

# history theatre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 5, 2009

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## **History Theatre announces the 2009-2010 Season: full of toe-tapping music, breath-taking drama, and laugh-out-loud comedy.**

History Theatre's 32<sup>nd</sup> season will explore some of the major events and shifts in politics, culture, and science that our country and our world experienced in the middle of the last century. In the span of 15 years Americans experienced a Polio epidemic, World War II, the death of vaudeville, and the birth of rock 'n' roll. With two world premieres, two returning audience favorites, and two exciting collaborations, History Theatre's 32<sup>nd</sup> season will tell the stories of who and how these events touched the citizens of Minnesota, America, and the world.

Three different season pass options are available with complete flexibility to suit patrons' budgets and busy schedules, ranging in price from \$110 (Buddy Pass) to \$130 (Premium Pass). Season passes provide discounts up to 30% off the single ticket prices, free exchanges, additional tickets at discounted rates, half-price passes to Raw Stages, one of the country's premiere new works festivals, and more. **651-292-4323** or **www.historytheatre.com** for more information or to purchase passes.

The 2009-2010 Season features:

October 3 – November 1, 2009

**By arrangement with Alan Janes for Theatre Partners**

**BUDDY – THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY**

**Written by Alan Janes and Rob Bettinson**

**Originally Directed by Rob Bettinson**

**Directed by Ron Peluso, Musical Direction by Gary Rue**

**\* In collaboration with McNally Smith College of Music \***

Tap your toes along with this musical retelling of the life and times of Buddy Holly, from his meteoric rise to stardom to the unforgettable Clear Lake, Iowa concert. Musical hits include: *Peggy Sue*, *Chantilly Lace*, *La Bamba*, *That'll Be the Day*, and more.

November 21 – December 20, 2009

**SISTERS OF SWING**

**Written by Beth Gilleland and Bob Beverage**

**Musical Arrangements and Continuity by Raymond Berg**

**Directed by Ron Peluso, Musical Direction by Raymond Berg**

**\* Starring Norah Long, Ruthie Baker, and Patty Nieman \***

Revisit the American experience during World War II through the finger-snapping, Big Band music of the Andrew Sisters, including *Don't Sit Under Apple Tree*, *Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy*, *Rum and Coca Cola* and many more.

January 23 - February 14, 2010

**SISTER KENNY'S CHILDREN** ~ a world premiere

**Written by Doris Baizley**

**Directed by Ron Peluso**

**\* Starring Claudia Wilkens, and students from the St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists \***

This is the remarkable story of Sister Elizabeth Kenny and her fight to be heard by the medical community during the polio epidemic of the 1950s. Thanks to her perseverance the groundbreaking therapies she developed touched the lives of thousands of young polio patients and their families.

February 27 - March 21, 2010

**HIDING IN THE OPEN**

**Written by Kira Obolensky**

**Based on the book HIDING IN THE OPEN by Dr. Sabina Zimering**

The remarkable story of two Jewish teenagers who survived the Holocaust by disguising themselves as Catholics and escaping from Poland to Switzerland *via Germany!* Along the way they had to rely on one another and their quick wits to keep them safe and sane as the world around them crumbled.

April 24 - May 23, 2010

**QUEENS OF BURLESQUE** ~ a world premiere

**Written by David Mann**

A *revealing* look at the lives of burlesque performers both on and off stage. With a wink and a nod to both naughty and nice, you will be transported back to the Twin Cities' burlesque theatre scene of the 1950s. Stand up comics and girls with boas draped over just the right places make for a provocative night of music, dance, and laughter.

January 2010

**Raw Stages – History Theatre's festival of new works**

History Theatre will once again perform staged readings of four new plays that are currently in development. Titles and performance dates will be announced separately.

### **About the Theater:**

For 32 years, the History Theatre Experience has created:

- Inspiration. The History Theater Experience brings real stories about real people to the stage in a live experience that touches our lives.
- Over 100 world premiere performances, more than any other theater in the Twin Cities. The History Theatre is one of the country's most impressive new play development homes – bringing to full production new work by Jeffrey Hatcher, Craig Wright, John Olive, Kira Oblensky, and more.
- Brave, entertaining explorations of all the histories that make up our diverse community. From *Farm Boys* to *Snapshots: Life in the City*, from the celebratory *Wellstone!* to the dark, complex *Piece of the Rope* about Minnesota's first public execution, HT has moved

Minnesotans to relive, reinvent, and reimagine every piece of their history. More than 200,000 students have connected with history through performances at HT.

During Artistic Director Ron Peluso's tenure, the History Theatre has commissioned over 60 playwrights: "I've directed Shakespeare and operas, but really, there is nothing like creating new work about the real people and real events that have shaped our community and state."

Please note that dates are subject to change.

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