



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 11, 2021

Abby Frohne, Director of Marketing
afrohne@cocastl.org, 314.561.4876

COCA TO REQUIRE PROOF OF VACCINATION OR NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST FOR TICKETED PERFORMANCES

ST. LOUIS — Joining with other arts organizations across the St. Louis region, [COCA – Center of Creative Arts](#) will require all patrons to show proof of full* COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test, no more than 72 hours old, upon arrival to ticketed performances in the Catherine B. Berges Theatre and Staenberg Performance Lab. This decision was made after careful consideration for the health and safety of COCA's patrons, artists, students, and staff.

“COCA is a place for the arts to come alive and bring our community together,” said Kelly Pollock, COCA's Executive Director. “Over the past 18 months, we've had to approach our operations and programming with creativity and rigor in order to keep our community safe and engaged. We are thrilled to open the 2021–2022 COCApresents season by bringing audiences back into the Catherine B. Berges Theatre and Staenberg Performance Lab in a safe, socially responsible way that allows live performances to move forward.”

COCA's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy:

- All vaccinated patrons must show proof of full* COVID-19 vaccination upon arrival at COCA. Patrons will need to bring a photo ID and their vaccination card in the form of the card itself, photo(s) of both sides of the card, a photocopy of both sides of the card, or a copy or photo of a vaccination record from the Department of Health.
- Or
- Children under 12 years old and unvaccinated patrons must show proof of a negative COVID-19 test. A negative RT-PCR test, antigen test, or self-administered home test within three days of the performance will be accepted.
- All patrons are required to wear a mask at all times on the COCA campus—both indoors and outdoors. Disposable masks will be provided to those arriving without a mask.
- Performances may feature unmasked performers. Performers must be fully vaccinated and test negative for COVID-19 to have the option to perform unmasked.
- The Catherine B. Berges Theatre, Staenberg Performance Lab, and all high touch areas will be sanitized in between performances. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the COCA campus.

**Fully vaccinated is defined as two weeks after the date of the final (one dose of Johnson & Johnson or second dose of Pfizer or Moderna) dose of vaccine.*

Patrons in need of a COVID-19 vaccine can visit stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-departments/public-health/covid-19/ for vaccine information and to book an appointment.

For more information on the 2021–2022 COCApresents Season, visit cocastl.org/coca-presents. For questions on COCA's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, contact the COCA Box Office at 314.725.6555 or boxoffice@cocastl.org.

###

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 teaching artists at the heart of its work in schools, community centers, local business, cultural organizations, and on-site at its campus in University City.