

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lee Foster, Executive Producing Director; Dan Meagher, Marketing Coordinator
(650) 349-6411

TONY AND OSCAR WINNING MUSICAL '*CHICAGO*' OPENS HILLBARN THEATRE'S 70th SEASON

(Foster City, California) One of Broadway's longest running musicals kicks off the Celebratory 70th season of one of the Bay Area's longest running theatre companies. Hillbarn Theatre's 2010 - 2011 "To Die For" Season opens with the Tony and Oscar winning musical *Chicago*, performing September 2 through the 26. For tickets and information, please call 650.349.6411 or visit www.HillbarnTheatre.org.

Chicago follows the exploits of the "merry murderesses" Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, two killers whose crimes turn them into celebrities. With the help of their scheming lawyer Billy Flynn, Velma and Roxie go from criminals to overnight stars. With knock-out choreography --a la Bob Fosse--by award-winning choreographer Jayne Zaban, (who just won Hillbarn Theatre's 2009 Subscriber Choice Award for Oklahoma!) plus a top-notch book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse, score by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb, *Chicago* features such hits such as "Razzle Dazzle," and "All That Jazz." You won't want to miss this killer comedy!

Based on the 1927 play of the same name by reporter Maurine Dallas Watkins, the story is a satire on corruption in the administration of criminal justice, and the concept of the "celebrity criminal".

Currently on Broadway, *Chicago* is one of the longest running shows of all time with over 5,000 performances. The 1996 revival has turned out to be more successful than its original 1975 run, which starred Gwen Verdon and Chita Rivera, and had the misfortune of opening at the same time as *A Chorus Line*. In 2002, the film version became a box office and critical hit starring Catherine Zeta-Jones and Renée Zellweger, and won the Academy Award for Best Picture.

Chicago stars actor's equity member Carrie Madsen from San Carlos as Velma Kelly; Alicia Teeter from San Francisco as Roxie Hart; Will Giammona from Oakland as Billy Flynn; Michael Carey from San Jose as Amos Hart; Raegen Raymond from Redwood City as Mama Morton; Robin Fife from Foster City as Mary Sunshine; Doug Stoveland from Foster City as Sgt. Fogarty; and Glenna Murillo from Gilroy as Go-to-Hell-Kitty. The other murderesses include Clarissa Chun, Angela Nuttman, Damaris Divito, Cheryl Ringman, and Beth Ann Wells. The all-star cast is rounded out by ensemble members: James Appleby, Marisa Bonahoom, Ryan Courtin, Lisa Cross, Erin Hewitt, Blake Kennedy, Catrina Manahan, and Peter Schuurmans.

Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 PM and Sundays at 2 PM. There is no Thursday performance on September 23. Preview Night is Thursday, September 2. Opening night is Friday, September 3 and features a Gala Reception after the showing kicking off the 70th Season. Tickets may be purchased by visiting www.HillbarnTheatre.org or calling 650.349.6411. Hillbarn Theatre is located at 1285 East Hillsdale Blvd in Foster City. Free parking is available.

Chicago kicks off the historic 70th "To Die For" Season of Hillbarn Theatre that includes shows: *Dial M for Murder*, *A Wonderful Life*, *Holes*, *Separate Tables*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. For more information on the season, please visit www.HillbarnTheatre.org.