

## To the CMT Community:

I wanted you to be the first to know that next season will be my final season as Artistic Director at CMT. Our 57th season marks my 30th Anniversary leading this organization. It has been my life's joy to call CMT home and there are countless milestones, accomplishments, and memories that will stay with me forever.

I have had the privilege to dream and create over the past 30 years. I've witnessed this organization grow exponentially, and yet, at its core, the basic principles from more than a half century ago remain intact. I'm incredibly proud and humbled to see my artistic vision take shape through generations of performers. Together with a team of dedicated staff, we've walked the tightrope of Artistic Excellence and inclusivity, finding new ways to stretch each young person who walks through our doors to gain new abilities and confidence. This is the heart and soul of my 30-year legacy.

On Saturday, we'll gather here at the Creative Arts Center for Preview Night. This has always been a highlight of our season, bringing the CMT community together for preview performances of our summer shows and the anticipated season announcement. As you can imagine, I've been searching for extra special titles for this upcoming year.

In my final season, we really cultivated the perfect blend of classic and new titles. The Junior Talents will reprise two of the most popular titles from our JT past and the Rising Stars will bring four Classic Broadway musicals to life. The Mainstage division presents three titles, none of which has ever been attempted by CMT at this level. Two of the titles are so NEW that they will not be announced until December, and the third title, when announced on Saturday, will surprise, and excite audiences and performers alike. For Marquee, we offer two brand new titles. One is so new, it too will not be announced until January. The second title is my favorite genre of musical theater and is the kind of show that lives deep in my heart and history.

While Season 57 will be heartfelt as my last, I know our performers and families will be the true stars of the year, filling all of us with inspiring work and creative spirit.

I hope you will be part of the celebration.

Kevin Hauge

**Artistic Director** 

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