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CAPE FEAR REGIONAL THEATRE ANNOUNCES NEW AFTER CARE PROGRAM TO COMPLEMENT CCS VIRTUAL SCHEDULE.

Fayetteville, NC – Cape Fear Regional Theatre (CFRT) is pleased to announce its fall education lineup, including rollout of new EduTainment: After School. CFRT’s successful Virtual EduTainment ran from late March to June and complemented Cumberland County’s rapid shift to virtual learning during the stay-at-home order. The virtual program was week-to-week and offered daily segments of music, art, storytelling/theatre, and dance over Zoom. Parents raved about the virtual program saying, “You guys had a difficult task during this time of uncertainty, but you stepped up to the challenge and exceeded our expectations! You eased some of our stressors as parents, and most importantly made our kids excited about an event where they got to see other kids and enjoy something they love...the Theater!!”

The new After School program will operate Monday through Friday afternoons from August 24 to September 25. Classes will take place in-person at CFRT and include a section for 8 and 9-year-olds and a section for 10 to 13-year-olds. Over the course of five weeks, students will rehearse and perform a play, culminating in a final performance. CFRT will continue to implement the safety protocols that served students and staff well throughout the summer, including mandatory face shields, daily temperature checks, and frequent sanitation of high touch areas. After School EduTainment will be limited to no more than twelve in each age group. Limited group sizes offer both an additional layer of safety, as well as the assurance that every student will receive individual attention and performance opportunity.

In addition, CFRT will offer a full roster of studio classes for students from 3-14, as well as incredibly popular Drama Day Camps, one day classes that complement the Cumberland County in-service schedule.

Director of Education Marc de la Concha says, “We know this time has been incredibly challenging for families in our community and we are proud to roll out programs that support both working parents and children’s mental health. Children have been placed under enormous strain to adapt swiftly to stressful and difficult circumstances. CFRT’s fall line-up offers students a chance to play and to engage with other kids, which nurtures empathy, creativity, and imagination – all essential skills to when coping with new routines and uncertainty.”

EduTainment will be taught by Marc and Education Associate Ashley Owen who together piloted the virtual program. CFRT’s recently awarded NEA grant provided direct salary support for Marc and Ashley and underscored the importance of education programs and the value of supporting students in this uncertain and complex time. Marc and Ashley have both taught extensively in CFRT’s program and are deeply beloved by both students and parents. They are joined by additional CFRT staff members and affiliated artists to round out the teaching rosters for all fall programs.

For more information about Cape Fear Regional Theatre, please visit <http://www.cfrt.org/>.

Cape Fear Regional Theatre believes in the power of storytelling and the visceral impact of live theatre. We strive for the highest standards of excellence in our artistic work, educational offerings, and outreach efforts. We

provide the region a place to come together to laugh harder, think deeper, share our experiences and grow as a community.