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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAPE FEAR REGIONAL THEATRE RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE ARTS COUNCIL

FAYETTEVILLE, NC — Cape Fear Regional Theatre (CFRT) has announced their 2024-25 activities, which will include live, professional theatre productions and a suite of educational and outreach initiatives with the help of the Community Organization Resource (CORE) grant from the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County. “With the groundbreaking for our capital expansion project imminent, CFRT is in a moment of immense growth and innovation. We are humbled by the generous support of The Arts Council and our community during this period of change, and we are excited to share an incredible season with everyone in 24-25,” says Managing Director Ella Wrenn. “We had an amazing season last year thanks to our uniquely wonderful community, and we are grateful that we have the opportunity to continuing experiencing the joy of the live arts together!” says Artistic Director Mary Catherine Burke.

CFRT’s 24-25 mainstage season has something for everyone, including *Footloose* (Sept 2024), our final production in our current building; *Puffs* (Oct 2024); our annual community production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Dec 2024); the family-friendly *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Jan 2025); *Steel Magnolias* (Mar 2025); and *Once on This Island* (May 2025). Additionally, CFRT will continue its popular education programs, including Spring and Summer Theatre Camps, Drama Day Camps, Passport Series, Studio classes, and CFRTour.

Ticket sales account for less than 40% of CFRT’s funding. “We are deeply grateful to the Arts Council for its incredible financial support. This funding is essential to our operations and enables us to produce high-quality productions and education programs that support our community’s creative and emotional needs,” says CFRT Managing Director Ella Wrenn.

The Arts Council’s CORE may be awarded to local arts agencies in Cumberland County whose programs are vital to the cultural life of the community and whose organizations have reached a size and maturity that assure their long-term viability; CFRT received \$250,000. The purpose of CORE Grants is to strengthen and stabilize major arts institutions and help them to deliver high quality arts services to the citizens of Cumberland County.

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The Arts Council of Fayetteville |Cumberland County is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization based in Fayetteville, NC that supports individual creativity, cultural preservation, economic development, and lifelong learning through the ARTS. As a primary steward of public and private funding for arts, cultural, and historical activities in the Cape Fear Region, all affiliated programs of the Arts Council

exemplify our 5 core values: Excellence, Accountability, Transparency, Collaborations, and Innovation. theartscouncil.com

Grants, programs, and services of the Arts Council are funded in part by contributions from community partners, and through grants from the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, and the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources. Ncarts.org

Cape Fear Regional Theatre is a stage for all, bringing world class arts to our community. Inspiration lives here.