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## **Welcome**

We are thrilled to have you as our guest today as we show you why Mankato Playhouse has been called "Southern Minnesota's Premier Dinner Theatre Experience!"

## **Our Mission**

To bring professional quality entertainment to the community, providing an exceptional experience for both our audience members and volunteers.

## **Our Vision**

To produce high quality musical theater performances and Broadway Teen Workshops each season to showcase the talent we have in our local and surrounding communities.

## **Who We Are**

Established in 2019, Mankato Playhouse (Davori Productions Co.) was founded by theater artists and enthusiasts David and Lori Holmes as a way to provide the local and surrounding communities an opportunity to experience and be involved in quality musical theater. Davori Productions relies on the creativity, passion, and inspiration of the board of directors, and volunteers who are mutually invested in the growth and success of the company.

## **2020/2021 Board Members**

### **Board Officers**

Matthew Atwood - President

Lori Holmes - Secretary

Jeremy Meger - Treasurer

David Holmes - Executive and Artistic Director

### **Board Members**

John Kind

Jeney Atwood

Mike Lagerquist

Katherine Jardon

Taylor Prevo

## **Board Information**

If you are interested in learning more about our board or would like to consider joining our team, download the Board Member Interest Form from our website and send it to [info@davoriproductions.com](mailto:info@davoriproductions.com)

Mankato Playhouse presents

# FOREVER PLAID

Written and Originally Directed and Choreographed by

**STUART ROSS**

Musical Continuity Supervision and Arrangements by

**James Raitt**

Originally Produced by

Gene Wolsk

## CAST

Frankie.....	Matthew Atwood
Sparky.....	Noah Thomas
Jinx.....	Hans Bloedel
Smudge.....	Paul Ragan

## ARTISTIC TEAM

Director – Kevin J. Barnard

Music Director – Katherine Jardon

Technical Director – Calla Defries

Sound Board Operator – Liz Eder

Costumes & Props – Lori Holmes

Set Designer – David Holmes

Graphic Designer – Matthew Atwood

Spotlight – Seth Rausch & Travis Shafer

## MUSICIANS

Pianist – Noah Wilson

Bassist – Al Behrends

## FOREVER PLAID

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

# SONGS

## ACT I

- 1.....Deus ex Plaid
- 2.....Three Coins In The Fountain
- 3.....Gotta Be This Or That
- 4.....Undecided
- 5.....Moments To Remember
- 6.....Crazy 'Bout Ya Baby
- 7.....The Osterizer School Of Harmonic Theory
- 8.....No Not Much
- 9.....Perfidia
- 10.....Cry
- 11.....Sixteen Tons / Chain Gang
- 12.....The Catering Drill / She Loves You
- 13.....The Golden Cardigan
- 14.....Catch A Falling Star
- 15.....Caribbean Plaid

## ACT II

- 16.....Heart And Soul
- 17.....Mercury
- 18.....Lady Of Spain
- 19.....Scotland The Brave
- 20.....Shangri-La / Rags To Riches
- 21.....Love Is A Many Splendored Thing

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Mankato Figure Skating Club  
Murphy Photography Design  
Dora Lee Jones

## **Director's Note**

I first saw Forever Plaid back in 1994 and I thought, "Oh my gosh, I have to do that show someday, it looks like so much fun!" And now all these years later I'm directing it for the fourth time, and have actually performed in it as Frankie in three different productions.

I have to say I was right, it's so much fun to do, (and watch).

I know hearing all these nostalgic songs will spark some memories for you from either great movie soundtracks, TV or perhaps even hearing them on the jukebox. Whatever the case, I'm sure memories will come flooding back as you hear these songs again. As America changes its styles, fads and concepts so quickly – including Broadway – it's nice to know you can go back a few decades when life seemed easier. Of course, time and memories always make things sweeter in retrospect.

I hope you enjoy this walk back through time and can appreciate how well these performers execute these songs – a world where our parents, grandparents and even great grandparents loved these beautiful melodies.

Thanks for coming and supporting Mankato Playhouse and if you enjoy yourself tonight please spread the word – we would love great support the entire run. Music and Theater must keep going and giving enjoyment to communities large and small!

Thank you for coming!

Kevin J. Barnard, Director / Choreographer



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## MEET THE CAST



### **Matthew Atwood (Frankie)**

Matthew is a Mankato native and 4th generation owner of Century 21 Atwood and Atwood Management. But before planting his real estate roots, he could be seen performing across the country. After attending MSU-Mankato for theatre, he was cast as Courfeyrac and later Marius in *Les Miserables* at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres – this began his professional acting career going on to other roles at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, the Old Log Theatre, the Ordway as well as cruise lines including Royal Caribbean, Celebrity and Norwegian.

He was also a founding member of Home Free, the well-known a cappella group, where he enjoyed traveling across the country and seas performing more than 250+ shows a year. More recently, Matthew played Phantom in *Phantom of the Opera* in Bloomington and played the title role of Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at Mankato Playhouse. Matthew now enjoys spending his time in the greatest role of his life – husband and father – with his wife Jeney and three children, Benton, Emmersyn and Cohen.



### **Noah Thomas (Sparky)**

Noah Thomas is a recent graduate from South Central College's Machining/Welding program. He is currently working full time at Jones Metal, and is very thankful to be able to continue performing at the Mankato Playhouse. Noah has been performing for about 6 years. He has been seen previously at the Mankato Playhouse as an Ensemble member in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and as Wallace in *Miracle on 34th Street*. He hopes you enjoy watching the show as much as he has enjoyed being a part of it!



### **Hans Bloedel (Jinx)**

*Forever Plaid* is Hans Bloedel's first production with Mankato Playhouse. He is a Mankato native, and a recent graduate of Bethany Lutheran College's theatre program. Some of his past roles include: Algernon Moncrieff, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*; Ali Hakim, in *Oklahoma!*; Bill Calhoun, in *Kiss Me, Kate*; and Robin, in *Dr. Faustus*.



### **Paul Ragan (Smudge)**

Paul is from the Graceville, MN area and is playing Smudge in this production of *Forever Plaid*. He is a recent graduate of Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, MN where he majored in Theatre Arts, History, and pursued a 5-12 Social Science Licensure. Paul is excited to be in his first Mankato Playhouse production and hopes to get more involved in the future. At SMSU, he played Johnny Cantone in *The 1940s Radio Hour*, Moody McPhearson in *Anne of Green Gables*, and John Willoughby in *Sense and Sensibility*.



## MEET THE BAND



### **Noah Wilson (piano)**

Noah Wilson is a piano performance major at Normandale in Bloomington where he plays for both the jazz ensemble and jazz combo bands. He takes lessons from the concert pianist Dr. Elizabeth Karelse. He is excited to play piano for Mankato Playhouse for the first time. He has music directed and played for many theatre companies in the area including State Street Theatre Company, Merely Players, and for Gustavus Adolphus College



### **Al Behrends (bass)**

Retired Gustavus Fine Arts Director, Al Behrends, is delighted to be back on the stage for *Forever Plaid*. His first pit was *This Is Paris* in 1969. Since then, he has performed at the community, high school & university level. He studied double bass with Jacqueline Johansson and performed with the MN Orchestra in 1970. He was a founding board member of the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council and St. Peter's The Riverlights, and is currently the Echoes Big Band bassist.

## MEET THE DIRECTORS



### **Kevin J. Barnard (Director)**

Kevin has been working for many years in the Twin Cities as a professional actor and director/choreographer. Most notable are the dozen plus productions he has done with Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Directing/Choreography credits include; *Old Log Theater*, *Chanhassen DT*, *Actor's Theater of Minnesota*, *Lyric Arts Theater*, *Classic Arts Dinner Theater*, *Royal Caribbean Cruises*, *North High School*, *RVTC*, *District 622 Comm. Theater*, *Maple Grove H.S.*, and *Production Coordinator for A Clay Aikens Christmas*. Kevin was also

commissioned by Knott's-Berry Farms in 1992 to write and direct a Festhaus show for the grand opening of the Mall of America. Kevin wrote and produced 16 shows for the Cabaret Club at the Albert Lea Inn for a five year run, and also proudly survived four years of traveling on cruise ships performing and touring the world. Aside from stage performances, additional creative work has been published in two books, *Photo-pedia*, and *Music Composition for Idiots*. He currently enjoys teaching music and drama at Waconia H.S., North H.S. and Chanhassen Dinner Theater.



### **Katherine Jardon (Music Director)**

This is Katherine's second show with Mankato Playhouse (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), and third show as a Vocal Music Director (*My Fair Lady* with Merely Players, and *Beauty and the Beast* with State Street Theater). She has also filled various roles on and off the stage, and during the day she teaches K-12 Vocal Music at Nicollet Public School. She has greatly enjoyed working with the cast, crew and director of *Forever Plaid*, and hopes to work with them in the future.

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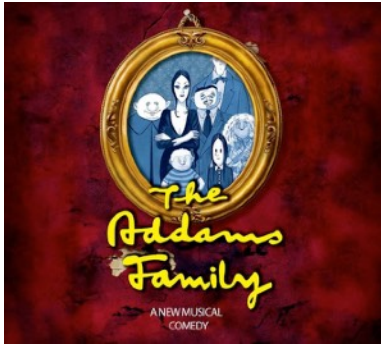
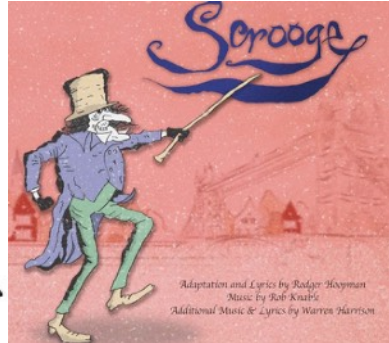
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