

# “Have the courage to cultivate this beloved community!”

The Bethlehem Gadfly Arts, the, Fun Stuff, Touchstone Theater October 14, 2019

 50th in a series of posts on Touchstone Theatre 

## **Festival UnBound closing ceremony Sunday night**

What Gadfly has presented to you earlier this morning was antic, joyful prelude.

Now we approach the rousing heart of the Festival; now we tap the serious spiritual energy and passion that fueled this 10-day act of community Love.

Here the ensemble comes together to celebrate Bethlehem’s past, present, and future.

<https://youtu.be/LbdRMYJzfxE>

- “We discovered something special here in Bethlehem.”
- “A future where our most cherished hopes and dreams can become a reality.”
- “If it’s your dream, well then there’s no room for failure.”
- “We showed the world it could be done.”
- “There is a wealth of untapped talent from the Black community.”
- “People here have a sense of community.”
- “There’s a lot of fight in these people. These are tough people.”
- “If we get knocked on the ground, we can get back up again.”
- “We see a future in which our warriors return home to find, connection, empathy, and community.”

- “We must support one another if we are to survive and flourish.”
- “Here’s to the way kitchens and food bring us together. . . [sharing] our history, our heritage, and our hopes.”
- “Know that you are not powerless.”
- “Do not give in to fear.”
- “Our love for this community . . . fired up!”
- “We are not just community, we are family.”
- “Ever the realist! Ever the idealist! The world needs us both!”
- “Here’s to knowing you are a rich resource.”
- “We mustn’t abandon the promise of equality.”
- “If we stick together, I know we’ll all be alright.”
- “Remember this, all voices should be included and at the table in envisioning the forward movement.”
- “Life is simply wonderful when you are in Bethlehem.”
- “Have the courage to cultivate this beloved community.”
- “This isn’t the end of the conversation — not by a longshot!”
- “Look around you. Everyone around you has ideas, everyone around you has dreams, everyone around you wants it to work better.”
- “Everyone around you has a story, let’s listen.”
- “We don’t have much choice but to go into what’s next —  
TOGETHER!”