

**Bachelor of Fine Arts in
Musical Theatre**

Student Handbook



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Auditioning for the B.F.A in Musical Theatre

Twice a year auditions will be held at the University of North Dakota for acceptance into the BFA in Musical Theatre. These auditions will be open to incoming freshmen, transfer students and current UND students. Video auditions as well as scheduled private auditions are also acceptable.

Auditions should consist of portions from two contrasting musical theatre pieces and a monologue. Students should be prepared to sing the entire pieces if asked. Monologues should be from a straight play, not a musical.

Each student auditioning will be required to submit a resume and the B.F.A. in Musical Theatre Program Application found as Appendix A and headshot if available. Each freshman and transfer student auditioning and seeking scholarship monies will be required to complete the Freshman Scholarship Form found on the theatre website. Each current UND student auditioning and seeking scholarship monies will be required to complete the Scholarship Renewal Form found as Appendix B. All applications must be turned into the Theatre Department Office a week prior to auditioning. In order to receive scholarship monies each student must be a major in the Theatre Arts department.

For information regarding auditioning please contact the head of the Musical Theatre program.

Acceptance into the Program

All applying for acceptance into the B.F.A. in Musical Theatre program must demonstrate a satisfactory competence in scholarship, vocal ability, acting and theatre knowledge. In order to demonstrate competence in scholarship each student applying to the program must hold a cumulative 2.5 GPA. In order to demonstrate competence in theatre knowledge students must submit a theatrical resume listing his/her production work. In order to demonstrate competence in vocal ability and acting each student will complete an audition for the program.

Faculty members in the programs of acting, dance and musical theatre as well as voice faculty will be responsible for determining acceptance into the program.

Applicants will receive a letter in the mail regarding their acceptance. Applicants will be accepted into the program and may begin their education in the following semester or some applicants might be accepted on a probationary status. Probationary applicants will enroll and take courses in the next semester, but must undergo a review at the end of one semester. The review will include singing a musical theatre song and performing one monologue. The student's grades will also be evaluated. At that time the student will be notified, via letter, that he or she is accepted as a full BFA student or asked to step down from the program.

B.F.A. in Musical Theatre Curriculum

For the entire Curriculum Status Sheet see Appendix C.

Program Requirements

12. Essential Studies

Communication

Credits

9

Social Science	9
Fine Arts & Humanities	9
Math, Science & Technology	9
<i>Total</i>	36
II. Major Requirements	
<u>Music Courses:</u>	
MUSC 101 Fundamentals of Music	3
MUSC Individual Lessons*, taken every semester	16
*12. Course number for individual lessons determined at registration.	
<u>Theatre Courses:</u>	
THEA 110 Introduction to Theatre	3
THEA 120 Voice and Movement I	2
THEA 161 Beginning Acting I	3
THEA 201 Practicum	1
THEA 220 Voice and Movement II	2
THEA 230 Text Analysis	3
THEA 240 Ballet I	2
THEA 241 Jazz I	2
THEA 242 Tap I	1
THEA 225 Makeup for the Stage	3
THEA 270 Stagecraft	3
THEA 271 Intermediate Acting I	3
THEA 204 Acting for Musical Theatre I	3
THEA 300 Directing I	3
THEA 371 Advanced Acting	3
THEA 344 Musical Theatre Dance Styles	2
THEA 404 Acting for Musical Theatre II	3
THEA 423 Theatre History I	3
THEA 424 Theatre History II	3
THEA 494 Senior Project	4
THEA 450 Musical Theatre History	3
III. Electives	
THEA 122 Makeup	1
THEA 222 Advanced Makeup	1
THEA 243 Modern I	2
THEA 330 Contemporary Literature	3
THEA 340 Ballet II	2
THEA 341 Jazz II	2
THEA 342 Modern II	2
THEA 343 Dance Composition	2
THEA 425 Directing II	3
THEA 441 Dance History	3
THEA 442 Choreography	3
THEA 471 Advanced Acting III Shakespeare	3
THEA 488 Playwriting	3
MUSC 134 Music Theory II	3
MUSC 135 Aural Skills II	1
MUSC 136 Keyboard II	1
MUSC 242 Diction for Singers	2
MUSC 269 Opera Workshop	1
<i>Total Electives Needed</i>	12

Learning Outcomes

Mission Statement:

The B.F.A in Musical Theatre is a pre-professional program that trains musical theatre students in the areas of acting, vocal performance and dance. With an emphasis on practical application, the musical

theatre program seeks to provide ample opportunity for performance, while grounding the student with a foundation in history, theory and analysis.

Individual Learning Goals:

The B.F.A. program in Musical Theatre strives to accomplish the following learning goals with each student:

- Understanding and application of proper theatre etiquette including rehearsal, technical and audition etiquette
- Mastery of theatre vocabulary and its application
- Understanding of the musical theatre genre and strong familiarity with the cannon
- Growth and development in the performance concepts of acting, vocal performance and dance
- Growth and Development in the foundations of theatre including history, analysis and theory
- Ability to take learning goals and apply them in production work
- Ability to work independently in production
- Advancement and growth throughout four years in the areas of acting, vocal performance and dance.

Performance Requirements

The B.F.A. in Musical Theatre is a pre-professional degree and performance in productions is essential to aid in the development of the musical theatre performer. As a member of the UND Theatre Arts department each student is expected to support the department in production work. Each B.F.A. in Musical Theatre student is required to audition for every production (class productions excluded) and accept any role cast. Exceptions can be made in extreme cases, but permission must be given by the head of the Musical Theatre program prior to auditions.

If a student wishes to audition for a production outside of the department permission must be given by the head of the Musical Theatre program prior to outside auditions. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result negatively in yearly performance reviews and scholarship renewals.

Student Expectations

All students in the B.F.A. in Musical Theatre program will be reviewed each year on his/her progress in acting, vocal performance and dance. Prior to graduation each student will be expected to complete/uphold the following:

- Audition for each UND Theatre Arts production
- Audition twice for outside professional summer work
- Serve on at least one crew position in a UND Theatre Arts production
- Complete the curriculum outlined for the major and essential studies

- Maintain 3.0 in all courses relating to the major and 2.5 GPA in all other courses
- Complete Senior Capstone highlighting acting, voice and dance
- Prepare and pass yearly reviews evaluating acting, vocal performance and dance

Yearly Review Process

In the spring semester of each year each student in the program will undergo a review of their progress in acting, vocal performance and dance. This review will be conducted by the theatre, dance and voice faculty. Prior to the yearly review each student will be asked to complete a self-evaluation, including, but not limited to, all repertory learned in the year, production work, and coursework completed. Each student will also be asked to discuss his/her progress throughout the year citing his/her strengths and areas for improvement.

The students will be reviewed by the faculty and then be given notice of their standing in the program. They will be given a notice of satisfactory, probation or unsatisfactory. If a student receives a notice of satisfactory they are in good standing with the program. If a student receives a probation notice then they will also be given notice regarding what areas need improving i.e. GPA, dance, etc. The student will have until the next spring review to improve the noted areas and return to good standing within the program. If the student does not improve the noted areas then they will receive a notice unsatisfactory and removal from the program.

See the Yearly Review Sheet as Appendix D. See the Yearly Review Evaluation Sheet as Appendix E.

Sophomore Review: In each student's sophomore year (or in the spring of their first year for transfer students) they will undergo a sophomore barrier, which will determine the student's status in the program for his/her junior and senior years. Once the student receives a satisfactory on the sophomore barrier his/her status in the program is secured assuming the student continues the level of progression they have demonstrated. If a student does not receive a satisfactory on their sophomore barrier then they will need further evaluations to secure their status in the program.

Grievance and Appeals

All grievances and appeals related to the yearly review should be initially addressed to the musical theatre faculty unless the faculty plays such a pivotal role in the matter that a conflict of interest may arise. In these cases, an evaluation committee will be convened of two-theatre faculty (not musical theatre faculty) who will review the grievance. All grievances must be submitted in writing to the evaluation committee. This appeal should occur within seven business days after the yearly review.

Senior Project

In each student's senior year they will complete a senior capstone project. The project will demonstrate his/her growth in the program highlighting acting, vocal performance and dance. Prior to the student's senior year they must submit an application for the project and receive approval from the musical theatre faculty on the project proposal. For the Senior Project Application see Appendix F. Each student must turn in as part of the project a self-evaluation, resume, headshot and a list of repertory he she has completed while in the program. Dates for the performance of the project must have the approval of the theatre department. Each student must also follow the guidelines set by the department and University for the Senior Capstone and fulfill the requirements for the Advanced Communication portion of the degree.

The year a student completes a senior project he she will be evaluated on the project by the musical theatre faculty and graded. The student will not complete a yearly review the year they complete a senior project.

B.F.A in Musical Theatre Program Application – sample of online form

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Vocal Range: _____

Audition Information:

Please list title of selection and production

Song Choice: 1.) _____

2.) _____

Monologue: 3.) _____

Academic Information:

Current School: _____ Current GPA: _____

High School Graduation Date: _____

Anticipated UND Enrollment Date: _____

Personal Information:

Please answer the following questions. Use the back of this form or a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

1. What is your greatest strength as a performer and a student?

2. What are areas for improvement for you as a performer and a student?

Please complete this application and attach a resume, headshot, most recent school transcript, and a scholarship application if applicable.

Yearly Review Sheet – sample of online form

Contact Information:

Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Academic Information:

Classification: _____ Current GPA: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Yearly Reflection:

Please answer the following questions. Use the back of this form or a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

1. What strength as a performer and a student have you developed this year?

2. What are areas for improvement for you as a performer and a student for next year?

3. List courses completed this year and grades received (if applicable).

4. Please attach a list of all repertory worked on this year. Including songs from voice lessons, scenes from acting class, etc. Please include the title of the piece and the production from which it was pulled.

5. Please attach an updated resume, headshot.

BFA in Musical Theatre
Faculty Yearly Evaluation Sheet – sample of online form

Evaluator's Name: _____ Area: _____

In each yearly review each student will be asked to demonstrate his/her progress in acting, vocal performance and dance. Each student will complete a yearly review, excluding the year of his/her senior project. The evaluation process will be based on growth throughout the year and mastery of certain concepts. From the evaluators' remarks a student's standing in the department will be made.

Student Information:

Name: _____ Classification: _____

Areas of Review:

Please review the area in which you have direct contact with the student. Additional comments are encouraged at the end of the form. Please circle the number to evaluate each student based on the scale below. Please remember this scale is based primarily on the student's potential and growth during the year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Non-Existent Competent Exceptional

Voice:

1. Student's vocal growth this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. Student's preparation and improvement in rehearsals or classwork.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

3. Student's grasp of vocal technique taught this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Acting:

4. Student's growth in acting this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

5. Student's preparation and improvement in rehearsals or classwork.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

6. Student's grasp of acting technique taught this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Dance:

7. Student's growth in dance this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

8. Student's preparation and improvement in rehearsals or classwork.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

9. Student's grasp of dance technique taught this year.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

General:

10. Overall impression of student's ability in the musical theatre program.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Additional Thoughts and/or Comments:

Senior Project Application

Student Information:

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Project Details:

Project Title: _____

Project Date: _____

Please list any support needed. Example: accompanist, props to check out, etc.
Please note the senior project is entirely the student's responsibility.

Project Outline:

Please attach a one-page description of what the project will include. Please include goals for the project. Also, attach a proposed rehearsal schedule.

Proposed Repertory:

List possible repertory to be used in the project.

Project Checklist:

Please make sure all items are included in the senior project proposal.

- _____ Senior Project Application
- _____ One-page Project Description
- _____ Rehearsal Schedule
- _____ Date secured with department