



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fred Garbo Inflatable Theatre Co. returns to COCA

2009-2010 COCA FAMILY THEATRE SERIES

Single Ticket Sales Open September 1!

WHO/WHAT: 2009-2010 COCA Family Theatre Series

Single ticket sales for the COCA Family Theatre Series open September 1. Individual tickets are available for both Best (\$18-\$22) and Regular (\$14-\$18) seats. Tickets may be purchased from the COCA website at www.COCAstl.org/FTS, or in person at the COCA Box Office. Seat location is subject to availability, and is assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

This season's lineup boasts Grammy and Emmy Award-winners, and a Tony Award nominee, and continues the tradition of having a strong literary component. The Series includes audience favorites from previous years as well as several new and innovative performances from southwest Louisiana to London.

THE SEASON: ArtsPower's Production of Laura Ingalls Wilder, October 2-4, 2009

This fascinating story about one of America's most beloved authors comes to life in an uplifting musical from New Jersey-based ArtsPower. Through serious obstacles, their pioneering spirit and family bonds are never broken.

Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Co, October 23-25, 2009

Audience favorites Fred Garbo and ballerina Daelma Santos inflate themselves and their surroundings to create an energetic, colorful fantasy world that is like nothing you have ever seen before! Based in Maine, Garbo has appeared on stage and television throughout the world.

Room on the Broom, November 6-8, 2009

Adapted from the popular book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler, this high-flying musical is presented by London-based Tall Stories.

TAP! with Jason Samuels Smith, November 21-22, 2009

This Emmy-winning Broadway performer has emerged as a phenomenon in the world of tap dance. His energetic artistry has attracted audiences worldwide to the art form.

The Little Dancer Travels Through Time, December 11-13, 2009

COCA's Ballet Eclectica returns to the stage in this holiday favorite. Beautiful artwork and hundreds of dazzling costumes make this story ballet a great introduction to the dance form for children.

Creole for Kidz, January 29-31, 2010

Grammy Award-winning "Creole King" Terrance Simien has shared the stage with Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, and the Dave Matthews Band. His joyous zydeco music is a trademark of the unique Louisiana culture.

A Year with Frog and Toad, February 26-28, 2010

Direct from Broadway, this three-time Tony Award nominee stays true to the spirit of the charming and witty Arnold Lobel books. Cheerful Frog and grumpy Toad go on an adventure through the four seasons.

Fairy Tales with Maestro Rob Kapilow, March 5-7 2010

This extraordinary conductor, along with the talented PickleShoes Dancers and pianist Judith Gordon, returns to COCA to present new renditions of classic tales such as *Cinderella*, *Pinocchio*, and *Mother Goose*.

WHERE: Founders' Theatre at COCA, 524 Trinity Avenue, U. City in the Delmar Loop

PRICES: Individual ticket sales open September 1. Tickets are available for Regular seats (\$14-\$18) and Best seats (\$18-\$22). For more information or to purchase tickets, call 314.725.6555 or visit the COCA website at www.COCAstl.org/FTS.

Subscriptions are available for a limited time. The packages are comprised of five performances of your choice (\$68-\$85) or inclusive of all eight performances (\$109-\$136). Call 314.725.6555 to request a series brochure or download a copy at www.COCAstl.org/FTS.

TIMES: Productions take place at the following times: Fridays at 7:00pm, Saturdays at 3:00pm and 5:00pm, and Sundays at 1:30pm and 3:30pm. (TAP! with Jason Samuels Smith does not have a Friday show, and The Little Dancer does not have a Sunday 3:30pm show.)

PHOTOS: High-resolution photos are available upon request by contacting Lori Otta at lotta@cocastl.org or by calling 314.725.1834, ext. 137.

SPONSORS: The COCA Family Theatre Series is made possible by Presenting Sponsor Peabody, Season Sponsors Wells Fargo Advisors and Centene Corporation, and Hotel Sponsor Lodging Hospitality Management (DoubleTree St. Louis at Westport, Hilton St. Louis Airport, Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, Hilton Garden Inn St. Louis Airport, Seven Gables Inn, and Sheraton Westport Plaza Tower). Additional support is provided by Missouri Arts Council, Arts and Education Council, and Regional Arts Commission.

Founded in 1986, COCA's mission is to enrich lives and build community through the arts. 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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