Minnesota Reflections contains a trove of resources on theater in Minnesota. Collectively, they indicate that Minnesotans embraced theater be it a live performance or motion pictures.

A simple search using “theaters” brings up many photographs of movie theaters, vaudeville/opera houses and theaters throughout Minnesota.

http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?nemhc,1747
http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?cotton,839
http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?hchm,974

Hennepin County Library’s large collection of theater programs is available in Minnesota Reflections. The programs from the Lyceum, Orpheum and Schubert theaters provide valuable insights into what Minnesota theater attendees enjoyed. Minnesotans enjoyed many traveling shows via the national connections of these theaters.

http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?mpls,2253
http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?mpls,2085
http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?mpls,2286

Minnesotans not only enjoyed professional theater, but formed community theater troops or clubs such as the Harmony Thespians: http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?fch,95 and the Jewish Youth Community Theater of South Minneapolis: http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?jhs,303. The Roosevelt Club, organized in 1901, was made up young business men in Minneapolis. The club put on plays in Minneapolis, Duluth, Fargo and Mankato. http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?mpls,4011

Minnesota Theater attracted the attention of such notables as Sinclair Lewis. The Sinclair Lewis Collection from the St. Cloud State University Archives contains letters from Lewis talking about a request from the Old Log Theater to direct a show for them. http://reflections.mndigital.org/u/?p15160coll1,1181

This is just a sampling of the theater resources contained in Minnesota Reflections. Explore!