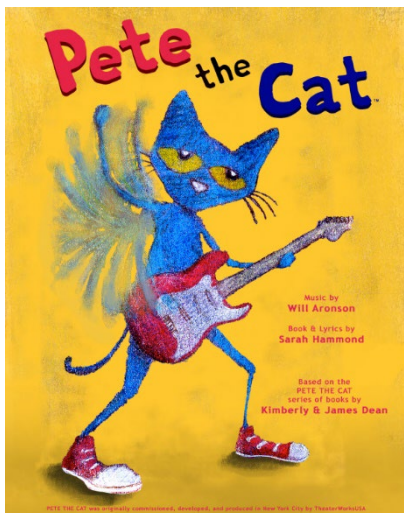


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For Immediate Release

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MEDIA RELEASE

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**Cool Cat from Best-Selling Books
Rocks Kansas City in *Purr*-fectly
Groovy Musical at The Coterie**

Pete the Cat
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OVERVIEW:

WHAT: *Pete the Cat*

Book and Lyrics by Sarah Hammond
Music by Will Aronson

Based on the *Pete the Cat* series of books by Kimberly and James Dean

WHEN: April 1 – May 22, 2022

Press / Opening Night: Friday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m.

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

PRICE: \$14.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors 60 and older;
\$18.00 for adults

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

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

Kansas City, MO – This spring, The Coterie returns to indoor performances with the charming family musical, ***Pete the Cat***, based on the best-selling book series by Kimberly and James Dean. Transforming the fabulous blue feline from the book to the stage, ***Pete the Cat*** brings the ever-adventurous but always mellow, Pete, to life on stage with toe-tapping, pop-inspired tunes featuring book & lyrics by Sarah Hammond and music by Will Aronson. Directed by Heidi Van with musical direction by Anthony T. Edwards and choreography by Marc Wayne, ***Pete the Cat*** will be performed live on The Coterie's mainstage located in Crown Center, April 1-May 22, 2022.

ABOUT THE MUSICAL

With its Beach Boys vibe and '60s feel, ***Pete the Cat*** will have everyone in the family strumming and strutting when the grooviest, guitar-slinging cat in town meets the Biddles family and rocks their world. Pete, who normally lives in his VW bus, has been sent to the Biddle's to learn some manners, much to the annoyance of Jimmy, the world's most organized grade schooler. But it doesn't take long before Pete turns his house arrest into a crusade to help Jimmy pass second grade and take him on the inspirational road trip of a lifetime.

The musical ***Pete the Cat*** is based on the beloved series of books by Kimberly and James Dean that has monopolized story time for families since first published in 2008. Since then, the stories of lovable Pete have regularly been featured on *The New York Times* Children's Picture Book bestseller list and have been adapted into a hit, animated series by Amazon Prime. Thanks to Pete's amiable personality and uncanny ability to always find the silver lining in any cloud, the *Pete the Cat* books have sold millions of copies worldwide. The ***Pete the Cat*** stage musical, created by TheatreworksUSA, toured the United States in 2016 and ran Off-Broadway at The Lucille Lortel Theater in New York in 2017. During its Off-Broadway run, *The New York Times* called ***Pete the Cat***, "...a high-energy, irrepressibly cheerful whirl... '*Believe in yourself*' is a common message in family theater, but this cat and his magic VW bus make delightfully unorthodox vehicles for it. The show also gets plenty of punch from Will Aronson's pop-rock score..."

The Coterie's production of ***Pete the Cat*** will run approximately 55 minutes with no intermission and will be best appreciated by families with ages three and older. **This is a masked event with all-vaccinated performers. Masks are to be worn by all audience members, regardless of age.** The Coterie is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, and Theater League.

THE ARTISTS

Pete the Cat is directed by Heidi Van with musical direction by Anthony T. Edwards and choreography by Marc Wayne. The cast features Noah Lindquist (as Pete the Cat), Lucas Lowry (as Jimmy Biddle), Amari Lewis (as Olive Biddle/Cat-catcher/Eliose/Astronaut), Bri Woods (as Mom/Grumpy Toad/Ms. Creech/The Mona



Lisa), and T. Eric Morris (as Dad/Gus the Platypus/Barnaby/A Shark), with Bridget Casad and Jack Kapple as covers. The artistic and production company includes Mackenzie Goodwin Tran (production stage manager), Scott Hobart (technical director/properties/set dressing/paint charge/production assistant), Carlos Aceves (scenic designer), David Kiehl (sound designer), Jarrett Bertoncin (lighting designer), and Georgianna Londré Buchanan and Arwen White (costume designers).

SHOW DATES,

TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 43rd Season and named “One of the Five Best Theaters for Young Audiences in the U.S.” by *TIME* magazine, will open **Pete the Cat** on April 1 and run through May 22, 2022, 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 1, at 7:00 p.m. The performance runs approximately 55 minutes with no intermission and will be appreciated by families with ages 3 and older. All tickets are on sale now by calling The Coterie’s box office at **816.474.6552** or visiting www.thecoterie.org.

- **This is a masked event.** Masks will always be worn by all staff and audience members, regardless of age. Additional COVID-19 safety protocols and additional important information for patrons is available at www.thecoterie.org.
- **Individual Tickets:** Tickets are \$14.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors 60 and older; \$18.00 for adults, depending on performance date.
- **Group Pricing:** The Coterie offers groups of 20 or more special rates ranging from \$6.00 - \$12.00 per person, depending on performance date.

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

PETE THE CAT

MARCH 29 - MAY 22, 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		29 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	30 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	31 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	1 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🌟	2 2 pm 🚌
3 2 pm 🚌	4	5 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	6 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	7 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	8 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	9 2 pm 🚌
10 2 pm 🚌	11	12 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	13 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	14 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	15 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	16 2 pm 🌿
17	18	19 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	20 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	21 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	22 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	23 2 pm
24 2 pm	25	26 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	27 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	28 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	29 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	30 2 pm
1 2 pm	2	3 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	4 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	5 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	6 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	7 2 pm
8	9	10 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	11 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	12 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	13 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	14 2 pm
15 2 pm	16	17 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	18 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	19 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌	20 10 am 🚌 12 pm 🚌 7 pm 🚌	21 2 pm
22 2 pm						

CALENDAR LEGEND

- 🚌 **Group Rates** are available for 20 or more
- 🌟 **Opening Night**
- 🌿 **Interpreted performance** in American Sign Language

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

THE REMAINING 2021/2022 SEASON

Following **Pete the Cat**, The Coterie’s 43rd Season concludes with the world premiere of the new musical [Alice’s Wonderland](#), June 21-August 7, 2022.

THE COTERIE

The Coterie Theatre was designated by *TIME* magazine in the top three theaters for young audiences in Nov. 2004, calling it “groundbreaking... one of the nation’s most respected.” The Coterie, located in Kansas City, Missouri, has been at the forefront of commissioning new works or adaptations that contribute to the field of theatre for young audiences. More than 50 world or American premieres for all ages have been produced by The Coterie over the last 25 years, during Artistic Director Jeff Church’s tenure, including hosting multiple major Broadway composers and lyricists to shape quality musicals for youth and families. The Coterie is interested in intergenerational conversation, and consistently includes teen programming in its season and outreach efforts. The Coterie’s community programming redefines traditional notions of work for young audiences with its unique dramatic writing programs, teen LGBTQ work, as well as its AIDS/STD education/prevention program, free of charge to 8,000 teens per year, overseen by Executive Director Joette Pelster and a dedicated staff. All these components serve an average of 80,000 per year through over 350 performances. The Coterie Theatre School has drama class locations throughout greater Kansas City. Donate at www.thecoterie.org.

OUR FUNDERS

The Coterie is generously funded, in part, by National Endowment for the Arts, Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, and Theater League.



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PETE THE CAT was originally commissioned, developed, and produced in New York City by TheaterWorksUSA.

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