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**THE CHOIR SCHOOL OF DELAWARE PRESENTS
THE ADDAMS FAMILY, A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY,
JULY 27 & 28, 2023**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (July 7, 2023): The Choir School of Delaware presents *The Addams Family*, a musical comedy, on July 27 & 28, 2023 at The Baby Grand in Wilmington, DE. This heartwarming musical embraces the wackiness in every family, and it is sure to be a hit with audiences of all ages.

The show stars Wilmington youth, ages 11-18. It is the culminating show of the Choir School of Delaware's Musical Theater Summer Camp, which connects Delaware kids to five weeks of exceptional musical theater training and academic support, all tuition-free.

Past Choir School musicals received rave reviews from audience members. An attendee at *Once on This Island* (2022) said: "The production was so amazing and well done! Having been to several Broadway performances, this was top tier and I was loving every minute!" This show will be no exception. Malcolm Richardson, Musical Director, says: "The talent among our young performing artists is truly astounding. Their passion for this musical shines through both on the stage and off. We are only two weeks into rehearsals so far, but it's already clear that the show is going to be nonstop fun at a very high caliber."

A core theme of *The Addams Family* is that we are all stronger when we celebrate and embrace our differences. Sophia DiLeo, Artistic Director, says: "This message resonates with all of us at camp. As most of our students are Black, they relate to this message through the context of being members of a historically marginalized community. It is a poignant part of the lived human experience to be simultaneously self-conscious and proud of the things that make us unique. Instead of shying away from otherness, the Addamses celebrate it."

Among the performing artists are participants in the Choir School's Young Artist Program (YAP), a course for working age students that prepares them for success in careers as music industry professionals. YAP participants enjoy an immersive production experience, including master classes, personal coachings, audition skills, songwriting, and more. Comparable YAPs cost participants hundreds or thousands of dollars. Our YAP is tuition-free, and YAP students were offered the chance to earn a wage for their participation. This eliminates a key barrier to access for talented students from lower-income communities. The YAP is funded through the Delaware Division of the Arts and through partnerships with the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.



On the YAP, DiLeo comments: "It has been an honor to get to know the brilliant Young Artists! They all hold much more power than they realize and will certainly take this world by storm!"

Tickets are on sale now via The Grand Opera House. To purchase, call 302-652-5577 or visit thegrandwilmington.org. Advance purchase is recommended as past productions have sold out.

Show Synopsis

In the kooky world of the Addams family, to be sad is to be happy, to feel pain is to feel joy, and death and suffering are the stuff of dreams. Nonetheless, this quirky family still faces the same challenges as any other family, including the spookiest nightmare of all: the Addams kids are growing up. Wednesday Addams has fallen in love with a young man from a "normal" family— a man her parents have never met. Everything will change on the fateful night the Addams family hosts a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents. In one hilarious night, secrets are disclosed, relationships are tested, and the Addams family must face up to the one horrible thing they've managed to avoid for generations: change.

The Addams Family: A New Musical Comedy

When: Thursday, July 27, 2023, 7:30pm
Friday, July 28, 2023, 7:30pm
Where: The Baby Grand, 818 N Market St, Wilmington, DE 19801
Runtime: 2.5 hours including a 15-minute intermission
Tickets: \$19.99
Buy Tickets: thegrandwilmington.org or 302-652-5577
Press RSVP: hgrasso@choirschoolofdelaware.org or 302-543-8657 x4

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About the Choir School of Delaware

The Choir School of Delaware, a "Community Center that Sings," provides life-changing after-school and summer programs for Wilmington children ages 7-17 in an intergenerational environment. Programs combine professional-level choral training and performance opportunities with homework help, mentoring, and social services, creating a safe, inspiring environment where young people realize their full potential. An intergenerational choir anchors the after-school program and performs throughout the state.

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