FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 2019 – Updated June 26, 2019

Contact: Joy Donley, Operations Director, 952/454-7344, email: director@maplewoodhistoricalsociety.org

MAPLEWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:
SISTERS OF SWING: The Story of the Andrews Sisters

Opening Friday, July 19
Playing through Sunday, July 28
at Bruentrup Heritage Farm

(Maplewood, MN) – The Maplewood Area Historical Society is on a mission to make its historic barn a professional summertime theatre venue. In July they embark on their third annual summer show, and this time it’s SISTERS OF SWING: The Story of the Andrews Sisters, written by Minnesota playwrights Beth Gilleland and Bob Beverage. The story follows Minnesota-born sisters LaVerne, Maxene and Patty Andrews as they began their recording career in the ’30s, rose to stardom entertaining American GIs in WWII, and walked a winding path to success which gained them more top 10 hits than the Beatles. The show includes over 20 crowd-pleasing hit songs such as “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy” and “Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree.” Joy Donley, the show’s director, is also part-time operations director for the Society. She is excited about creating space to interact with Minnesota history through theatre. “History is sometimes a hard-sell,” she says, “but theatre gives history breath and skin,” she says.

The cast features Haley Haupt (Patty), Sarah DeYong (Maxene), Claire Repp (LaVerne), Greg Eiden (Various roles including Bing Crosby), and Michael Pearce Donley (Vic Shoen). The band features Christopher Erickson (string bass), Adam Gauger (drums) and is led by Michael Pearce Donley (piano). The creative team includes Joy Donley (director), Michael Pearce Donley (musical director), Meg Zauner (choreographer), Kris Livingston (costume design), Nathan Farley (set and props design) and Sarah D. Pierucki (lighting design and stage manager). Grace Dunavan is the stage hand and will be appearing as “Rosie the Riveter.” The show is written by Beth Gilleland and Bob Beverage, based on an idea by Ron Peluso, with musical arrangements and continuity by Raymond Berg.

Added features at this event include:
• Swing dances (including an instructor) after the Saturday night performances
• An exhibition of World War II artifacts
• USO “Stage Door Canteen”-inspired concessions
• Audio-described performance on July 20th
• Pre-show scavenger hunt and lawn games
• Ticket discounts for young adults, ages 13-24

SISTERS OF SWING: The Story of the Andrews Sisters plays July 19 – 28, 2019 at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm, 2170 County Road D East, in Maplewood. Tickets are $30 for VIP up-front seating; $20 general admission for adults age 25 and up & children age 8-12; $10 general admission for young adults age 13-24. Tickets can be purchased online at www.MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org or by phone at Brown Paper Tickets 1-800-838-3006 (toll-free). Performances are Fridays through Sundays at 7:00pm.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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NAME OF EVENT:

*SISTERS OF SWING: The Story of the Andrews Sisters*

Conceived and written by Beth Gilleland and Bob Beverage, based on an idea by Ron Peluso, with musical arrangements and continuity by Raymond Berg, Directed by Joy Donley, with musical direction by Michael Pearce Donley.

DESCRIPTION:

Minnesota-born sisters LaVerne, Maxene and Patty Andrews began their recording career in the ‘30s and rose to stardom entertaining American GIs in WWII. Follow these remarkable women and their winding pathway to success which gained them more top 10 hits than the Beatles! This show includes over 20 hit songs (like “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy”) that’ll have you bouncing in your seat! Also included are preshow exhibits with WWII memorabilia, and a swing dance after each Saturday show. Audio-Description available Saturday, July 20.

**This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.**

DATES/DAYS/TIMES:

Fridays-Sundays @ 7pm, July 19-21 & 26-28

ADMISSION COST: $10-$30

$10 General admission: Adults age 25 and up, children 8-12
$10 General admission: Young Adults age 13-24
$10 General admission: Audio-Described Patrons & companion (July 20 only)

LOCATION:

Maplewood Area Historical Society
At the Bruentrup Heritage Farm
2170 County Road D East
Maplewood MN 55109

TICKETS PHONE:

1-800/838-3006


EVENT CONTACT:  Joy Donley,  [Director@MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:Director@MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org), 952/454-7344

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