



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE, A DANCE COMPANY TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

*World-renowned EVIDENCE, A Dance Company to Perform Ensemble Work  
for In-Person and Livestream Audiences, April 16–18*

**ST. LOUIS—**[COCA](https://www.cocastl.org) is excited to announce a limited number of in-person tickets for *Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company*, April 16–18, 2021, in the new Catherine B. Berges Theatre. The performances also will be livestreamed for at-home viewing. In-person tickets are \$25; Livestream tickets are \$20.

EVIDENCE, A Dance Company integrates traditional African dance with contemporary choreography and spoken word to provide a unique view of human struggles, tragedies, and triumphs. EVIDENCE will perform a collection of ensemble work, including: *Grace*, commissioned by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 20 years ago; *Mercy*, an ethereal movement meditation that seeks to guide our hearts, set to music by Meshell Ndegeocello; and *Upside Down*, an excerpt from the evening length work *Destiny*. The concert is a weekend-long celebration and culmination of *Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company's* Artist-in-Residence engagement at COCA and features COCA Co-Artistic Director of Dance Kirven Douthit-Boyd as a guest artist.

Ronald K. Brown founded EVIDENCE in 1985 in Brooklyn, New York. The mission of EVIDENCE is to promote understanding of the human experience in the African Diaspora through dance and storytelling and to provide sensory connections to history and tradition through music, movement, and spoken word, leading deeper into issues of spirituality, community responsibility and liberation. Brown is one of the nation's most celebrated choreographers. He has set works on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, Ballet Hispánico, Cleo Parker Robinson Ensemble, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Jennifer Muller/The Works, Jeune Ballet d'Afrique Noire, Ko-Thi Dance Company, Malpaso Dance Company, Philadanco and many others. Brown additionally received a Fred & Adele Astaire Award for Outstanding Choreography in the Tony Award-winning Broadway and national touring production of The Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*.

COCA's Artist-in-Residence engagement and performance with Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company was curated in collaboration with COCA's Co-Artistic Directors of Dance Antonio Douthit-Boyd and Kirven Douthit-Boyd. It affirms COCA's commitment to progressing its approach to dance education and elevating the community's dance theatre experience.

### **Performance Schedule:**

Friday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 18 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased through COCA's website at [cocastl.org](https://www.cocastl.org) or by phone at 314.725.6555. In-person seats will be assigned the day before the show. Tickets will be issued digitally and scanned from the guest's mobile device when entering the theatre, allowing for contactless entry. There will be no printed tickets or will call pick up.

COCA's Health & Safety Procedures for theatre productions have been approved by St. Louis County. Guests should expect the following health and safety protocols for *Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company*:

- COCA is operating at limited capacity for the Catherine B. Berges Theatre.

- Guests must wear masks at all times on the COCA campus in both indoor and outdoor spaces.
- All guests are screened at building entrance with contactless temperature checks.
- This concert will feature the artists of *Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company* performing unmasked. The artists follow strict protocols, which include regularly scheduled COVID-19 testing and limited contact with individuals outside of the company. They will be 17 feet from the audience.

For a full list of health and safety protocols, visit [cocastl.org/campus-safety](https://cocastl.org/campus-safety).

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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 over 50,000 students, audience members, artists and families from over 220 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 over 200 artists at the heart of its work in schools, community centers, local business, cultural organizations, and on-site at its campus in University City.