

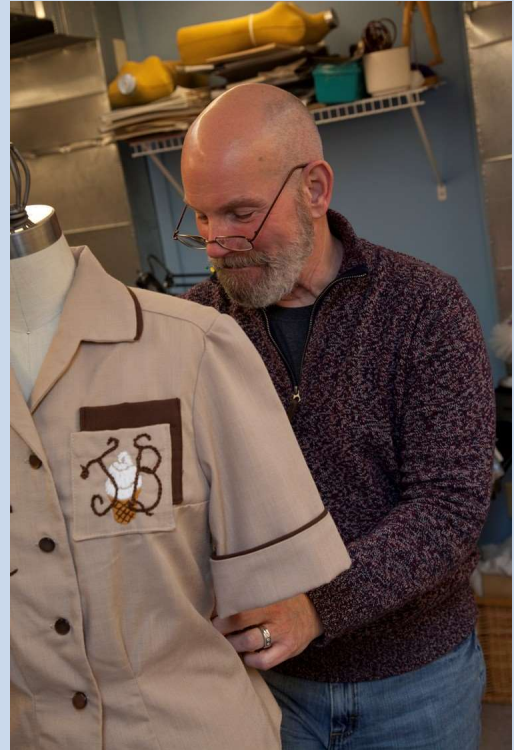
# ART/history:

A retrospective exhibit on the career of costume designer Paul Foltz

“Welcome to chaos” – a photo exhibit on the creative process

## Production and Sewing

Fabric pieces are lined up and sewn together. Special stitching, sewing or other treatments may be done to add details to the costumes, such as ruffles, beads or trims. These materials are this artist’s “paints” and the actors his “canvases.” Paul relies heavily on his volunteers and student interns to help produce the costumes – sometimes dozens of costumes are required for a single show. The costumes start to take shape and are placed on dress forms to help give the costume its shape so adjustments can be made and the final touches added. Wigs and other accessories are sourced and added to complete the final costume ensemble.



## The show must go on

Final fittings are done with the actors, adjustments made as needed, and then the costumes are moved to the back stage area and ready for the actors to dress for the show. For the musicals and other large scale productions, this means packing and moving the costumes, along with the sets and props, to the Whittaker Center in downtown Harrisburg. Smaller productions are staged at Theatre Harrisburg’s headquarters building in uptown Harrisburg. Paul sometimes helps with any repairs needed to the costumes during the run of a show, but by this time he is busy working on the next show, or the next few shows. “I am sometimes juggling up to four shows simultaneously,” Paul says. He is not only working on shows for Theatre Harrisburg, but also creates costumes for some of the shows at Harrisburg Area Community College’s student productions, where he is also an instructor.

