

CAPA



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BROADWAY'S BIGGEST BLOCKBUSTER RETURNS TO COLUMBUS JULY 28-AUGUST 29



TICKETS GO ON SALE TO THE PUBLIC THURSDAY, MAY 20

After breaking box office records and selling out in record time in 2007, the smash-hit musical *WICKED* will return to the Ohio Theatre for five weeks only July 28-August 29. Tickets for the return engagement will go on sale to the public Thursday, May 20.

With music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (*Godspell*, *Pippin*, Academy Award-winner for *Pocahontas* and *The Prince of Egypt*) and book by Winnie Holzman ("My So Called Life," "Once And Again" and "thirtysomething"), *WICKED* is directed by two-time Tony Award winner Joe Mantello (*Take Me Out*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *The Vagina Monologues*) and features musical staging by Tony® Award winner Wayne Cilento (*Aida*, *The Who's Tommy*, *How To Succeed...*). It is produced by Marc Platt, Universal Pictures, The Araca Group, Jon B. Platt, and David Stone.

Based on the best-selling 1995 novel by Gregory Maguire, *WICKED* is the untold story of the witches of Oz and has earned 26 major awards including a Grammy® and three Tony® Awards.

WICKED comes to the Ohio Theater (39 E. State St.) July 28-August 29 as part of the 2009-10 Fifth Third Bank Broadway Series presented by CAPA and Broadway Across America. Tickets start at \$37.50 and can be purchased at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com/wicked. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. Show times include:

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Wednesday	July 28	8:00 pm
Thursday	July 29	2:00 pm
Thursday	July 29	8:00 pm
Friday	July 30	8:00 pm
Saturday	July 31	2:00 pm
Saturday	July 31	8:00 pm
Sunday	August 1	1:00 pm
Sunday	August 1	6:30 pm
Tuesday	August 3	8:00 pm
Wednesday	August 4	8:00 pm
Thursday	August 5	8:00 pm
Friday	August 6	8:00 pm
Saturday	August 7	2:00 pm
Saturday	August 7	8:00 pm
Sunday	August 8	1:00 pm
Sunday	August 8	6:30 pm
Tuesday	August 10	8:00 pm
Wednesday	August 11	8:00 pm
Thursday	August 12	8:00 pm
Friday	August 13	8:00 pm
Saturday	August 14	2:00 pm
Saturday	August 14	8:00 pm
Sunday	August 15	1:00 pm
Sunday	August 15	6:30 pm
Tuesday	August 17	8:00 pm
Wednesday	August 18	8:00 pm
Thursday	August 19	8:00 pm
Friday	August 20	8:00 pm
Saturday	August 21	2:00 pm

Saturday	August 21	8:00 pm
Sunday	August 22	1:00 pm
Sunday	August 22	6:30 pm
Tuesday	August 24	8:00 pm
Wednesday	August 25	8:00 pm
Thursday	August 26	8:00 pm
Friday	August 27	8:00 pm
Saturday	August 28	2:00 pm
Saturday	August 28	8:00 pm
Sunday	August 29	1:00 pm
Sunday	August 29	6:30 pm

“We are thrilled to have *WICKED* returning to Columbus,” stated CAPA CEO Bill Conner. “The positive economic impact it has on Columbus and the extraordinary quality of the production make it a win-win for this community.”

Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the land of Oz. One—born with emerald green skin—is smart, fiery, and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious, and very popular. *WICKED* tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good.

WICKED has “cast quite a spell” (*Washington Post*) throughout North America, breaking box office records in every city it has played, including Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington DC, Philadelphia, and Boston to name a few. Called “a cultural phenomenon” by *Variety* and just named “the defining musical of the decade” by *The New York Times*, *WICKED* continues to thrill audiences around the world.

Called “a cultural phenomenon” by *Variety* and just named “the defining musical of the decade” by *The New York Times*, *WICKED* continues to thrill audiences around the world. There are currently eight productions of *WICKED* worldwide, including two North American tours, a Broadway production, San Francisco production, London production, Japanese-language production, German-language production, and Australian production. A Dutch-language production of *WICKED* will open in 2011.

WICKED features set design by Tony® Award winner Eugene Lee (*Ragtime, Show Boat, Candide, Sweeney Todd*), costume design by Tony® winner Susan Hilferty (*Into the Woods, Assassins*), lighting design by Tony® nominee Kenneth Posner (*The Coast of Utopia, Hairspray*), and sound design by Tony Meola (*The Lion King*). Stephen Oremus is the show's musical director. Orchestrations are by William David Brohn with dance arrangements by James Lynn Abbott.

The Grammy Award-winning cast recording is available on Decca Broadway.

For more information about *WICKED*, please visit www.wickedthemusical.com/#.

Casting for the forthcoming national tour stop will be announced at a later date.

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The **Ohio Arts Council** helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the support of **the Abigail Simpson, Grace K. and Robert L. Rohe, and Martha G. Staub Funds of the Columbus Foundation**, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973.

About CAPA

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent, historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Valentine Theatre (Toledo, OH), and Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a not-for-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment now celebrating 40 years of service. For more information, visit www.capa.com.

About Broadway Across America

Broadway Across America is owned and operated by British theatre producer John Gore (CEO) and entertainment industry veteran Thomas B. McGrath (Chairman). Broadway Across America presents first-class, touring Broadway musicals and plays, family productions, and other live events throughout a network of 43 North American cities. Broadway Across America is also dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse live theatre for productions on Broadway, across America, and throughout the world. Broadway Across America most recently produced the Broadway productions of *HAIR*, *WEST SIDE STORY*, and Irving Berlin's *WHITE CHRISTMAS*. Upcoming productions include *MINSKY'S*, *PROMISES, PROMISES*, *MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET*, and the West End production of *BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S*. Touring productions include Nickelodeon's *STORYTIME ADVENTURES* featuring Dora the Explorer, and *DREAMGIRLS*. For more information or to purchase tickets through an authorized agent, go to www.BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com.

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