



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: On July 6, 1974, *A Prairie Home Companion* was performed and broadcast for the first time, for an audience of 12 people, at the Janet Wallace Auditorium at Macalester College; and
- WHEREAS: The show, intended to last a year or two, started to draw audiences on Saturday nights just as those involved were about to quit. They kept going, and *Powdermilk Biscuits* posters were the first indicator that "there might just be something here after all;" and
- WHEREAS: They eventually realized the formula is simple: a variety of appealing music, radio actors versed in different genres, strong writing, a Midwestern ethos, and the thrill of live radio; and
- WHEREAS: Garrison Keillor did not plan to do the show for 40 years but, luckily for Minnesotans and listeners worldwide, his plan went awry. Through *A Prairie Home Companion*, his books, and other performances and writing, he has established himself as America's greatest living storyteller; and
- WHEREAS: On July 4-6, 2014, *A Prairie Home Companion* will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This celebration expects an audience much larger than the 12 in attendance in 1974; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota's beloved radio show is heard on over 600 public radio stations across the United States and is available worldwide on the Internet, bringing Minnesota's Lake Wobegon into homes in Asia and in dozens of European cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, July 6, 2014, as:

## A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION DAY

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June.

  
GOVERNOR





SECRETARY OF STATE