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COCA ANNOUNCES 2025 SUMMER REP PRODUCTIONS

Hadestown: Teen Edition and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*
to be Presented in Rotating Rep, July 24–27

ST. LOUIS (October 24, 2024)—[COCA – Center of Creative Arts](#) today announced *Hadestown: Teen Edition* and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Enchanted Edition)* as its Summer Rep productions to be presented July 24–27, 2025. COCA's Summer Rep showcases the talents of COCA's musical theatre pre-professional artists as they perform contrasting musicals in rotating rep over the course of the weekend. The lineup features musical theatre experiences for audiences of all ages with a contemporary musical recommended for ages 8 and up and a musical favorite for young audiences and their families.

“Both musicals, *Hadestown: Teen Edition* and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*, examine the role of dreamers but in contrasting ways. One is a lush, classic musical for a family audience, and the other a contemporary folk opera,” said Shawna Flanigan, COCA's Senior Director of Artistic Strategy & Programs. “It is an exciting opportunity to look at the ideas that connect the work as well as the musical forms that differentiate them. For audiences, they will witness our incredibly talented pre-professionals perform two challenging works back-to-back.”

[Hadestown: Teen Edition](#) is an intriguing and beautiful folk opera that delivers a deeply resonant and defiantly hopeful theatrical experience. Following two intertwining love stories—that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of immortal King Hades and Lady Persephone—*Hadestown: Teen Edition* invites audiences on a journey to the underworld and back. Inspired by traditions of classic American folk music and vintage New Orleans jazz, Anaïs Mitchell's beguiling sung-through musical pits industry against nature, doubt against faith, and fear against love.

The timeless enchantment of a magical fairy tale is reborn with a Tony-nominated Broadway adaptation of [Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella](#), a beloved musical that will put a spell on audiences of all ages and make them believe in the impossible. *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* showcases some of the songwriting duo's loveliest tunes, including “In My Own Little Corner,” “Impossible/It's Possible,” and “Ten Minutes Ago.”

Hadestown: Teen Edition will be directed by Grace Austin, with music direction by Noah Van Ess and choreography by Christopher Page-Sanders. *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* will be directed by Shawna Flanigan, with music direction by Dr. Philip A. Woodmore and choreography by Alisa Cooper.

Young actors, ages 10–13, can audition for and perform in *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*; while teens, ages 13–19, have the opportunity to rehearse and perform in both shows, giving them a unique experience to engage with a wide range of material in an intensive setting. Auditions for Summer Rep will be held January 31–February 1, 2025. Audition information and registration is available at cocastl.org/auditions.

“We are so excited about the learning opportunity that teens will have to simultaneously explore widely

different musical theatre styles and showcase the full breadth of their talents in our Summer Rep,” added Flanigan.

COCA Summer Rep is proudly presented by COCA Summer Musicals Presenting Sponsor Mary Strauss and COCApresents Season Leading Sponsor Amy, Sadie, & Sacha Lefton.

Tickets go on sale to COCA Membership on Thursday, October 24, and the general public on Thursday, November 7. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit cocastl.org/on-stage-performances.

*HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp.
www.concordtheatricals.com*

CINDERELLA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. www.concordtheatricals.com

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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 60,000 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.