



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COCA DANCE COMPANIES PRESENT WORKS FROM DISTINGUISHED CHOREOGRAPHERS FOR *TRIUMPHANT*

*Season-culminating Repertoire Showcases Talent, Variety & Versatility of Pre-Professional Students*

**ST. LOUIS (April 25, 2023)**—COCA’s Pre-Professional Division student dance companies—Ballet Eclectica, COCA dance, and the COCA Hip-Hop Crew—will present choreographic works by world-renowned artists for their annual spring repertoire, *TRlumphant*, May 5–7. Dance enthusiasts will experience the immense talent, variety, and versatility of these talented young artists.

“COCA’s Pre-Professional Division dancers have grown tremendously over the past several years, and this weekend celebration is sure to be an exhilarating display of their hard work,” said Kirven Douthit-Boyd, COCA Associate Director of Dance Production & Artistic Director of COCA dance. “*TRlumphant* marks the seventh spring repertoire concert under the Artistic Direction of Antonio Douthit-Boyd. His care for quality training, in conjunction with the talents of the artistic team and teaching artists, continues to support the young dancers through challenging creative development processes and encourages them to explore deeper levels of their artistry.”

The weekend features 16 works across three programs from distinguished choreographers, including Justin Conte, Nina Flagg, Tom Gold, Abdur Rahim Jackson, and Marcus Jarrell Willis. The choreographed pieces were developed during residencies with the guest artists and provided COCA students the opportunity to work alongside professionals from different backgrounds and genres.

“The visiting artists left us with works that highlight the brilliance of our students’ technical and artistic capabilities, showcased across three captivating programs for audiences to enjoy. Friday evening, we honor COCA’s long-standing tradition of featuring our senior class. We are thrilled for audiences to hear statements from each of our seniors detailing their time at COCA,” added Douthit-Boyd.

*TRlumphant* marks the last opportunity to witness the artistry of COCA’s 2023 Dance Program graduating seniors. The program on Friday, May 5 will showcase solo works performed by our graduates and a chance to hear about their time at COCA and future plans.

Tickets are on sale at [cocastl.org](http://cocastl.org) or by contacting the COCA Box Office at 314.561.4873. Ticket prices range from \$28–\$33.

The 2022–2023 COCApresents Season is proudly presented by Mary Strauss.

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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.