

GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES FOR: BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (BFA) IN THEATRE PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE

GENERAL ADMISSION AND CONTINUATION REQUIREMENTS – BFA IN THEATRE PROGRAM

The BFA in Theatre degree program offers a concentration in theatre study to a limited number of highly motivated and talented students.

The BFA in Theatre student will pursue one of three areas of concentration: Classical Acting, Musical Theatre, and Theatre Design & Technology.

Admission to the BFA in Theatre Program is highly competitive and limited in terms of student enrollment to insure the individual attention necessary for effective professional training.

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR ALL BFA IN THEATRE CANDIDATES

Incoming BFA candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- BFA in Theatre/Classical Acting: prior academic record, acting ability, strong speaking skills, stage presence, professional behavior and dedication to pursuing a professional theatre career.
- BFA in Theatre/Musical Theatre: prior academic record, vocal, dance and acting ability, stage presence, professional behavior and dedication to pursuing a professional musical theatre career.
- BFA in Theatre/Theatre Design & Technology: prior academic record, experience and demonstrated abilities in theatre design and technology, professional behavior and dedication to pursuing a professional theatre career.

A student may apply to all three areas of concentration but can be admitted to only one. Admission is based on talent, academic record, motivation and auditions/portfolio reviews/interviews which are held near the end of each semester.

BFA in Theatre Program candidates are not required to have a Minor. Those students not accepted into the BFA in Theatre Program will continue on their BA/BS tracks. BA/BS degrees will continue to require a Minor.

BFA candidates wishing to pursue Theatre Education Certification must be prepared to add at least one year to their projected time of study.

SPECIFIC ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN:

Interested students must submit a BFA application and schedule an audition/interview after completing the recommended coursework for Theatre Arts near the end of their freshman year. In the first year the requirements for the BA/BS and the BFA are the same.

SPECIFIC ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR CURRENT STUDENTS AND TRANSFER STUDENTS:

Students already enrolled in the BA/BS theatre program or other major in the University or students transferring from another academic institution are required, in the semester prior to beginning the BFA program, to submit a BFA application and schedule an audition/portfolio review/interview. Auditions/interviews for the BFA Program may occur after a student's sophomore year, however once a student's junior year has begun they are no longer eligible for the BFA.

Applicants are expected to have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all theatre, theatre-related and university general education coursework. Students who do not meet these academic standards may be admitted provisionally and are expected to meet the BFA continuation requirements by the end of the second term after admission or they will be subject to dismissal from the program.

Students may apply to the BFA program only once; however, a student who has applied and been denied may be reconsidered for BFA admission and invited by the faculty if the student's academic record, class work and production work show substantive improvement.

All BFA applications require two letters of recommendation: one from a teacher and another from a director (for Classical Acting & Musical Theatre emphasis candidates) or designer/technical director (for Theatre Design & Technology emphasis candidates) with whom the student has worked.

CONTINUATION IN BFA PROGRAM

All students admitted to the BFA Program are considered on provisional status in their first year in the program. At the end of their first year candidacy each student will meet with the faculty in the performance area or the production area, depending on the student's emphasis, to review progress and evaluate the student's status. All students will complete an annual evaluation at the end of the spring term involving either a portfolio review or performance jury. BFA students are required to:

- *Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in all coursework (Theatre Major Required and General Education courses).*
- *Enroll in a minimum of 12 credits per semester*
- *Demonstrate satisfactory progress towards the completion of University General Education course requirements*
- *Demonstrate appropriate progress in artistic, educational and technical growth in the student's area in class work and end of semester juries*
- *Demonstrate active participation and creative growth in the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance productions*
- *Demonstrate exemplary professional behavior and positive attitude in class and production work*

BFA students may not take part in any non-departmental productions during the school year without BFA Faculty permission. This policy is in place in order to prevent BFA students from getting overextended and becoming unavailable for departmental work.

Students who are making satisfactory progress in all of the above areas will be granted continuing status. Students with problems in one or more areas may either be granted probationary status or be dismissed from the BFA program. A student dismissed from the BFA program may still complete the BA/BS degree. Students may remain on probationary status for no more than one semester and probationary status may be granted only once during the student's program.

No major coursework with a grade below a 2.0 will count towards the major degree completion requirements.

Note: If a student decides to voluntarily withdraw from the BFA program, he or she will not be readmitted at a later date.