



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COCA presents final 2008-2009 weekend of family theatre...

Madeline and the Bad Hat

Musical theatre based on the classic story

WHO/WHAT:

COCA Family Theatre Series presents *Madeline and the Bad Hat*

COCA wraps up its 2008-2009 season of the COCA Family Theatre Series with an original children's musical about the loveable Parisian girl. New Jersey-based ArtsPower's amusing tale of *Madeline and the Bad Hat* keeps all the charm of the original Ludwig Bemelmans story.

[The 2009-2010 season lineup of the COCA Family Theatre Series will be announced at *Madeline* weekend.](#)

The third book in the Madeline series, *Madeline and the Bad Hat*, focuses on the unbreakable bonds of friendship and family, as it traces the adventures of Madeline and the tried-and-true Miss Clavel. When they discover that their new neighbor is nothing but trouble, it is up to our resourceful heroine to save the day and teach this mischievous boy a lesson.

This hour-long musical performance includes bright and memorable songs, and captures Bemelmans' distinctive Madeline illustrations.

Since its start in 1985, ArtsPower has created 24 original musicals and dramas, many of which are based on books for young readers. The productions have toured 44 states and have been performed for more than 6.5 million people at America's most esteemed venues, including The Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center.

The 2008-2009 COCA Family Theatre Series is presented by Peabody. Wachovia Securities and Centene are season sponsors.

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WHEN: **Friday, April 3** - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 4 - 11:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 5 - 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: **COCA**, 524 Trinity Avenue, in the University City Loop, just off Delmar

COST: Tickets are \$14 and \$18 and are available through MetroTix (314.534.1111 or www.metrotix.com) and the COCA Box Office (314.725.1834 x124).

MORE ON: ArtsPower's twofold mission is to provide young people, many for the very first time, with
ARTSPOWER the opportunity to experience the power of outstanding theatre that entertains, stimulates, and educates; and to enhance “character education” among young people by creating theatre that fosters sound moral development, encourages self-expression, ignites the desire to read, and advances their development as productive members of society.

ArtsPower is one of America’s preeminent nonprofit producers and presenters of professional, Actors' Equity Association theatre for young and family audiences. With over 1,000 performances annually, ArtsPower has amassed an audience of nearly 8 million people throughout 45 states.

PHOTOS: **High-resolution photos** are available upon request by contacting Lori Otta at lotta@cocastl.org or calling 314.725.1834 x137.

Founded in 1986, COCA is a multidisciplinary community arts center that provides exceptional arts education through programs, performances and exhibitions. Programs include the COCA Family Theatre Series, presenting nationally recognized artists in its 400-seat theatre; educational classes, camps, and workshops in dance, music, drama, and visual arts for all ages; and contemporary art exhibits in the Millstone Gallery. COCA's award-winning outreach program, Urban Arts, provides free arts education to low-income students throughout St. Louis. For more information about COCA, please visit www.COCastl.org.

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