

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Producer Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Renée Littleton
press@arenastage.org, 202-600-4052

May 18, 2020

CAMP ARENA STAGE MOVES ONLINE

*****The unforgettable summer experience goes virtual with classes
in theater, music, dance, media and visual arts *****

(Washington, D.C) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater will move its popular multi-arts day camp to an online format. Virtual Camp Arena Stage will provide young people ages 8 – 15 with the opportunity to explore, discover and create art while building long-lasting meaningful relationships. This online format allows campers in the Washington metropolitan DC area and around the country to participate in this engaging summer experience. Virtual camps are half days – morning or afternoon – and run Monday through Friday for two weeks. Camp dates are June 22 – July 3, July 6 – 17 and July 20 – 31. Registration is open and campers can attend more than one camp.

“Art connects people even when they cannot be in the same physical space,” says Co-Camp Director **Anita Maynard-Losh**. “We look forward to experiencing exciting art and community in a new way this summer.

Maynard-Losh and her co-camp director, **Rebecca Campana**, helped to found Camp Arena Stage 16 years ago and are re-imagining camp for this time.

“We have been able to assemble a dream team of instructors to help young people make tremendous art and memories this summer,” **Campana** says. “For example, campers can take musical theater from Maria Rizzo, who won a Helen Hayes Award for her performance in Arena Stage’s *Anything Goes*. We also have teaching artists who have relocated to New York and California who are able to teach for us again in this format.”

In Virtual Camp Arena Stage, campers choose their own schedules from a selection of classes including acting for the camera, hip-hop and contemporary dance, songwriter’s studio, virtual rock band, musical theater, podcasting, fashion design, sculpture and more. Classes are taught by talented professional artists with experience and training in online instruction.

Campers will also be able to share their art in a supportive and enthusiastic environment during a daily camp-wide performance. To learn more about Virtual Camp Arena Stage and to register, please visit arenastage.org/virtualcamp.

Virtual Camp Arena Stage Summer 2020 Dates

Camp Arena Stage features half-day camps – morning or afternoon – that run Monday through Friday for two weeks. Camps are via Zoom.

Morning Camp: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Camp: 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

June 22 – July 3

July 6 – July 17

July 20 – July 31

Registration for Virtual Camp Arena Stage 2020 is now open. Register here: arenastage.org/virtualcamp.

Arena Stage’s community engagement efforts are generously sponsored by The Estate of Ms. Toni A. Ritzenberg; Denie and Frank Weil; AT&T; the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation; Joanne Barker; the deLaski Family Foundation; Exelon Corporation; the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Hattie M. Strong Foundation; Robert and Natalie Mandel Family Foundation; Floyd E. Davis Family Foundation; Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.; Alice Shaver Foundation; Theatre Forward; Collins Aerospace; England Family Foundation; Friends of Southwest D.C.; GEICO; JBG Smith; Wayne and Susan Jonas; Wells Fargo & Company; Foley & Lardner LLP; Weissberg Foundation; Jean Schiro- Zavela and Vance Zavela; Actors’ Equity Foundation; and Youth Activities Task Force (YATF) of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Producer Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays and impacting the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its eighth decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

###

