

February 28, 2020

For Immediate Release

Press Contact:

David Golston

Director of Marketing & Public Relations

Office: (816) 994-8839 Cell: (785) 217-8222

Email: dgolston@coterietheatre.org



**The Coterie Offers ‘Potterheads’
A Fun Twist in Perspective
on a Certain Boy Wizard’s
Magical Journey**

PUFFS
*or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years
at a Certain School of Magic and Magic
by Matt Cox*

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: *PUFFS*

or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic

by Matt Cox

Directed by Amanda Kibler

WHEN: February 25 – March 22, 2020

Press / Opening Night: Friday, February 28, at 7:00 p.m.

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

PRICE: \$12.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors 60 and older; \$15.00 for adults

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

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

Kansas City, MO – The Coterie Theatre continues its 41st season of live theatre for families and young audiences with *PUFFS or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*, a high-energy new parody written by Matt Cox for ‘Potterheads’ aged 8 and older. A play for anyone who has *never* been destined to save the world, *PUFFS* takes the background players and puts them at the center of their own adventure as they witness the magical

journey of a certain boy wizard. Directed by Amanda Kibler, ***PUFFS*** will be performed live on The Coterie's stage in Crown Center, February 25 – March 22, 2020.

THE PLAY

For seven years a certain boy wizard went to a certain school of magic and learned all about conquering evil... *but enough about him*. This is the story of the ***PUFFS***, who were there too! It's a clever twist in perspective when the sorting hat assigns us to the house of ***PUFFS***, where an owl informs an ordinary guy named Wayne that he's a wizard. After joining forces with magic school mates Oliver, Megan, and heartthrob Cedric, they become the ***PUFFS***, a bunch of misfit outsiders who have zero social status - but share an odd kinship to badgers. Their epic - and epically hilarious - journey takes the classic story to new places and reimagine what a wizard hero can be!

"Exudes a jovial, winking fondness for all things Harry!" exclaimed *The New York Times* in its review of ***PUFFS*** when it ran in its full-length version Off-Broadway from 2017-2019. *Mashable* hailed, "Fans of Potter will be charmed... packed with knowing winks to its source material and a heart all its own," and *Hypable* called it, "A must see for any fan, regardless of house." *TimeOut NY* raved, "A comedy of epic proportions... ***PUFFS*** illustrates the heights to which underdogs can soar."

The Coterie's production of ***PUFFS or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*** will run approximately 70 minutes with no intermission and will be best appreciated by families with ages eight and older. The Coterie is funded in part by the Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, Theater League, and the Shubert Foundation.

THE ARTISTS

Directed by Amanda Kibler, the cast of ***PUFFS*** will feature Darrington Clark (as Wayne Hopkins), Jazlyn Epps (as Megan Jones), J. Will Fritz (as Oliver Rivers, Mr. Voldy), Zachery Garner (as J. Finch Fletchley, Sal, et al.), Kimberly Girkin (as Susie Bones, Ric Gryff), Kimberly Horner (as Leanne, Anthony Goldstein, et al.), Bree Patterson (as Xavia Jones, Seamus, et al.), Jackie Price (as Sally Perks, Rowena, et al.), Robert John Sudhoff (as Cedric, Very Tall Man, et al.), Joshua Twitchell (as Ernie Mac, Uncle Dave, et al.), R.H. Wilhoit (as Narrator, Certain Potions Teacher, et al.). The artistic and production company includes Hilary Surface (production stage manager), Scott Hobart (technical director), Kelli Harrod (set designer), Jarrett Bertoncin (lighting designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (costume designer), David Kiehl (sound designer), Joyce Merrill & Eric Palmquist (properties/set dressing), and Taylor Jene Sullivan (production assistant).

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets, Spotlight Passes, and Group Reservations for The Coterie's 2019/2020 mainstage season are on sale now through The Coterie's box office at **816.474.6552** or www.thecoterie.org.

- **Subscriptions:** In lieu of season subscriptions, The Coterie offers passes which work like season tickets without committing to a set schedule. Passes range from \$110.00-\$150.00 and include a variety of benefits including 10 flexible tickets that can be used on a combination of shows in the 2019/2020 Season, priority seating, ticket exchanges, and other privileges.
- **Individual Tickets:** Tickets for *PUFFS* are \$12.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors age 60 and older, and \$15.00 for adults.
- **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 for *PUFFS* pay only \$5.50 - \$8.00 per person depending on performance date.

Performance Calendar

PUFFS

or *Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*

FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 22, 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		25 10 am	26 10 am	27 10 am 12 pm	28 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	29 2 pm 4 pm
1 2 pm	2	3 10 am	4 10 am 12 pm	5 10 am 12 pm	6 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	7 2 pm 4 pm
8 2 pm	9	10 10 am	11 10 am 12 pm	12 10 am 12 pm	13 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	14 2 pm 4 pm
15 2 pm	16	17 10 am	18 10 am 12 pm	19 10 am 12 pm	20 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	21 2 pm 4 pm
22 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

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

During the run of *PUFFS or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*, The Coterie invites audiences to take advantage of these special, free performance extras (with paid admission):

- **Friday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration.** A free post-performance reception with the director, company, staff, and board of directors.
- **Saturday, February 29, 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 1, 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, March 6, 13, and 20, 7:00 p.m.: Friday Family Fun Nights** featuring free post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.
- **Saturday, March 14, 4:00 p.m.: Interpreted performance** in American Sign Language.



The cast of The Coterie's *PUFFS* or *Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic* featuring Darrington Clark, Jazlyn Epps, J. Will Fritz, Zachary Garner, Kimberly Girkin, Kimberly Horner, Bree Patterson, Jackie Price, Robert John Sudhoff, Joshua Twitchell & R.H. Wilhoit

Production photos are available online at www.thecoterie.org/press-room

THE COTERIE'S REMAINING 2019/2020 SEASON

Following *PUFFS*, The Coterie's 2019/2020 Season continues a rock-and-roll musical about groovy, guitar-slinging *Pete the Cat*, April 7 – May 17, 2020; and the beloved musical about the mermaid princess, Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, June 16 – August 2, 2020.

.....
PUFFS (*One Act for Young Wizards*) is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC. Originally Produced Off-Broadway by Tilted Windmills Theatricals (John Arthur Pinckard / David Carpenter). *PUFFS* was developed, in part, during a residency with the University of Florida School of Theatre + Dance, Jerry Dickey, School Director. Originally Produced Off-Off Broadway by Stephen Stout and Colin Waitt.

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

.....
###