



# BACKSTAGE



One-Stop Entertainment That's Second to None!

October 2, 2009–January 23, 2010

## Rodgers & Hammerstein's

# OKLAHOMA!

## Oklahoma! Offers Hope and Promise

Coming to the Main Stage for the first time in over a decade, is the world's most beloved musical *Oklahoma!* Voted the most significant musical of the 20th Century by the American Theatre Critics Association, this production must be shared with every new generation of theatergoers. With its homespun values and return to simplicity, director Michael Brindisi says *Oklahoma!* is a breath of fresh air. "This story offers hope," he continued. "It's about youth, new beginnings, American values, common sensibilities, and what's really important in life. And so, let's remind our young people that this is a show they *need* to see, to renew confidence that there is hope and promise ahead!"

Dieter Bierbrauer plays Curly. Dieter will be remembered by Chanhassen audiences for his soaring portrayal of Tony in *West Side Story*. As Laurey is Chanhassen newcomer, Katherine Strohmaier, an accomplished singer/actor who comes to us from Milwaukee Repertory Theater. Bierbrauer and Strohmaier posed for these early publicity photos in a gorgeous field of Black-Eyed Susan's near the theatre. Brindisi has assembled an amazing cast. "Our audiences— young and old alike, will be energized by this production!"



Opens November 6

## Holy World Premiere!



By now you may have heard that Dan Goggin, New York playwright and composer of the renowned, very popular *Nunsense* musical comedy series, has done it again! *NUNSET BOULEVARD: The Nunsense Hollywood Bowl Show* will enjoy its World Premiere at Chanhassen opening November 6, 2009! Of Goggin's seven creations, he has selected Chanhassen to produce six of the seven right here. We're thrilled to



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## "CRAZY" GOOD

Guests continue to sing the praises of Chanhassen's stellar production of *Always...Patsy Cline*. We recently received a lovely letter from a guest who said:

Greetings,  
Your theater's production of *Always...Patsy Cline* was incredible! The singing, band, theatrics, set, were beyond our expectations. Not a note was missed. Monica Heuser, Peggy O'Connell, and the band directed by Kyle Clausen were tops in sound, style, and delivery. It truly was an evening to remember!!

Thanks, Mike Hansen  
(Minneapolis)

*Always...  
Patsy Cline*



There's still time to reserve your group for this remarkable show about the legendary Miss Patsy Cline, closing October 31. For a nostalgic journey down memory lane, book your group for *Always...Patsy Cline* today!

January 29–May 29, 2010

## Footloose Sales Rockin'!



Maybe it's the energetic music, maybe it's the electrifying dancing, maybe it's the exhilarating era of the '80s or maybe it's just that it's a brand-new, never-done-before Main Stage musical. What we do know is that sales for *FOOTLOOSE* are rockin'! Recommended for group audiences middle-school age and above, *FOOTLOOSE* is based on the '80s blockbuster movie musical (currently being remade into a new film released June/July 2010), and Broadway's smash hit musical. *FOOTLOOSE* is filled with youthful spirit, and

a story that will have audiences dancin' in the aisles. Call today!

## Spotlight on...

### Entertainment

#### **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT**

Closing September 26, 2009

#### **ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE**

Closing October 31, 2009

#### **OKLAHOMA!**

October 2, 2009–  
January 23, 2010

#### **NUNSET BOULEVARD**

**The Nunsense  
Hollywood Bowl Show**

Opens November 6, 2009

#### **ANOTHER NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

November 20–December 31

#### **FOOTLOOSE:**

**The Musical**

January 29–May 29, 2010

It's not too early to book your Chanhassen holiday event! Our inclusive one-stop entertainment package has a value that's second-to-none and will be enjoyed by all!

501 West 78th Street  
P.O. Box 100  
Chanhassen, MN 55317  
800-355-6273  
952-934-1547  
[ChanhassenDT.com](http://ChanhassenDT.com)

## New Hire Reaches Out



We recently hired Gregg Murray as Manager of Group Sales Development. Marketing Director Kelly Larson said, "We created this position to reach out to new groups and encourage groups who haven't been back for a few years, to return." He will also work with groups on pre- and/or post-theatre events to further enhance a Chanhassen experience, and seek out corporate sponsorship opportunities. Gregg has well over a decade of corporate sales and event-planning experience.

A fun piece of trivia about Gregg: He served as a member of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Committee from 1999–2002. Gregg is married and has four children!

We asked him what he is most looking forward to in his new job: "So far, I love working here; it's a great place to be. Certainly I have challenges ahead of me and right now, the ideas are reeling in my head. One thing I absolutely love to see is the excitement in the guests' faces when they arrive at the theatre. We have a product that people truly love. This will be an adventure!"

## Mark Dunham/General Mills Rewarded!

Groups comprise over 30% of Chanhassen's audience base. They are the foundation of our business! So "thank you" group leaders for faithfully organizing and bringing groups to us! Each quarter we randomly draw the name of a group leader who brought a group during the previous quarter and reward them with a four-pack of tickets. This quarter we thank, MARK DUNHAM, Employee Services Project Manager of GENERAL MILLS in Golden Valley! Mark brings us an average of 400 guests throughout the year and accompanies each group he brings. We encourage everyone out there reading this newsletter to eat their Wheaties!



## Great Minnesota Get-Together!

Since 1993, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres has had a presence at the Minnesota State Fair at our permanent booth located on the upper level of the grandstand at the top of the huge concrete ramp. Why? Well, we're not there to sell you a mop, the latest in bejeweled sunglasses or a ladder – in fact we don't actually have anything to "sell." Instead we're there to visit with people about what's going on and coming next at Chanhassen – (let us remind you) – the nation's largest professional dinner theatre! Stop by, get the latest info and an opportunity to win a great deal on tickets for your family with our Oklahoma Corn Toss game... don't worry, it's free and we actually make it easy to win! This is a terrific opportunity for us to thank the public and spread the word about our great shows and the outstanding value Chanhassen offers.



### **Nunset Boulevard** *(Continued from page 1)*

welcome Dan back because every time he writes a new show, our groups arrive in droves to laugh hysterically at the heavenly shenanigans he cooks up through his endearing, unique characters—each based on a sister he knew as he grew up going to parochial school. People often ask Goggin, "Why premiere your shows in Minnesota, at Chanhassen?" Chanhassen's technical creative staff and production shops are right on site, making the

process run extremely smoothly. In addition, Goggin loves Minnesota audiences. "Midwesterners have a great sense of values and provide a reliable gauge for us. We know we'll get an honest reaction and that's how we perfect the production." Goggin wants people to know each of his shows stands well on its own. "The audience doesn't have to have seen any previous installments to have great time." Please, bring your group to see this show!

BACKSTAGE  
Fall 2009

P.O. Box 100  
Chanhassen, Minnesota 55317-0100



## Teachers Learn, Too!

This summer Chanhassen Dinner Theatres entertained a large group of teachers from The Learner's Edge Inc. Learner's Edge offers a variety of continuing ed courses to teachers. One course focuses on the educational value of student field trips. In the course, teachers visit many Minnesota tourism attractions and are presented with options for their students. Teachers arrived at Chanhassen to learn about benefits available, including pre-theatre backstage tours, post-theatre actor Q & A sessions, student study guides to aid in planning curriculum to complement a Chanhassen outing, as well as easy reservation and payment info. Teachers have the opportunity to influence students when they expose their students to a variety of arts and culture. We thank the awesome teachers who bring their students here for a theatre experience they are sure to remember! Teachers interested in seeking continuing ed graduate credit courses may wish to look into Learner's Edge, offering 54 signature Text-Based Distance Learning courses, over 50 online courses and more than 30 instructor-facilitated On-Site courses, in a variety of locations. For info, go to [www.LearnersEdgeInc.com](http://www.LearnersEdgeInc.com)

## Holiday Tradition Returns

If your group didn't get a chance to enjoy last year's holiday production, this is your chance. *Another Night Before Christmas* is returning for a second year with a fresh new cast. Norah Long and Mark Rosenwinkel, Chanhassen veterans, appear in this holiday jewel made complete with a heartwarming Christmas story and wonderful original musical score. Audiences will remember Norah for her leading roles in *My Fair Lady*, *The Sound of Music* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* among others, and Mark Rosenwinkel for a multitude of roles in Chan productions from *Brigadoon* to *Groucho: A Life In Revue*. You'll be touched and delighted with a Christmas classic worthy of telling and retelling, written by the creators of *Married Alive!* Enjoy this holiday tradition in the cozy Playhouse Theatre from November 20 through December 31.

