



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COCA TO HOLD YOUTH & ALUMNI AUDITIONS FOR ITS SUMMER MUSICAL PRODUCTION OF *THE COLOR PURPLE*

ST. LOUIS (December 21, 2023)—COCA will host auditions, January 6–7, for its mainstage summer musical production of [The Color Purple](#). [Students and Youth](#), Ages 10–18, and [COCA Alumni](#), Ages 18+, are invited to audition. Auditions will be held in individual, five-minute auditions slots on Saturday, January 6. Callbacks and a dance call will be held on Sunday, January 7, by invitation only. Alumni also may audition by submitting a video.

Over the past two decades, COCA Summer Musicals have been a source of inspiration, talent, and community. COCA welcomes alumni to return to help us honor their significant role in the success and growth of the program. Both alumni and students will be featured on stage together for this production.

The Color Purple is a musical adaptation of Alice Walker’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and the popular 1985 Steven Spielberg film. Featuring a Grammy Award-winning score infused with jazz, ragtime, gospel, and African blues, this moving tale is a testament to the healing power of love, faith, resilience, and sisterhood.

The Color Purple, July 20–21, will be directed by Duane Foster with music direction by Dr. Philip A. Woodmore and choreographed by Christopher Page-Sanders. COCA’s annual Summer Musical, *The Color Purple*, is proudly presented by Mary Strauss.

For more information, visit cocastl.org/auditions. Contact Cameron Tyler, Artistic Producer, at ctyler@cocastl.org for any questions about the production or auditions.

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.

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