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Unveiling a New Era of Artistry and Community, *Studio East Welcomes Artistic Director Carolyn Agan*

The Power of Theater and Community United: A New Chapter Begins

KIRKLAND, WA— **Studio East Training for the Performing Arts**, the vibrant heart of the Eastside's performing arts education, is thrilled to announce an electrifying transition in the hiring of Artistic Director, Carolyn Agan. With a resounding passion for the performing arts and a foundational belief in nurturing young minds, Carolyn steps into the spotlight, succeeding the remarkable Founding Artistic Director, Lani Brockman.

"The power of theater has always been the power of community. And what an exceptional community the students, families, artists, and patrons of Studio East have created over the last 30 years under the stellar leadership of Lani Brockman. I'm honored to be entrusted with the next chapter of that legacy and excited to see what we will all create together," shared Agan, the visionary poised to lead the Studio into its exciting next era.

Studio East has been a guiding light for young performers since its inception in 1992, shaping lives and illuminating stages with its exceptional educational programming. With a commitment to forging confident, disciplined, and responsible young people, the organization boasts an impressive legacy of seven Mainstage productions annually in addition to the beloved StoryBook Theater troupe that delights young audiences throughout the Puget Sound area.

Following a rigorous nationwide search for a dynamic leader, Studio East's Board of Directors has invited Carolyn Agan to the helm of this beloved local non-profit. Carolyn is a distinguished arts educator and performer with a 20-year career spanning iconic, Tony award-winning theaters and educational institutions. Having already shaped many young artists' journeys, she is now poised to weave her transformative magic at Studio East.

As Studio East anticipates Carolyn's directorial debut later this season. The organization also invites everyone to unite in celebration at the Annual Gala and Auction, *Jest for Funds*, on November 4th, 2023. This occasion will mark an exciting opportunity to meet Carolyn, witness her artistic aspirations, and connect with the extended Studio East family.

For over three decades, Studio East and StoryBook Theater have redefined theater arts education, empowering young people with the tools to shine on and off the stage. As the curtain rises on this exhilarating new chapter, Studio East reaffirms its unwavering commitment to fostering creativity, community, and the magic of storytelling through the performing arts.