UE Theatre encourages students to explore the full breadth of career development opportunities available to them throughout the entertainment industry. The mentoring of each student’s particular strengths and talents is coupled with practical experiences in auditions, mock job interviews, portfolio development, and a true desire to foster personal and professional success for every graduate.

UE Theatre productions provide purposeful experiences tailored to challenge and cultivate growth in an individual student’s path as a theatre artist. Students have the opportunity to work in all three venues: the 482-seat Shanklin Theatre, the versatile May Studio Theatre, and the newly created John David Lutz Theatre Lab.

Performance majors experience in-depth classroom training in improvisation, games, clowning, voice and speech, movement, script analysis, character and scene study (utilizing contemporary and classical texts), as well as advanced audition techniques. This comprehensive curriculum prepares them to work on a wide range of material in multiple mediums.

Mainstage and studio productions, student-directed projects, classroom work, and staged readings, as well as a traveling Shakespeare troupe, allow actors to further develop and perfect their craft in a variety of hands-on settings.

Performance
Bachelor of Fine Arts
Bachelor of Science
THEATRE MANAGEMENT
Bachelor of Science with a minor in Business Administration

This major is for highly qualified students interested in a career as a leader in the field of arts management. The curriculum combines in-depth courses in the Department of Theatre with specially selected classes offered in the Schroeder School of Business Administration.

Theatre Management students receive extensive practical experience in marketing, fundraising, general management, company management, patron services, special events, and hands-on experience working with the UE Theatre Society Board of Directors.

Boasting a 100% employment rate, alumni currently work with Broadway’s HAMILTON, Second Stage Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, Theatre for a New Audience, Aurora Productions, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Lincoln Center Theater, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Baseline Theatrical, San Francisco’s Curran Theater, Tessitura Ticketing, League of Resident Theatres, New York’s Signature Theatre, and Ambassador Theatre Group in London.

STAGE MANAGEMENT
Bachelor of Science

For the student interested in a career in stage management or production management, this particular major combines courses in theatre, management, and communications and provides a comprehensive educational program to prepare students for a professional career.

Stage Management students enhance their education through the completion of an associated study in a field of their choice and may even choose to spend an entire semester interning at a professional theatre.
Theatre Studies majors must be of the highest academic caliber, possess demonstrated talent, and exhibit an interest and proficiency in several areas of theatre. To accommodate their academic prowess and varied interests, theatre studies majors are encouraged to explore a variety of theatrical disciplines. This specialized program is the most immersive theatre degree offered in the UE Department of Theatre.

Majors may fully explore interests in:

- Performance
- Directing
- Dramaturgy
- Playwriting
- Scenic Design
- Costume Design
- Lighting Design
- Sound Design
- Wigs and Makeup
- Stage Management
- Theatre Management
- Production Management

DIRECTING AND DRAMATURGY
Bachelor of Science

This new pilot program is for students interested in learning more about the fields of directing and dramaturgy. We are seeking future theatre makers with a vast curiosity about the world and the vital role theatre plays in society. These selected students will be regularly evaluated on their demonstrated artistic ability and capacity for collaboration and leadership in the classroom and rehearsal process. Directing and Dramaturgy students will take classes from a carefully curated curriculum of academic and theatrical disciplines and receive extensive hands-on opportunities to develop their craft over four years of robust studies.
FACULTY | STAFF | GUEST ARTISTS

Shea Cowden, Department Chair/Managing Director
BA, Southeastern Oklahoma State University; MFA, Wayne State University
Co-Coordinator, National Unified Auditions

Diane Brewer, Professor, Dramatic Literature/Theatre History/Dramaturgy
BA, Boston University; MA, University of California, Los Angeles; Member, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of America

Eric Renschler, Associate Professor, Scenic Design
BA and BA, University of Evansville; MFA, University of Michigan; Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE

Stephen Boulmetis, Associate Professor, Lighting Design
BA, University of Cincinnati–CCM; MFA, Carnegie Mellon University; Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE

Sarah J. Smith, Assistant Professor, Costume Design
BFA, Carnegie Mellon University; MEIM, Carnegie Mellon University; Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE

Amelia McClain, Assistant Professor, Acting
BFA, University of Evansville; MFA, New York University; Member, Actors Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild

Wes Grantom, Assistant Professor, Directing/Acting
BFA, University of Evansville; Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

Richard B. Ingraham, Guest Sound Designer

Scenic Design | Costume Design | Lighting Design | Sound Design | Technical Direction

The Farnsworth Invention, Shanklin Theatre

THE FARNSWORTH INVENTION, Shanklin Theatre

Design and Technology majors take a core curriculum of classes in production techniques, costume construction, makeup, color and design, graphic communications, scenic, costume, and lighting design. Specialized courses covering topics such as architecture and costume history, rendering, metalworking, rigging, carpentry, computer-aided design, and director/designer collaboration are also available to accommodate each student's strengths and interests. Production opportunities provide students with hands-on experience in all areas.

FACULTY | STAFF | GUEST ARTISTS

Stacey Yan, Visiting Assistant, Professor, Acting/Guest Artist
BA, Brown University; MFA, New York University; Member, Actors Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild

Damian Thompson, Visiting Assistant, Professor, Acting/Guest Artist
BA, University of Evansville; MFA, University of Colorado; Member, Actors Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild

Jean Nelson, Costume Production/Costume Shop Manager
BA, Mankato State University; MFA, University of Minnesota, St. Paul

Blake Cooper, Assistant Technical Director/Scene Shop Manager
BA, Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Sherri Peachee, Senior Administrative Assistant

Jeff Hinchey, Adjunct Instructor, Scenic Design

Dana Taylor, Adjunct Instructor, Introduction to Theatre

Robert Timisc, Guest Scenic Designer

Sidney McCarty, Guest Sound Designer

Joseph P. Huato, Professor Emeritus, Design

John David Katz, Professor Emeritus, Acting/Direction

Pat McCrory, Professor Emeritus, Costume Design

Christia Ward, Professor Emeritus, Acting/Voice & Speech
ALUMNI SNAPSHOTs

Amy Attaway ’01, Associate Artistic Director, Kinetic Militia; Associate Artistic Director, Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Greg Backstrom ’01, Managing Director/COO, The Curran Theatre, San Francisco.

Hollis Campbell ’12, Associate Company Manager, Jujamcyn Theaters, NYC.

Matt Carter ’11, MFA University of Missouri–KC; Technical Director, All Access Staging & Productions, LA.

Tatiana Casas Quilhenéz ’19, Executive Assistant to the Artistic Director and Managing Director, Manager of the Humanities Program, Theatre For A New Audience, NYC.

Hannah Cava ’16, Production Project Manager, Disney Theatrical Group, NYC.

Jacob Clemer ’02, MFA Carnegie Mellon University; Costume Designer for Broadway, regional theatre, and opera.

Nathan Darrow ’08, MFA New York University; Technical Director, Alley Theatre, Houston.

Michael Giddish ’83, Editor, Projection Lights & Staging News—products and technology of theatre, film, and television.

Kelli Giddish ’02, stars as Detective Amanda Rollins on NBC’s LAW & ORDER, NYC.

Sally Goodman ’10, Tony Award-winning Producer, London. Credits include HAIDAESTOWN, ANASTASIA, FRANKIE AND JOHNNIE IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE.

Polly Hubbard ’05, Director of New Play Development, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago.

Isaac Katzanek ’11, Production Manager, Gellen Playhouse, Los Angeles.

Emily Kent ’09, Director of Insights & Strategy, Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Adela Kuehn ’04, MFA California Institute of the Arts; Senior Technical Director, Walt Disney Imagining.

Deirdre Lovejoy ’84, MFA New York University; LUCKY GUY on Broadway; Reoccurring roles on THE WIRE, BONES, SHAMELESS, and THE BLACKLIST.

Rami Malek ’03, 2019 Academy Award-winner for Best Actor as Freddie Mercury in BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY; 2017 Golden Globe Award nominee and 2016 Emmy Award-winner for Best Actor in a Drama Series as Elliot in MR. ROBOT.

Sarah Malone ’08, Co-Costume Designer, GIRLS and ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK.

Amelia McClain ’03, MFA New York University; Broadway credits include TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG, NOISES OFF, TOAD OF LOVING, AND SPIKE, THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES.

Danny Mefford ’04, MFA Brown University; choreographed DEAD EVIL, HANSEN and the 2015 Tony Award-winning musical, FUN HOME, as well as Broadway’s THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY and BLOODY BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON.

Chris Minnick ’08, Director of Communications, Aurora Productions, serving production management and technical supervision needs for Broadway, Off-Broadway, and touring productions.

Toby Onwumere ’12, MFA University of California–San Diego, MFA California Institute of the Arts; 2019 Academy Award-winner for Best Actor in a Supporting Role as Freddie Mercury in BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY; 2017 Golden Globe Award nominee and 2016 Emmy Award-winner for Best Actor in a Drama Series as Freddie Mercury in THE CRUCIBLE, Emmy, A DOLL’S HOUSE PART 2, Mayella Ewell, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD.

Carrie Preston ’89, The Juilliard School; won an Emmy Award for her role of Elizabeth Tassoni on THE GOOD WIFE; currently Polly on TNT’s CLAWS.

Teresa Sapien ’11, Associate Artistic Director, Arena Stage, Washington, DC.

Matt Smart ’01, MFA University of California, San Diego; a playwright and recipient of two Jerome Fellowships and a McKnight Advancement Grant from the Playwrights’ Center; and winner of 2014 William Inge Theatre Festival’s Otis Guernsey New Voices in the American Theatre Award.

Laura Stuart ’08, Associate General Manager, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, NYC.

Hannah Sullivan ’11, MFA Yale University; Assistant Stage Manager, HAMILTON National Tour.

Drea Tartaglia ’07, Key Tailor on Amazon’s THE MANDALORIAN; Voice of Michaela in PENCE HASEL.

Robert Tintoc ’06, MFA University of California-San Diego; Production Designer, Universal Studios Hollywood.

Olivia Vellotti ’15, Production Office Administrator, Ambassador Theatre Group, London.

Putina Wesley ’01, The Juilliard School; played Tara Thornton on HBO’s TRUE BLOOD and stars in OWN’s QUEEN SUGAR.

Erin Wilhelm ’08, Broadway credits include Mercy Lewis, THE CRUCIBLE, Emmy, A DOLL’S HOUSE PART 2, Mayella Ewell, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD.

Reed Wilkerson ’10, MFA New York University; Associate General Manager, Second Stage Theatre, NYC.

Aaron Wilson ’09, MFA University of Missouri-Kansas City; Technical Director, Alley Theatre, Houston.

INTERNSHIPS

Summer internship experiences play an invaluable role in helping UE theatre students transition into the professional world following graduation.

UE theatre students regularly secure positions at these prestigious institutions:

- Williamstown Theatre Festival
- Eugene O’Neill Theater Center
- Roundabout Theatre Company
- Arena Stage
- Utah Shakespeare Festival
- The Santa Fe Opera
- Great River Shakespeare Festival
- The Juilliard School
- The Glimmerglass Festival
- Manhattan Theatre Club
- Signature Theatre
- The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
- Cleveland Playhouse
- Spoleto Festival
- Atlantic Theatre Company
- Playwrights Horizons
- Milwaukee Repertory Theater
- Actors Theatre of Louisville
- Alley Theatre
- Seattle Children’s Theatre
- The Shakespeare Theatre Company
- Indiana Repertory Theatre
- The Muny in St. Louis
- Juaram formed a powerful bond with Mississippi’s Welding Films
- Disney Theatrical Group
- Tokyo’s Shiki Theatre Company

From top page: Derresha Webb ’20, Box Office Manager and Victoria Keesee ’20, Associate Company Manager at Eugene O’Neill Theater Center; Sierra Miller ’19, Audience Engagement Associate at Williamstown Theatre Festival; Ivy Karlsgodt ’17, Operations Coordinator at The Shakespeare Theatre Company; Daniel Stewart ’19, Acting Apprentice at Great River Shakespeare Festival.
BE A CHANGEMAKER
We are an ASHOKA U Changemaker Campus

Want to make a difference in your community? At UE, you don’t have to wait to have an impact on your campus and community. Be a social innovator in your very first semester!

Students have the opportunity to participate in ChangeLab classes, live in a Changemaker residence hall, and compete in the Changemaker Challenge. Sample ChangeLab classes include local and international Habitat for Humanity builds, Engineering Gardens for the Disabled, Empowering Women in Politics, Anti-Bullying Board Games, Creating Community Composting, Science and Technology in Elementary Education, Nature Writing for Change, Anti-Juuling, LGBT Chorus, Alternative Energy for Puerto Rico, and Increasing Diversity in Arts Programming.

Right: Marshall Hopkins ‘19 gives back to the community by working on a build for Habitat for Humanity Evansville

ChangeLab: ROGUE AND PEASANT ACES

Reviving a tradition that began in 1962, with a University of Evansville production of THE COMEDY OF ERRORS that toured to high schools, the ROGUE AND PEASANT ACES is a mobile Shakespeare company created to tour the Tri-state area. Last year, the troupe performed Shakespeare in eight schools for 1500 students.

In its inaugural year, this UE ChangeLab class was awarded the distinction of being named the 2019 Best Arts Project by the city’s Leadership Everyone organization.

GO GLOBAL...SPRING OR FALL?
We own it!

At Harlaxton College in Grantham, England, students live in a 100-room manor or in the adjacent carriage house and take classes in its beautiful nineteenth-century halls and galleries. The Department of Theatre structures its degree programs so students can study abroad for an entire semester their sophomore year. Harlaxton’s class schedule is on a four-day class week, so students can spend three days traveling throughout Europe and the UK to see theatre productions, visit art museums and historical sites, and become true global citizens.
HOW TO APPLY

Auditions/Interviews
The Department of Theatre seeks students interested in studying acting, directing, scenic design, costume design, lighting design, sound design, theatre technology, stage management, dramaturgy, playwriting, theatre management, and theatre studies.

Auditions/Interviews should include one or more of the following approaches:

Audition: Actors should provide a headshot, résumé, and prepare a memorized 2–3 minute monologue from a contemporary play, 20–30 lines from a play by William Shakespeare, and one verse from a Broadway musical. The student must utilize recorded musical accompaniment.

Portfolio Review: Stage managers, designers, and technicians should provide a résumé, as well as examples of work in the form of photographs, prompt-scripts, slides, and/or drawings of productions on which the student has worked. Examples of related skills (sewing, drawing, woodworking, etc.) are also helpful.

Students interested in theatre management should present a résumé, writing samples, and any photographs or examples of completed projects.

Students interested in theatre studies, directing or dramaturgy may choose to combine an audition and portfolio review.

Interview: All prospective students, regardless of intended major, will interview with members of the faculty to assess skills and interests. Interviews allow students to talk with a faculty member in an informal manner and discover what the University of Evansville and the student have to offer each other.

Admission Requirements
First-year and transfer students seeking admission to the Department of Theatre must formally apply to the University of Evansville and audition and/or interview with the department faculty. It is highly recommended for students to complete the UE Application for Admission prior to the scheduled audition/interview. www.evansville.edu

Financial Aid
The Department of Theatre works directly with the incoming student’s family and the Office of Financial Aid to create the most comprehensive financial aid package available. Scholarships are based on the student’s talent, academic record, and leadership potential. Need-based grants and loans are also available. Financial aid packages will not be awarded until the student has been formally admitted to the University of Evansville and has completed the audition/interview process.

Schedule an audition or interview @ theatre.evansville.edu

Audition/Interview Schedule
The University of Evansville will conduct auditions and interviews in person this year and host two online audition dates. We will be participating in several group auditions, UE private auditions, and as a member of the National Unified Auditions. University of Evansville Theatre audition fee is $25 for private auditions and need-based fee waivers are available.

The University of Evansville plans to have representatives conducting auditions and interviews in conjunction with the following events:

- International Thespian Festival
- Pacific Northwest Auditions
- Texas Thespian Festival
- Kansas Thespian Festival
- Greater Houston Auditions
- Greater San Antonio Auditions
- Colorado Thespian Conference
- Wisconsin High School Theatre Festival
- Ohio Thespian Auditions
- Georgia Thespian Conference

*Please check our website for updates on events.

UE ON-CAMPUS AUDITIONS
- September 24, 2021
- November 13, 2021
- January 15, 2022
- February 19, 2022

UE ONLINE AUDITIONS
- October 23, 2021
- January 22, 2022

Students who audition/interview for entry into the Department of Theatre will be notified in accordance with the university policy for admission. Students will be accepted, deferred, or placed on a waiting list. Accepted prospective students must complete the formal UE application process, before they can be officially accepted into the department and awarded a scholarship. Students placed on the waiting list will be notified of the department’s final decision before the May 1, 2022, national deadline for scholarship acceptance.

Schedule an audition or interview @ theatre.evansville.edu