



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kate Olympiadis, Communications Coordinator

colympiadis@cocastl.org, 314.725.1834 x151

Jill Gillespie, Production Manager

jjillespie@cocastl.org, 314.725.1834 x121



ArtsPower's Production of Laura Ingalls Wilder, 2009

The 2009-2010 COCA Family Theatre Series
opens with

ArtsPower's Production of Laura Ingalls Wilder

WHO/WHAT: COCA presents *Laura Ingalls Wilder*

The 2009-2010 COCA Family Theatre Series showcases eight acclaimed productions from October 2009 through March 2010. The Series is a much-loved St. Louis institution, with world-class theatre, music, and dance presented in an intimate setting. 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.

Laura Ingalls Wilder kicks off the 2009-2010 COCA Family Theatre Series October 2-4. In this uplifting musical about one of America's most beloved authors, Laura and her family travel across America in search of a place they can call home. Facing obstacles such as scarlet fever and eviction from their land, their pioneering spirit and family bonds are tested but never broken.

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

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 2 - 7:00p
Saturday, Oct. 3 - 3:00p & 5:00p
Sunday, Oct. 4 - 1:30p & 3:30p

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

COST: Tickets are available for Regular seats (\$14-\$18) and Best seats (\$18-\$22). For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the COCA Box Office at (314) 725-1834, ext. 124. After September 1, tickets will be available for purchase from the COCA website (www.COCAstl.org).

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

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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