STAGE STORES INC Form DEF 14A April 15, 2009

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A (Rule 14a-101)

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant T
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o
Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- T Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

Stage Stores, Inc. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

| Tayment of Tilling Fee (| Check the appropriate box). | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| T No fee required. | | | | |
| o Fee computed on tab | ele below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i) (1) and 0-11. | | | |
| (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: | | | | |
| (2) | Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies: | | | |
| (3) | Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to | | | |
| | Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined): | | | |
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| | with preliminary materials. | | | |
| • 1 | art of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for | | | |
| which the offsetting fee | was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the | | | |
| Form or Schedule and t | he date of its filing. | | | |
| (1) Amount Previou | sly Paid: | | | |
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| | STAGE STORES | INC. | | |
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| BEALLS | PALAIS ROYAL | PEEBLES | STAGE | |
| | Notice of 200 | 9 | _ | |
| | Annual Meetin | ıg | | |
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STAGE STORES INC.

BEALLS PALAIS ROYAL PEEBLES STAGE

10201 Main Street Houston, Texas 77025

April 24, 2009

Dear Shareholder:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Stage Stores, Inc. on Thursday, June 4, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. local time, in Houston, Texas. Information about the Annual Meeting is presented in the following pages.

The Annual Meeting will begin with a discussion and vote on the matters set forth in the accompanying Notice of 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Proxy Statement, followed by a discussion on any other business matters that are properly brought before the meeting.

Your vote is very important. We encourage you to read the Proxy Statement and vote your shares as soon as possible. Whether or not you plan to attend, you can be sure your shares are represented at the Annual Meeting by promptly completing, signing, dating and returning your Proxy Card in the enclosed envelope or by submitting your vote and proxy by telephone or by the Internet.

If you will need special assistance at the Annual Meeting because of a disability, please contact Bob Aronson, Vice President, Investor Relations, at (800) 579-2302.

Thank you for your continued support of Stage Stores, Inc. We look forward to seeing you on June 4th.

Sincerely,

James R. Scarborough Chairman of the Board

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