



CHILDREN'S THEATER • IN-SCHOOL EDUCATION • THEATER ACADEMY
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**FIRST STAGE CHILDREN'S THEATER HIRES NEW COSTUME
SHOP MANAGER**

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (August 13, 2009) – Kathleen Ellis was recently hired as the new costume shop manager for First Stage Children's Theater. Beginning August 17, Ellis' duties will include supervising all costume shop and wardrobe personnel, purchasing for general wardrobe and shows, attending all design and production meetings plus more. Ellis will be responsible for overseeing a costume and wardrobe staff of five and the execution of all costume designs for the season.

Ellis has over 15 years of experience in New York's garment district, designing and merchandising women's clothing for some of the largest retailers in the U.S. As senior product developer and designer for E.S. Sutton Inc. in New York, Ellis was recruited to design women's wear for the brand Just My Size.

Since 1998, Ellis has operated her freelance design company, "Kathleen Ellis Designs." She returned to Milwaukee from New York in 2006, completing a variety of projects, including the launch of two separate fashion products as well as serving as costume designer for Divine Savior Holy Angels' productions of THE NERD and HONK.

Ellis graduated Cum Laude from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environment, Textiles and Design, and from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, with an Associate of Applied Sciences degree in apparel design.

First Stage Children's Theater is Milwaukee's premier, professional family theater. Founded in 1987, the mission of the company is to touch hearts and transform lives by creating exceptional, professional theater experiences for young people and families. First Stage is member of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education and TYA/USA, as well as Milwaukee Arts Partners and Theater Wisconsin, and is a cornerstone member of the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF).

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