

April 4, 2019

For Immediate Release

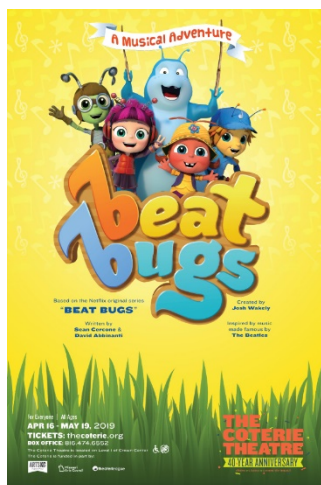
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**The Coterie Stages New Musical
Based on Popular Netflix Series
Introducing Music of the Beatles
to Next Generation**

***Beat Bugs:
A Musical Adventure***

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: *Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure*

Based on the Netflix original series "BEAT BUGS"

Created by Josh Wakely

Written by Sean Cercone & David Abbinanti

Directed by Jeff Church

Music direction by Anthony T. Edwards

Choreography by Marc Wayne

WHEN: April 16 – May 19, 2019

Press / Opening Night: Friday, April 19, at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Coterie, Level one of Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO

**PRICE: \$13.00 for youth under 18, full-time students, and seniors age 60+;
\$17.00 for adults; \$5.00 - \$8.00 for Groups of 20 or more**

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

Phone: (816) 474-6552 Online: www.thecoterie.org

Kansas City, MO – The Coterie Theatre continues its 40th season of live theatre for families and young audiences with ***Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure***, a new musical adaptation for families with all ages of the popular animated Netflix series, *Beat Bugs*. Featuring the adventures of five insect pals, ***Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure*** uses music made famous by the Beatles to tell a

story of friendship and community. ***Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure*** is directed by Jeff Church, with musical direction by Anthony T. Edwards and choreography by Marc Wayne, and will be performed live on The Coterie's stage, April 16 - May 19, 2019.

THE PLAY

Meet the Beat Bugs – five insects who explore the world and pick up life lessons along the way in this new musical which incorporates songs made famous by The Beatles. Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, and Kumi embark on a mission to save Strawberry Fields from being taken over by a stink bug with other plans for it. Some of the songs from the iconic catalogue that appear in the show include “All You Need is Love,” “Come Together,” “Yellow Submarine,” “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds,” “Strawberry Fields Forever,” “Eleanor Rigby,” and “With a Little Help from My Friends ,” introducing a whole new generation to The Beatles.

Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure is based on the popular animated Netflix series which won an Emmy in 2016, and is currently in its third season. Fans now get the chance to see their favorite characters live on stage in a musical that, like the series, incorporates songs from the Lennon/McCartney catalogue to tell uplifting stories filled with inspiring melodies. The Beat Bugs are charming, funny, adventurous, and have a knack for getting themselves into mischief and mayhem. They are best friends who band together to explore and learn in an overgrown suburban backyard, which - to them - is their entire universe.

Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure will run approximately 65 minutes with no intermission and can be enjoyed by families with all ages. The Coterie is funded in part by the Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, Theater League, and the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

THE ARTISTS

The cast of ***Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure*** will feature Steven Eubank (as Walter), Morgan Lynn Sterrett (as Buzz), Roan Ricker (as Jay), Darrington Clark (as Crick), Catera Combs (as Kumi), Phil Newman (as Mean Mr. Mustard), Mandy Morris (as Prudence, Band Member), Jacob Elliott (as Mr. Sun, Miner Bird, Sgt. Pepper, Flattop), Morgan Walker (as Miner Bird, Band Member, Queen Bee), and Jake Gollieher (Miner Bird, Billy Shears, Postman Bee, Joe Cockeroach). The artistic and production company includes Jeff Church (director), Anthony T. Edwards (music director), Marc Wayne (choreographer), Danielle Renee (production stage manager), Scott Hobart (technical director/associate set designer), Jordan Janota (set designer), Jarrett Bertoncin (lighting designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (costume designer), David Kiehl (sound designer), Lee Barker (properties/set dressing), and Taylor Sullivan (assistant stage manager).

SHOW DATES, TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 40th Season and named “One of the Five Best Theaters for Young

Audiences in the U.S.” by *TIME* magazine, will perform **Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure** April 16 – May 19, 2019, in The Coterie Theatre, located on level one of the Crown Center shops in Kansas City, MO. Press Night will be held on Friday, April 19, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

Individual Tickets: Tickets are \$13.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors age 60 and older; and \$17.00 for adults.

Subscriptions: In lieu of season subscriptions, The Coterie offers the Spotlight Pass, which works like a season ticket without committing to a set schedule. Spotlight Pass holders pay \$110.00 for a flexible pass that includes 10 tickets that can be used for any show or combination of the shows remaining in the 2018/2019 Season.

Group Pricing: The Coterie offers groups of 20 or more a special preview rate of \$5.00 per person the first week of each production. After preview week, groups pay only \$5.00 - \$8.00 per person depending on performance date.

Performance Calendar

**BEAT BUGS:
A Musical Adventure**

APRIL 16 - MAY 19, 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		16 10 am	17 10 am	18 10 am 12 pm	19 10 am 12 pm 7 pm 	20 2 pm 
21	22	23 10 am 12 pm	24 10 am 12 pm	25 10 am 12 pm	26 10 am 12 pm 7 pm 	27 2 pm 
28 2 pm	29	30 10 am 12 pm	1 10 am 12 pm	2 10 am 12 pm	3 10 am 12 pm 7 pm 	4 2 pm
5 2 pm	6	7 10 am 12 pm	8 10 am 12 pm	9 10 am 12 pm	10 10 am 12 pm 7 pm 	11 2 pm
12	13	14 10 am 12 pm	15 10 am 12 pm	16 10 am 12 pm	17 10 am 12 pm 7 pm 	18 2 pm
19 2 pm						

CALENDAR LEGEND

-  **Opening Night**
-  **Friday Family Fun Night** featuring post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members
-  Post-performance **Question and Answer session** with the company
-  **Interpreted performance** in American Sign Language

All tickets and Spotlight Passes are on sale now and may be purchased by calling The Coterie’s box office at (816) 474-6552, dropping by the box office on level one of the Crown Center Shops, or by visiting www.thecoterie.org.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

During the run of **Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure**, The Coterie invites audiences to take advantage of these special, free performance extras (with paid admission):

- **Friday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration.** A free post-performance reception with the director, company, staff, and board of directors.
- **Saturday, April 20, 2:00 p.m.: Question & Answer session.** A free Q&A with members of The Coterie’s staff and artistic company will immediately follow the performance.

- **Fridays, April 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 7:00 p.m.: Friday Family Fun Night.** Post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.
- **Saturday, April 27, 2:00 p.m.: Interpreted performance** in American Sign Language.

When available, production photos will be posted online:

www.thecoterie.org/press-room

THE REMAINING 2018/2019 SEASON

Following *Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure*, our 40th Anniversary Season concludes with the return of one of The Coterie's most popular productions, *Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!"*, a musical written by Mo Willems based on his best-selling books, June 11 – August 4, 2019.

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Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing:

www.broadwaylicensing.com

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Due to the nature of live theatre, play selection, performance schedule and casting are subject to change.

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