Made Theater's "back" entrance.** To find this entrance, drive around to the *exterior* entrance to JCPenney (the side of the mall facing BJ's). To the left of Penneys is a loading dock. The door into the mall is in the back right corner of the loading dock. Once through the door follow the hallway to Home Made Theater's entrance on the left. There is a sign and the door will be open.

### ***Synopsis***

*The Humans* is a Tony Award - winning play filled with equal parts humor and hurt. Erik Blake has brought his wife and his mother for Thanksgiving at the new home of his daughter and her boyfriend. His mother is suffering from Alzheimer's, and his other daughter has recently been the victim of a nasty breakup. The parents are disappointed that their daughters have left home to struggle in New York City, and worried that they are abandoning their values. *The Humans* tells the story of the quintessential family reunion: a group of people who love each other but still wrestle with basic human fears: old age, abandonment, poverty, and death.

### ***For the Audition***

Please bring a current photo (cannot be returned) and a resume or list of past theater experience. Auditions will be from the script (sides will be provided). No appointment necessary. Please bring a list of all conflicts from the first rehearsal through performances. With the exception of tech week and performances, conflicts can be worked around *if known about in advance*.

### ***Rehearsal Schedule***

Rehearsals will begin on Monday, March 4th and will be held Monday through Thursday evenings. Tech week starts on Sunday, April 14 (all day).

## ***Performances***

April 19th - 21st and 25th - 28th. Performances are 7:30 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:00 on Sundays. Performances will be at the Dee Sarno Theater, in Saratoga Arts (320 Broadway, Saratoga Springs).

**Character Breakdown** – *All age ranges are approximate. This is a general guideline.*

*Roles are open to all ethnicities and gender identities.*

**Erik Blake:** (Male 50+) 60 year old Catholic with a working-class background. He is from Scranton, PA. Has been head of maintenance at a high school for 28 years. He loves his family and has worked hard all his life. Has very recently been fired from his job because he was discovered having an affair with a teacher at the school. He is trying to remain stalwart in the face of having lost his job, his pension, his life savings, and his self-worth. The rug has been pulled out from under him. He is struggling to make sense of his life and the world.

**Deirdre Blake:** (Female 50+) 61 years old. Working-class background. From Scranton, PA. She is overweight. Her Catholic beliefs have sustained her through her entire life, especially through her husband's recent infidelity and the subsequent economic catastrophe to the two of them that it produced. She has found a way to forgive her husband for his transgression. She is both a pragmatist and a romantic. She has worked for the same company since graduating from high school.

**Fiona (Momo) Blake:** (Female 50+) Erik's mother, a 79 year old Catholic. Has suffered from dementia for the past four years. Most of her speech doesn't make sense and is repetitive, although her gibberish may be related to what she senses is going on around her. She is occasionally prone to wild outbursts of rage. She is much beloved by all members of the family for the loving person she once was.

**Aimee Blake:** (Female 25-40) 34 year old who grew up in Scranton, PA. Is now a lawyer, working for a large corporate firm in Philadelphia and makes a good living. Possibly a little overweight. She has recently broken up with her longtime girlfriend and is heartbroken. She also suffers from ulcerative colitis which causes her constant discomfort, and has to have major surgery soon. She is the eldest of the two girls. Gentle and sensitive but strong by nature, and perhaps because she has learned to be, the more even-keeled of the two sisters, often playing peacemaker in the family.

**Bridgid Blake:** (Female 18-35) 26 year old born in Scranton, PA. The youngest of the two daughters. She currently lives in NYC. She is a musician and composer with an artistic (mercurial) nature and is frustrated that she is bartending and collecting unemployment and not able to pursue her career. She is a bit spoiled, though upbeat most of the time, and full of energy. She loves her parents but is embarrassed by their provincialism now that she's become a big-city dweller. In spite of that, she still seeks their approval and wants them to love her new apartment and her boyfriend.

**Richard Saad:** (Male 30-50) 38 year old American with Middle Eastern (Arabic) ancestry. He comes from privilege and money; in a few years he will come into a trust fund. He is probably from the Boston area; his family also has a house on Cape Cod. He is currently studying to get his masters in social work (his mother has a private practice as a therapist). Richard is bright, tries to stay upbeat and positive, and is very sensitive to the Blakes' complicated family dynamics. He tries to keep things running smoothly during this holiday dinner. He suffers from depression and apparently had a breakdown a number of years ago; he's willing to reveal that to Bridgid's parents, as he feels he's moved on in his life.