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*Providing Excellence in Musical Theatre Training and Performance*

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Dear Members and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year at CSOPA, We are filled with both pride and gratitude. It has been a season of transition, resilience, and renewal. Change is never without its challenges, and our leadership shift, paired with the ongoing financial realities of life after COVID-19, asked a great deal of our community. Yet what stands out most is not the difficulty of the year, but the strength, creativity, and passion with which our students, families, staff, and volunteers met it with.

This winter, our students brought *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* to life. It was an ambitious production that showcased not only the incredible talents of our young actors, but also the collaboration and artistry of our technical teams. From sword fights to monsters, from comedy to heartfelt moments, our students gave everything they had to this show. The energy in the theatre reminded us of the joy of live performance—the magic that happens when young people are given the tools and encouragement to tell bold stories. It was also the first time in a long time that snowstorms did not plague the production!

In the spring, we celebrated our largest Spring Festival to date, with nine classes taking to the stage. For some of our youngest performers, this was their very first time under the lights, and their bravery and enthusiasm were inspiring to witness. For our more seasoned students, it was an opportunity to continue growing in confidence and craft. The festival was a celebration not just of performances, but of the journey our students take week after week in the classroom—building skills, friendships, and a love for theatre.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers. CSOPA is lifted, every single day, by the generosity of parents, alumni, and community members who lend their time, skills, and heart. From helping backstage and sewing costumes, to running front-of-house, to sitting on our board and committees—our volunteers are the foundation on which our programs stand. This year, more than ever, we have seen the truth of the old saying: it takes a village. CSOPA's village is extraordinary, and we are deeply grateful.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share that our upcoming production will be *The Wizard of Oz*. This classic story offers not only beloved characters and music, but also an opportunity for our students to stretch their creativity in new ways. With its themes of courage, friendship, and home, Oz feels like the perfect story for our community to tell at this moment in time. We cannot wait to invite audiences to join us on the journey down the yellow brick road.

This year also marks important growth for CSOPA. We have expanded our programming to include term-based classes, offering more flexibility and new opportunities for students to engage with theatre. We have also expanded our staff—not only welcoming new instructors to broaden the expertise in our classrooms, but also strengthening our administrative team so that we can better serve our families and ensure the long-term sustainability of our school. These

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steps are building a stronger foundation for the future, ensuring that CSOPA continues to thrive for years to come.

Though the financial challenges of the pandemic years are still with us, we are encouraged by the progress we have made. We are standing on firmer ground and moving forward with renewed energy. We know that with the continued support of our community—our families, donors, volunteers, and friends—we are not only recovering, but reimagining what's possible.

On behalf of the board, staff, and students of CSOPA, thank you for standing with us through this time of transition. Your commitment makes it possible for us to keep creating, teaching, and inspiring. Together, we will continue to nurture the next generation of storytellers, ensuring that the arts remain a vibrant and vital part of our community.

With gratitude and anticipation,

Hayley Bamford  
**Artistic Director**

Adrienne Reistma  
**Administrative Director**