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The Newburyport Democratic City Committee and The PEG Center for Art & Activism Partner with Writers for Democratic Action to Present *It Can't Happen Here—Again!*

October 10, 2024 Newburyport, MA – Writers for Democratic Action (WDA), along with the Newburyport Democratic City Committee (NDCC) and The PEG Center for Art & Activism, announce two performances of *It Can't Happen Here—Again!*, a new play resisting the rise of authoritarianism.

The first performance sponsored by the NDCC will be at Jabberwocky Books on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 4-5:30 p.m. at 50 Water Street in Newburyport, MA. Readers for this event include Rebecca Wish Esche, Former Mayor Donna Holaday, Jared Hubbard, Cady Seaton, and Charlie Tontar.

The second local performance will be at The PEG Center for Art & Activism on Sunday, Oct. 27 from 3-4:30 p.m. at 3 Harris Street in Newburyport, MA. Readers for this event include Beth Blanchard, Sarah Hall, Carolyn Russell, MA State Representative Dawne Shand, and Edward Speck. There is free admission for both performances.

*It Can't Happen Here—Again!* is inspired by the Sinclair Lewis play *It Can't Happen Here*, which was initially presented across the nation on October 27, 1936, as a New Deal rallying cry against the rise of fascism in the US.

The readings are part of WDA's nationwide literary celebration of resistance to threats against democracy in America. On July 19, 2024, more than 90 readings of this simple five-player script were simultaneously mounted in theaters, bookstores, bars, churches, parks, and living rooms. Since then, many other communities have hosted public readings of the play, culminating in a nationwide event on October 27th.

NDCC Vice-Chair Katherine Gendron said, "We are here to say that democracy must survive in our country. We invite everyone to join us in this nationwide event. It is a call to action and a call to vote. Vote! Vote!"

WDA is an international organization of more than 3,000 writers, as well as more than 150 bookstore partners, standing together to champion democracy and the institutions that embody it. For more information, please visit us at: [writersfordemocraticaction.org/ichh](https://writersfordemocraticaction.org/ichh).