

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (11-1-07)

CONTACT: Megan Gibson  
636.530.5959  
mgibson@stagesstlouis.org

## STAGES ST. LOUIS TO HOLD 6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA

Professional musical theatre company STAGES ST. LOUIS will host **APPLAUSE! 2007** on Friday, November 2 at The Ritz-Carlton in Clayton. This will be the sixth year for the annual black tie gala, but the first time at the new location. Proceeds from the evening will benefit the STAGES Education and Outreach programs and St. Louis actors. A record number 425 guests are expected to attend and the fundraising goal for this year is \$300,000.

The evening will include silent and live auctions, cocktails and dinner, and entertainment by STAGES company members as well as **TeamSTAGES**, the new touring group comprised of 15 of the most talented teens in the St. Louis area. **APPLAUSE! 2007** is being co-chaired by Judy Kent, Linda Gibson, and Cindy Boucher. For more information about **APPLAUSE! 2007**, call 636.530.5959 or visit [www.stagesstlouis.org](http://www.stagesstlouis.org).

**STAGES** is a professional, not-for-profit musical theatre company with a mission to become the leading Midwestern performing arts center for musical theatre performance and education. With performances currently in Kirkwood and administrative offices and a Performing Arts Academy in Chesterfield, the company will consolidate all operations under one roof when they open the 80,000 square foot **STAGES ST. LOUIS Performing Arts Center and Academy** in Chesterfield.

Established in 1987, STAGES is dedicated to producing the indigenous American art form of musical theatre, combining the disciplines of music, dance and drama. STAGES currently presents 120 performances from May through October to more than 45,000 patrons. The 2008 Season will feature *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (May 30 – June 29), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (July 18 – August 17), *The Jungle Book* (August 6-17), and *The Music Man* (September 5 – October 5). For more information about the 2008 season, call the Box Office at 314.821.2407 or visit [www.stagesstlouis.org](http://www.stagesstlouis.org).

###