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CAPE FEAR REGIONAL THEATRE RECEIVES GRANT FOR CFRTEEN TOURING PRODUCTION OF “BE REAL, MACY WEAVER”

Fayetteville, NC-- **CAPE FEAR REGIONAL THEATRE** (CFRT) is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$14,000 grant from Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc. for their spring 2024 touring production of “Be Real, Macy Weaver.” The funds, which came from The Terri Union And Carlos Zukowski Endowment For The Arts of CCF, went directly to the tour, allowing us to bring this brand-new musical to 16 schools across Cumberland County. The tour impacted nearly 6,000 kids over two weeks.

“Be Real, Macy Weaver” is a young adult novel by author Lakita Wilson that CFRT commissioned and adapted specifically for this touring production. The new musical featured a book written by Fayetteville-based Alason Little, and music and lyrics by J. Sebastian Fabal. The story follows 6th grader Macy Weaver as she navigates moving to a new school and making new friends.

CFRT began the CFRTeen Touring Ensemble in 2018 in order to eliminate some of the roadblocks that educators face while trying to book a fieldtrip to the theatre. Instead of teachers having to worry about permission slips and booking buses, the CFRTeen Touring Ensemble brings the show directly to the school. Touring productions are always tied to a book, which can be used in the classroom to engage children in reading, promote literacy, and tie the program to NC learning standards. “We are excited to continue expanding the program as demand grows. Feedback from teachers has demonstrated the value in bringing critical artistic engagement like the CFRTour into schools. We will continue this important work that makes arts experiences accessible and relatable to young students, reduces the burdens on teachers, and inspires the next generations of artists and audiences.” -Director of Education, Marc de la Concha

“We are deeply grateful for support from the Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc. and The Terri Union And Carlos Zukowski Endowment For The Arts of CCF. Their funding allowed us to reach 16 Title 1 schools in the county; many of these students would not have had the chance to experience the live arts otherwise.” -Education Associate, Jennifer Sell.

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About Cape Fear Regional Theatre: Cape Fear Regional Theatre was organized in 1962 by a small group of local actors and friends who gathered to dream. Together they founded the Fayetteville Little Theatre, which would evolve into one of the finest theatres in the state of North Carolina. With the community’s support the founding group was able to purchase a former movie theatre building at 1209 Hay Street. This would become the current three-story complex, which houses a 273-seat main stage. In 1986, the theatre changed its name to Cape Fear Regional Theatre to reflect its growing importance to southeastern North Carolina.