



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 4, 2026

Contact: In-Fin Tuan,  
PR/Marketing  
email: pr@historytheatre.com  
phone/text: 402-332-7186

## History Theatre returns to the Northwoods with ***THE ROOT BEER LADY*** Opening July 8

"I never intended to live on a remote island in Northeastern Minnesota, steps from the Canadian border at the edge of...well, everything. I mean, who would intend such a thing?"

– Dorothy Molter, *The Root Beer Lady*

SAINT PAUL, MN – History Theatre is excited to announce the summer return of the one-woman show, ***The Root Beer Lady***. Written and performed by Kim Schultz and directed by Jess Yates (based on original direction by Addie Gorlin-Han), ***The Root Beer Lady*** is the story of the indomitable Dorothy Molter. The play, funny and passionate, explores her independence, fortitude, and love of nature and pushes back against the premise that her time in the North Woods made her the "Loneliest Woman in America," as the *Saturday Evening Post* claimed in 1952. ***The Root Beer Lady*** runs July 8-26, 2026. Tickets on sale now at historytheatre.com or call the box office at 651-292-4323.

Molter was an independent woman from Chicago who fell in love with the beauty of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA). Going against the social norms of the '30s and '40s and her father's wishes, she moved into a small cabin and made northern Minnesota her home. While Molter may have become a legend for her rugged and independent life, it was the root beer she brewed with lake water and served to thirsty paddlers that established her fame as "The Root Beer Lady." Opening July 8, come witness the beauty and hardships of Molter's solitary-yet-satisfying life as the last legal non-indigenous resident of the BWCA. Her story will delight all, young and old.

"I love telling this story that so many Minnesotans recognize. Almost everyone has a "Dorothy" story. It is such a joy to bring her back to life for audiences. And if you haven't seen it yet, now is your chance! It's a lot of fun!" said Schultz about the return of ***The Root Beer Lady***. "I hope audiences walk away feeling they had a good laugh and maybe shed a tear or two; learned something about a real Minnesota legend; and spent some time in community with folks, which I think is important for our spirits right now, both individually and collectively. I also hope it makes people think, reflecting on their own lives and choices, and that it gives them something to talk about at drinks or dinner after the show, because that's one of the purposes of theater, I believe—to connect us both *in the moment* and after."

The team includes **Kim Schultz\*** (Playwright and Performer), **Jess Yates** (Director), **Addie Gorlin-Han** (Original Direction), **Chelsea M Warren#** (Scenic Designer), **Abbee Warmboe** (Props Designer), **Sarah Bahr#** (Costume Designer), **Chris Johnson** (Lighting Designer), **Katharine Horowitz** (Sound Designer and

Composer), **Leslie Ritenour** (Video Designer), **Joe Cruz** (Recorded Music), **Gunther Gullickson** (Technical Director), **Nick Walberg** (Master Electrician), and **Meghan Kent** (Costume Assistant).

\* Member AEA # Member USA 829

**Kim Schultz (Playwright and Performer):** Originally from Minneapolis, Kim Schultz is a Chicago-based actor, writer, solo show artist and storyteller. Select theatrical credits include *A Christmas Carol* at The Goodman Theatre, *In the Garden* at Lookingglass Theatre (u/s), *No Place Called Home* at The Kennedy Center, *Silk Road Rising* and *3LD*, *Yang Zen Froggs* at Theatre de la Jeune Lune and *King Lear* at Ten Thousand Things, *The Comedy of Errors* at New England Shakespeare and *The F Trip* at The Zipper Factory. As an improviser and writer, she has worked at The Brave New Workshop, Disney Cruise Line, Chicago Improv Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival and on an HBO Comedy Showcase. This is Kim's third solo show. Previous solo work includes *The F Trip* and *No Place Called Home*. Kim also authored the memoir, *Three Days in Damascus* (Palewell Press, 2016) about her experience meeting Iraqi refugees in the Middle East. Her television work includes *Sex in the City*, *Chicago Fire*, as well as several national/regional commercials. In addition, Kim is a corporate improvisation trainer and occasionally runs artist residencies in Mexico. [www.kimschultz.net](http://www.kimschultz.net)

### **Ticket Information**

**Tiers 1-5:** \$25-65. **Students:** \$15. Additional discounts are available for seniors (available online) and patrons under 30 (must call to purchase). For tickets call 651-292-4323 or visit [historytheatre.com](http://historytheatre.com). Discount rates for groups of 10 or more. Call 651-292-4320 or email [groups@historytheatre.com](mailto:groups@historytheatre.com) to book a group.

### **Accessibility at History Theatre**

History Theatre strives to make all events accessible to all patrons. When purchasing tickets, please alert the box office of any accommodation or assistance needed. Accessibility offerings include hearing enhancement receivers, seating for patrons with wheelchairs and their companions, accessible restrooms, an entrance on Cedar St., and an elevator right to the theatre level for easy access. Contact the box office at 651-292-4323 for more information. [www.historytheatre.com/box-office/accessibility](http://www.historytheatre.com/box-office/accessibility)

- **Open Captioning:** Saturday, July 25, 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 26, 2:00 p.m.

#####

**History Theatre Mission:** History Theatre entertains, educates, and engages through creating, developing, and producing new and existing works that explore Minnesota's past and the diverse American experience. Its work provides a unique lens which links our past to the present, explores our common heritage, and illuminates our understanding of what it means to be American. [www.historytheatre.com](http://www.historytheatre.com)

**Land Acknowledgement:** History Theatre sits on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native nations in Minnesota and beyond. We recognize that this acknowledgement itself is not enough, and only serves as a first step towards decolonization.