



## MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COCA NEW WORKS FESTIVAL TO SHOWCASE NEW CHOREOGRAPHIC WORK BY EMERGING ARTIST ARPÈGE LUNDYN**

**ST. LOUIS (October 30, 2025)**—The 2025–2026 COCApresents Season kicks off with [New Works Festival](#), a performance that showcases new work developed through COCA’s Choreographic Lab and performed by COCA’s pre-professional ballet dancers.

#### **WHAT**

##### *New Works Festival*

COCA’s pre-professional ballet dancers showcase new work developed through COCA’s Choreographic Lab, a program that offers a unique opportunity for creatives to explore new approaches to dance-making. Arpège Lundyn was selected as this year’s emerging choreographer and worked with pre-professional artists and world-class mentors to create a brand-new piece, “it ends in the beginning.” Lundyn’s work features music from Flying Lotus and Alfonso Peduto. Lundyn was mentored by professional dancers and choreographers, including Jamar Roberts, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Houston Thomas, and My’Kal Stromile.

“The themes of the piece revolve around control, betrayal, distrust, loss, and anger. Ultimately, it’s about overcoming the obstacles we face in life, finding the strength to end negative cycles and begin anew, all the while, still acknowledging that it doesn’t mean these feelings will never resurface—we just begin new cycles.”—Arpège Lundyn

The program also features a new piece choreographed by COCA Teaching Artist Carrie Fernandez.

*New Works Festival* highlights how mentorship can have a multi-level impact on the innovative craft of an emerging professional and our pre-professional artists.

Recommended for all ages

#### **WHEN**

Friday, November 7, 2025  
7:00–8:00PM

#### **WHERE**

COCA – Center of Creative Arts  
Staenberg Performance Lab  
6880 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63130

**TICKET INFORMATION** Tickets are \$18. Group ticket rates are available for groups of 10 or more. \$5 Student Rush tickets are available in person at the COCA Box Office starting Monday, November 3.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [cocastl.org/calendar/new-works-festival/](http://cocastl.org/calendar/new-works-festival/) or contact the COCA Box Office at 314.561.4873 or [boxoffice@cocastl.org](mailto:boxoffice@cocastl.org).

**AVAILABLE INTERVIEWS** **Kirven Douthit-Boyd**, Interim Artistic Director of Dance at COCA  
**Arpège Lundyn**, 2026 Choreographic Lab emerging artist

**EVENT WEBSITE** [cocastl.org/calendar/new-works-festival/](http://cocastl.org/calendar/new-works-festival/)

**SPONSORS** **Amy, Sadie, & Gray Lefton**, COCApresents Season Presenting Sponsor  
**Mercy, Missouri Arts Council, and Regional Arts Commission**, COCApresents Season Supporting Sponsor

## **ABOUT COCA**

COCA's mission is to *enrich lives and build community through the arts*. For 40 years, COCA has served as a regional hub for learning in and through the arts for all ages from all backgrounds. One of the most celebrated cultural institutions in St. Louis, COCA's arts programs reach nearly 60,000 students, audience members, artists, and families from more than 250 zip codes 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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