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Theatre Discipline presents classic musical comedy *Anything Goes*

Summary: Enjoy the rollicking comedy with great music and big dance numbers.

(November 8, 2011)-The University of Minnesota, Morris Theatre Discipline opens its 2011–12 season with Cole Porter’s *Anything Goes*. The rollicking musical comedy will be performed in the Humanities Fine Arts Raymond J. Lammers Proscenium Theatre on November 16–19, 2011. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., with an additional 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday.

Anything Goes follows Billy Crocker, a love-struck stockbroker who stows away on an ocean liner to stop his love from marrying an English lord. With the help of his friends—Moonface Martin, Public Enemy #13, and Reno Sweeney, a nightclub-singer-turned-evangelist—he seeks to win her hand, with riotous and hilarious consequences.

Associate Professor of Theatre Siobhan Bremer serves as the production’s director. Bremer states that she was drawn to *Anything Goes* for a variety of reasons. “It is a lesser-known show to the young college student but a classic to those of us in theatre. I have been a dancer since the age of four and respect the skill needed, the excitement of seeing good choreography, and I love musicals with big dance numbers. I am also a big Sutton Foster fan, who is doing the show on Broadway.” She notes, “It is a challenge doing such a big show with so many different areas but it is worth it to see the students learn and progress through the process.”

Professor of Theatre Tap Payne designed the set, assisted by Brittany Ottum, Eden Prairie, who is completing her senior project in scene design. Also completing their senior projects are costume designer Allyce Amidon, Falcon Heights, lighting designer Lucas Granholm, Arden Hills, and sound designer Lizza Sunde, Merrill, Wisconsin. Micayla Thebault-Spieker, Sebec, Massachusetts, is props designer.

Madie Kvale, Duluth, is making her debut as stage manager for *Anything Goes*, assisted by Clara Costello, Afton, who will be completing her senior project in stage management.

To meet the rigorous music and dance requirements of *Anything Goes*, members of Morris’s music and dance faculty stepped up to join this challenging production. Music faculty Ken Hodgson and Diane DeJong serve as music director and vocal director, respectively. Dance faculty Stephanie Ferrian co-choreographed with Kari Stevermer, Marshall, who is completing her senior project in musical choreography.

This lively musical features a cast of 25 student actors, singers, and dancers, led by Andrew Birnstengel, South Saint Paul, as the love-struck stockbroker Billy Crocker, and Lynn Bixler, Brooklyn Park, as Reno Sweeney, his infectiously carefree partner in crime. Actors making their stage debut at Morris in *Anything Goes* include Alle Bowman, Bemidji, as Billy’s debutante love Hope Harcourt, and DeDe Olinger, Monticello, as mob doll Erma. Returning to the Morris stage is Ian Bloomquist, Wilmar, as Hope’s fiancé Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, Luis Reyes, Hanely Falls, as Public Enemy #13 Moonface Martin, Samantha Bottko, Battle Lake, as Hope’s mother, Evangeline Harcourt, and Aaron Booth, Spring Lake Park, as Billy’s boss Elisha Whitney. Both Bixler and Booth will be completing their senior projects in acting in

this production.

Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens. This production will have reserved seating. Free, convenient parking is available evening and weekends in all campus lots. For additional information, including group rates or advance ticket sales, please [email](#) the Theatre Box Office or call 320-589-6249.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.

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