



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COCA PRESENTS ST. LOUIS PREMIERE OF AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE STUDIO COMPANY**

*Dance Magazine Praises Company as "Gracious and Technically Spectacular"*

**ST. LOUIS, Feb. 14, 2018**— The American Ballet Theatre Studio Company is set to visit St. Louis for the first time to perform a mixed program of classical and new classical repertory, showcasing the talent ballet's rising stars. Principal dancers Misty Copeland and David Hallberg are just a few alumni of the company *Dance Magazine* calls, "gracious and technically spectacular."

The company's visit to St. Louis includes a residency program and community outreach with Project Plié, ABT's initiative to increase racial and ethnic representation in ballet and diversify America's ballet companies.

- WHAT:** COCA Presents 2017-2018: *American Ballet Theatre Studio Company*
- WHERE:** Edison Theatre at Washington University, 6465 Forsyth Blvd, St Louis, MO 63105
- WHEN:** Thursday, March 15, at 7pm; Friday, March 16, at 7pm; Saturday, March 17, at 5pm
- PRICES:** \$20-\$24 at [www.cocastl.org](http://www.cocastl.org), by phone at 314.561.4877, or in person at COCA's Box Office.
- PHOTOS:** High-resolution photos available at: <http://www.cocastl.org/about/media-resources/>

**ABOUT ABT STUDIO COMPANY:**

The Studio Company represents the next generation of world-class ballet with twelve dancers hand selected from around the world by American Ballet Theatre. Their youthful flexibility molds to the traditions of American Ballet Theatre even excelling beyond to include contemporary choreography.

**ABOUT COCA PRESENTS:**

COCA Presents is COCA's performance series featuring the quality family theatre for which COCA has been known for nearly 30 years. Comprised of shows created and produced by COCA, as well as the best touring productions from around the world, COCA Presents offers bold, cross-disciplinary performances. COCA Presents 2017-2018 is made possible by Wells Fargo Advisors, with additional support provided by Mary Strauss, Emerson, PNC Arts Alive, Aetna, Emerson, The Mary Ranken Jordan and Ettie A. Jordan Charitable Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Missouri Arts Council, The Cheshire St. Louis, St. Louis Public Radio, Arts & Education Council and Regional Arts Commission.

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**ABOUT COCA**

Founded in 1986, COCA is the fourth largest multidisciplinary community arts center in the country and a national leader in innovative arts education. With a mission to enrich lives and build community through the arts, COCA serves 50,000 people of all ages and skill levels, from enthusiastic amateurs to emerging professionals—all taught by a faculty of distinguished arts educators. Visit [www.cocastl.org](http://www.cocastl.org) to learn more.