



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COCA PRESENTS *MATILDA THE MUSICAL*

ST. LOUIS (June 29, 2022)—COCA's Summer Musical takes the stage with Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical*, July 22–24, 2022. The production features influential performances, high-energy dance numbers, and a story about justice performed by professional and student artists in collaboration with each other. *Matilda The Musical* is directed by Jennifer Wintzer, choreographed by Christopher Page-Sanders, and music directed by Colin Healy.

Based on the beloved children's book, *Matilda The Musical* tells the story of Matilda Wormood, a young girl with extraordinary powers, who believes in the power of justice and a good book. Matilda's cruel and neglectful parents send her off to school where she struggles under the reign of the school's tyrannical headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, who punishes children for not abiding by her strict rules. Matilda befriends her kind teacher, Miss Honey, who realizes Matilda's talents and encourages her to embrace her uniqueness. Matilda learns how to use her powers to seek fairness for herself and her friends, never letting "little thing like little" stop her.

COCA Pre-Professional Division Theatre Artist student Riley Carter Adams joins the cast as Matilda. A rising seventh grader, Carter Adams has performed in The Rep's *A Christmas Carol* and is a member of The Muny Kids Touring Troupe, performing in the 2022 productions of *Camelot* and *The Color Purple*.

Matilda The Musical is proudly presented by Mary Strauss.

WHAT: *Matilda The Musical*

WHEN
FRI, JUL 22 | 7:00PM
SAT, JUL 23 | 3:00PM*
SAT, JUL 23 | 7:00PM**
SUN, JUL 24 | 1:00PM
SUN, JUL 24 | 5:00PM

*The role of Matilda will be performed by understudy Devynn Yakel.

**Audio Description provided by MindsEye Radio & ASL Interpretation provided by Deaf Inc.

WHERE: Catherine B. Berges Theatre at COCA
6880 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63130

AVAILABLE INTERVIEWS: Riley Carter Adams, Matilda
Alicia Revé Like, Miss Honey
Delaney Piggins, Artistic Producer
Jennifer Wintzer, Artistic Director of Theatre and Director of *Matilda The Musical*

EVENT WEBSITE: cocastl.org/calendar/matilda-the-musical/

TICKETS: Tickets may be purchased online at orders.cocastl.org or by phone at 314.561.4873.

**COVID-19
PROTOCOLS:**

Effective June 8, 2022, COCA has temporarily reinstated our mask requirement. Masks must be worn at all times inside the COCA building, except when eating or drinking in designated areas. Conditions are continually monitored, and we will provide updates should the level return to medium or low. [Click here for a full list of COCA's current protocols and what patrons should expect.](#)

SPONSORS:

COCA presents season is made possible by: Berges Family Foundation, Hearst Foundations, Mary Ranken Jordan & Ettie A. Jordan Charitable Foundation, Mary Strauss, Lee Bohm, The Cheshire, and Missouri Arts Council.

COCA Core Sponsors include: Emerson, Spry Digital, Regional Arts Commission, Arts and Education Council, Pershing Charitable Trust, The Saigh Foundation, Gertrude & William A. Bernoudy Foundation, Dula-Kobusch Charitable Trust, and The Bellwether Foundation.

COCA Pre-Professional Division Supporters include: Bayer Fund, The Strive Fund, Twinkle Toes Foundation. This project has been supported by the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Neighborhood Assistance Program.

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ABOUT COCA

COCA's mission is to *enrich lives and build community through the arts*. With a commitment to equity and access, COCA serves as a regional hub for learning in and through the arts for all ages from all backgrounds. One of the most diverse cultural institutions in St. Louis, COCA serves more than 50,000 students, audience members, artists, and families from more than 200 zip codes across the St. Louis region every year. The fourth largest multi-disciplinary arts organization in the country, COCA is committed to supporting the vitality and creativity of more than 200 artists at the heart of their work in schools, community centers, local business, cultural organizations, and onsite at its campus in University City.