

# Backstage Pass

September 2010

Minnesota State Mankato  
Theatre  
& Dance



**Roxie Hart (Laura Otremba, left) and Velma Kelly (Megan Volkman-Wilson) sing about their “New Best Friend.”**

## *Chicago* is dazzling opener

Although successful as a Hollywood film, the stage version of *Chicago* has some exciting differences. Those will be on display Sept. 30-Oct. 3 & Oct. 7-10 as our season opener takes the stage. It is sponsored by HickoryTech Corporation.

The style of dance that is required for a successful production of *Chicago* is paramount to the authenticity of the show itself, says director/choreographer Paul Finocchiaro. Bob Fosse, who was born with his feet turned in “pigeon toed” and wore leg braces at an early age, was taken to ballet class by his mother to turn his legs out.

Fosse went on to a successful career as a dancer in Vaudeville, on Broadway and in film. When he got the opportunity to choreograph, the first thing he did was create

a style that felt comfortable for him. This involved turned-in feet, hunched over shoulders and isolated body parts. To this day, the “Fosse Style” has a trademark appearance.

This past summer as an Andreas Teaching Scholar, Finocchiaro had the great fortune to talk to some past and present members of the Broadway cast of *Chicago* and to see the latest production. Their insight into this production was invaluable, he says.

He also went to the city of Chicago, to the Cook County Jail, and to Los Angeles where he took tango lessons with one of the professionals from “Dancing With the Stars.” You will see the fruits of his research and learning in this production.

Get tickets at [MSUTheatre.com](http://MSUTheatre.com) or 507-389-6661, 4-6 p.m.

## ***Thank you, playbill advertisers!!***

When you attend one of our many productions, we hope you glance at the advertisements as well as the other information in our show programs. We're proud of what we can provide you about the department and the show in the playbill, and we couldn't do it without those who advertise.

Here, in no particular order, are this year's advertisers:

HickoryTech, Mankato Area Lifelong Learners, Farrish Johnson Law Office, Northern Star Bank, Eide Bailly, Community Bank, Blethen, Gage & Krause,

KMSU radio, Ronald Meyer/New York Life, Mankato City Center Hotel, Mr. Monogram, BK Studio, The Orthopaedic & Fracture Clinic, Calvin P. Johnson Law Firm, Like Nu Cleaners, Mankato Symphony Orchestra, Herbert C. Kroon of Chesley, Kroon, Harvey & Carpenter, Mankato Clinic, University Dining Catering, Brennan Companies, McClure Agency, Leonard, Street & Deinard, Carlson Tillisch, Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, Pub 500, Hy-Vee Food Stores, Abdo, Eick & Meyers, Buckley & Bateman, LLC, Bolton & Menk, Inc., Cherry

Creek Cabinetworks, The Free Press, Manahan & Bluth Law Offices, Cold Stone Creamery, St. Peter Area Children's Theatre, Sun Moon Yoga, Habitat for Humanity Restore, Café Ambrosia, The Mankato Area Riverblenders, Olives by Massad's, KTOE AM 1420, Country Inn & Suites, Gislason & Hunter, Minnesota 93 Kato-FM, LIV Aveda, Keystone Communities, Mike Oliver/Farmers Insurance, Merely Players Community Theatre, Pepsi-Cola of Mankato, and Lowe's.

Thank you, one and all!!!

# Minnesota State Mankato Department of Theatre & Dance

*Season subscriptions  
still on sale!*



Billy Flynn (Aaron Alan) with some of his lovely ladies (left to right): Liz (Callie Syverson), Hunyak (Larissa Schmitz), Mona (Kimberly Michelle Steffen), June (Emily Jansen) and Annie (Tara Schwichtenberg).

**Theatre & Dance**  
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

## **COSTUME SALE!!**

3-7 P.M., MON. & TUES., OCT. 25 & 26,

Performing Arts Lobby  
(no early sales)



**DON'T UNDERDRESS FOR HALLOWEEN!**

*With Halloween just around the corner*

## **Department plans costume sale**

The Minnesota State Mankato Department of Theatre & Dance will conduct a costume sale from 3-7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 25 & 26, in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center.

Like Mother Hubbard, the Department's cupboards are full. But our loss could be your gain ... because the object is to make some space in our storage areas, pieces will be offered at low prices.

In addition to clothing pieces, the sale will feature everything

from our costume collection, including hats, jackets and shoes. No advance sales; all sales are final.

If you've been a regular attendee of our shows through the years, it's possible that you'll see one of your favorite costumes available for purchase.

So if you've always marveled at the costumes you see on stage, and you LOVE to get dressed up for Halloween, this will be your chance to find that last piece to complete your best costume ever!