Thank you for joining our nationwide reading of It Can’t Happen Here – Again. We are very grateful for the generosity of your talent, time and commitment.

The show needs a minimum of FIVE READERS. The show could probably accommodate as many as twenty readers if the company involved is willing to reassign lines in a way which makes sense for your production. Whatever the size of your cast, each READER in the show enacts a version of him/her/them-self as well as a variety of characters, contemporary and historical. It would be wonderful if you could recruit actors to be READERS, but anyone who is undaunted by public speaking (i.e., teachers, activists, writers, clergy, etc.) and who supports the gesture we are creating is an excellent choice.

We support your creative freedom in preparing your performance of this text. We encourage you to keep your production simple, prioritizing both the connection your READERS are making with the text as well as the connection your READERS are making with your audience.

We make only one request: We urge you to AVOID IMPERSONATIONS of the contemporary and historical characters. Speak their lines in your own voices. We are especially concerned about the depiction of TRUMP. An impersonation, however well-intended, may have the unanticipated effect of creating a comical, endearing character. We appreciate how tempting it is to lampoon him with a well-executed impersonation, but we overwhelmingly prefer that his WORDS come through, uninflected, as the authoritarian statements they plainly are. We need the full impact of his rhetoric to land on the audience without being unintentionally softened by comic effect.

Inspire your audiences! Have fun! Thank you!