

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE **THEATRE**  
Educating future professionals.



PEER GYNT, May Studio Theatre

# Seeking students with exceptional talent and outstanding academic ability.

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.



JOHN PROCTOR IS THE VILLAIN, May Studio Theatre

# PERFORMANCE

Bachelor of Fine Arts  
Bachelor of Science

Performance majors experience in-depth classroom training in improvisation, games, clowning, voice and speech, movement, script analysis, and 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 an award-winning traveling theatre troupe, allow actors to further develop and perfect their craft in a variety of hands-on settings.

*THE WOLVES, May Studio Theatre*

# 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 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.

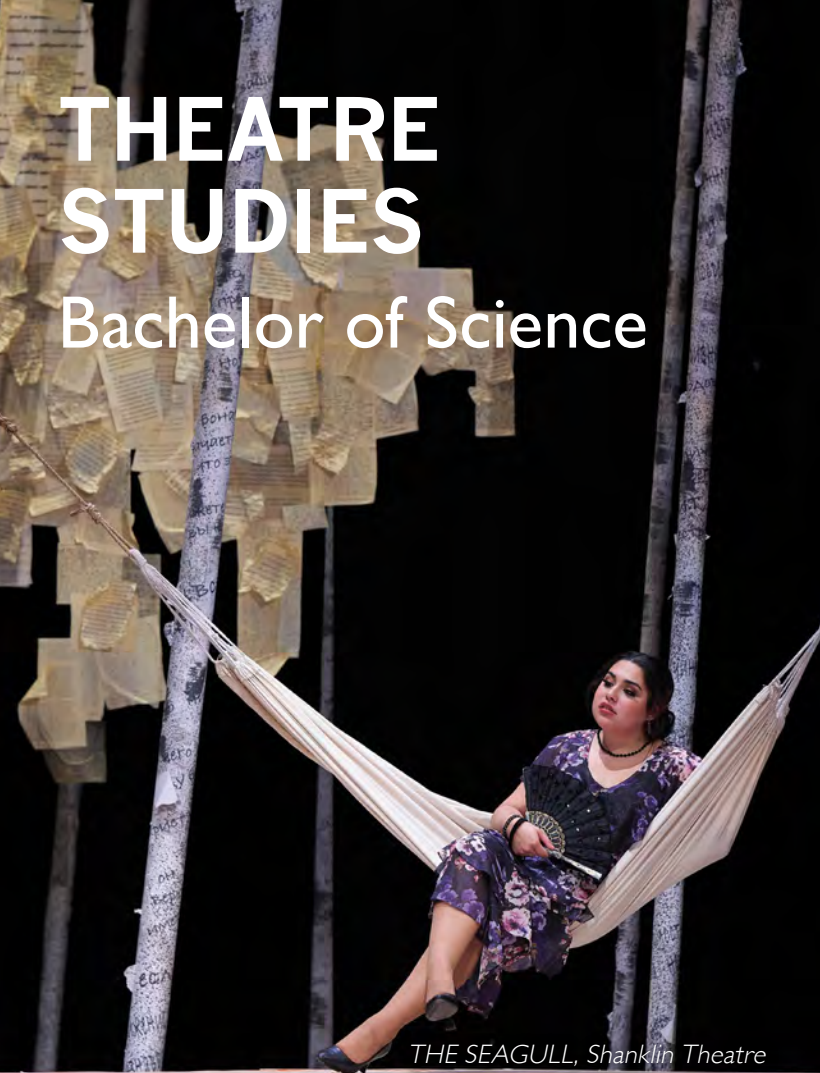
Theatre Management students receive extensive practical experience in marketing, fundraising, general management, company management, patron services, special events, and hands-on experience working with the UE Theatre Society Board of Directors.

Boasting a 100% employment rate, alumni currently work on Broadway shows, Playwrights Horizons, Aurora Productions, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, TodayTix Group, StoryCorps, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, San Francisco's Curran Theater, Tessitura Ticketing, Spektrix CRM, and the League of Resident Theatres.



# THEATRE STUDIES

## Bachelor of Science



*THE SEAGULL, Shanklin 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**



*RICHARD III, Shanklin Theatre*



# DIRECTING AND DRAMATURGY

## Bachelor of Science

This degree 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 our society. Accepting only two students each year into this program allows for them to be regularly evaluated on their 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, as well as receive extensive hands-on opportunities that allow them to develop their craft over four years of robust studies.

# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

## Bachelor of Fine Arts

## Bachelor of Science

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.



Scenic Design | Costume Design | Lighting Design | Sound Design | Technical Direction  
Theatre Technology | Hair and Makeup | Costume Construction | Scenic Art



*May Studio Theatre*

## FACULTY | STAFF

**Sharla 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;  
John David Lutz Distinguished Professor of Theatre Arts**

BA, Tufts University; PhD, University of California, Los Angeles  
Member, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of America

**Stephen Boulmetis, Professor, Lighting Design**

BFA, University of Cincinnati–CCM; MFA, Boston University  
Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE

**Sarah J. Smith, Associate Professor, Costume Design**

BFA, Carnegie Mellon University; MEIM, Carnegie Mellon University  
Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE

**Wes Grantom, Assistant Professor, Directing/Acting**

BFA, University of Evansville  
Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

**Liz Jenkins, Assistant Professor, Acting**

BFA, University of Evansville; MFA, University of California, San Diego  
Member, Actors Equity Association; Member, Screen Actors Guild

**Amelia McClain, Assistant Professor, Acting**

BFA, University of Evansville; MFA, New York University  
Member, Actors Equity Association; Member, Screen Actors Guild

**Stacey Yen, Assistant Professor, Acting/Movement**

BA, Brown University; MFA, New York University  
Member, Actors Equity Association; Member, Screen Actors Guild

**Austin Kuhn, Visiting Guest Artist–Scenic Design**

BS, University of Evansville; MFA, University of Connecticut

**Jon Robertson, Sound Design Engineer for Creative Technologies**

BM, University of Arizona; MM/MFA, University of Missouri-Kansas City

**Jean Nelson, Costume Production/Costume Shop Manager**

BA, Mankato State University; MFA, University of Minnesota, St. Paul

**Cody Kane, Assistant Technical Director/Scene Shop Manager**

BS, Murray State University

**Joe Paulik, Adjunct Instructor, Improvisation**

BFA, University of Western Michigan; MFA, New York University  
Member, Actors Equity Association; Member, Screen Actors Guild

**Sherri Peachee, Senior Administrative Assistant**

Evansville native in her tenth year with the Department of Theatre



HARLAXTON



# UE'S BRITISH CAMPUS

## Go Global!

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 during their sophomore year. Harlaxton's class schedule follows 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.



*A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Rogue and Peasant Aces*

# BE A CHANGEMAKER

The University of Evansville is proud to be one of only 30 colleges designated as 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 can 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, Increasing Adult Literacy, Empowering Women in Politics, Exhibit Design & Storytelling, and Food Insecurity on Campus.

UE Theatre participates in the Changemaker program with the Rogue and Peasant Aces, a troupe that travels into the community to present free Shakespeare and introduce live theatre in unconventional spaces.

## UE THEATRE SOCIETY

For over 50 years, arriving first-year students have been welcomed to campus by the University of Evansville Theatre Society—a dynamic group of volunteers expressly created to give students a sense of belonging in the Evansville community. The UE Theatre Society assists and nurtures the students during their four-year experience in a variety of ways, including a kick-off dinner for the first-year students and board members; an exciting Adopt-a-Student program, where students are “adopted” by local families at a luncheon in the first semester; opening night parties at local restaurants; annual trips to regional theatres to expose students to professional productions; an end-of-year Student Awards Dinner; and a post-commencement reception for graduating seniors and their families.



*Theatre Society Adopt-a-Student Picnic*

# CAREER PREP

UE Theatre takes a comprehensive approach to preparing students to enter the workforce as empowered and generous theatre artists. In addition to rigorous classroom and practical theatre experiences, students complete self-reviews each semester. The senior year features classes in Audition Techniques and the Business of Acting, as well as Portfolio Preparation and Career Development. Summer work experiences also play an invaluable role in helping UE Theatre students transition into the professional world. UE Theatre students regularly secure positions at prestigious institutions, such as the Williamstown Theatre Festival, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Santa Fe Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, The Juilliard School, Alley Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, and many others. However, the “secret sauce” may be the networking opportunities provided at alumni events held each year in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.



*These talented and ambitious students provided support services for the Box Office, Operations, and Development teams for the daily work at the Williamstown Theatre Festival.*

# TASL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

## Think, Act, Serve, Live



*Brynna Waters '25, a performance major and TASL scholar from Brownsburg, Indiana, as Joanne Jefferson in RENT, Shanklin Theatre*

This program embodies the University's mission to empower each student to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world. Driven by the fundamental belief that all human beings carry distinct social characteristics that inform how they move throughout the world, this comprehensive program seeks to actively promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on the college campus. The TASL Scholars Program includes a four-year full-tuition scholarship awarded to a cohort of students after a competitive application and interview process.

# ALUMNI SNAPSHOTS

**Amy Attaway '01**, Associate Artistic Director,  
Kentucky Shakespeare

**Greg Backstrom '01**, Managing Director/COO,  
The Curran Theatre, San Francisco

**Holli Campbell '12**, Director of Partnerships, TodayTix Group  
NYC

**Matt Carter '11**, MFA, University of Missouri–Kansas City;  
Technical Designer, All Access Staging & Productions, L.A.

**Stephanie Drotar-Grassi '11**, JD, New York Law School;  
General Counsel, League of Resident Theatres, NYC

**Tatianna Casas Quiñonez '19**, Senior Manager, Campus &  
Performance Operations, Lincoln Center for the Performing  
Arts, NYC

**Jacob Climer '02**, MFA, Carnegie Mellon University;  
Costume Designer for Broadway, regional theatre, and opera

**Nathan Darrow '98**, MFA New York University; recurring  
roles in HOUSE OF CARDS, GOTHAM, BILLIONS,  
PREACHER, and guest spots on FBI and LAW AND ORDER

**Daniel d'Egnuff '12**, Associate Scenery Director, Alley  
Theatre

**Michael Eddy '83**, Editor, Projection Lights & Staging News—  
products and technology of theatre, film, and television

**Mary Catherine Garrison '96**, MFA, University of California,  
San Diego; Tricia in HBO's SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE

**Kelli Giddish '02**, starred as Detective Amanda Rollins on  
NBC's LAW & ORDER: SVU

**Christina Grant '01**, Makeup Designer, Broadway's GREY  
HOUSE: Makeup Dept Head, SEARCH PARTY, THE  
PERIPHERAL; Special Effects Makeup Artist, THE OTHER  
TWO, FALLOUT

**Bill Heck '02**, MFA, New York University; Young Dan Chase in  
THE OLD MAN; Broadway credits include TAKE ME OUT,  
CABARET, and BROOKLYN BOY

**Sally Cade Holmes '10**, Tony Award-winning Producer;  
Broadway credits include HADESTOWN, ANASTASIA,  
FRANKIE AND JOHNNIE IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE

**Liz Jenkins '05**, MFA, University of California, San Diego;  
Recurring role, BLACK-ISH; Guest, AMERICAN HORROR  
STORY, HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER

**Adela Kuehn '04**, MFA, California Institute of the Arts;  
Senior Technical Director, Walt Disney Imagineering

**Deirdre Lovejoy '84**, MFA, New York University;  
LUCKY GUY on Broadway; Recurring roles on THE WIRE,  
BONES, SHAMELESS, and THE BLACKLIST

**Rami Malek '03**, 2019 Best Actor Academy Award-winner for  
BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY; 2016 Emmy Award-winner for MR.  
ROBOT; Safin, NO TIME TO DIE; David Hill, OPPENHEIMER

**Joshua Marsh '08**, Costume Designer, GODFATHER OF  
HARLEM, BETTER NATE THAN EVER, MERE MORTALS,  
WHEN YOU FINISH SAVING THE WORLD, CHANG CAN  
DUNK

**Amelia McClain '03**, MFA, New York University; Broadway  
credits include TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, THE PLAY THAT  
GOES WRONG, NOISES OFF, FOOL FOR LOVE, THE HEIDI  
CHRONICLES, VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND  
SPIKE, THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES

**Danny Mefford '04**, MFA, Brown University; Broadway  
choreographer: DEAR EVAN HANSEN, FUN HOME,  
KIMBERLY AKIMBO, THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY.  
BLOODY BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON

**Toby Onwumere '12**, MFA, University of California, San Diego;  
Kai in EMPIRE, Capheus in the Netflix original series SENSE8,  
and Sequoia in THE MATRIX RESURRECTIONS

**Peter Orkiszewski '16**, Associate Director of Operations,  
Berkeley Repertory Theatre

**Lennon Parham '98**, The Upright Citizens Brigade;  
Shelly on HBO's THE MINX; Director for HBO's SOMEBODY  
SOMEWHERE

**Carrie Preston '89**, The Julliard School; TRUE BLOOD, stars  
as the title-character in ELSBETH on CBS

**Teresa Sapien '11**, Associate Artistic Director,  
Arena Stage, Washington, D.C.

**Mat 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 Theater, NYC

**Drea Tartaglia '07**, Head Tailor, THE MARVELOUS MRS.  
MAISEL, BETTER NATE THAN EVER; Tailor, KILLERS OF THE  
FLOWER MOON, GIRLS5EVA, ONLY MURDERS IN THE  
BUILDING, FEUD

**Robert Tintoc '06**, MFA, University of California, San Diego;  
Production Designer, Universal Studios Hollywood

**Rutina Wesley '01**, The Julliard School;  
Tara Thornton on HBO's TRUE BLOOD, starred as Nova  
Bordelon in QUEEN SUGAR, and Maria in THE LAST OF US

**Erin Wilhelmi '08**, Broadway credits include Mercy Lewis,  
THE CRUCIBLE, Emmy, A DOLL'S HOUSE PART 2, Mayella  
Ewell, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, Adelheid, THE GILDED  
AGE

**Reed Wilkerson '10**, MBA, New York University;  
Associate General Manager, Lincoln Center for the Performing  
Arts, NYC

**Aaron Wilson '09**, MFA, University of Missouri–Kansas City;  
Director of Production, Alley Theatre, Houston

# HOW TO APPLY

## Auditions/Interviews

**Audition:** Actors should provide a headshot, resumé, 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 resumé, 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 resumé, 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.

Students interested in creative technologies should present a portfolio of various creative pursuits and be ready to articulate their career aspirations in this burgeoning field.

**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](http://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.

## Audition/Interview Schedule

The University of Evansville will conduct auditions and interviews in person and online. 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  
Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Showcase  
Texas Thespian Festival–Corpus Christi  
Texas Thespian Festival–Grapevine  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Auditions  
Greater Houston Auditions  
Colorado Thespian Conference  
Kansas Thespian Festival  
Georgia Thespian Conference  
Indiana Thespians State Conference  
Youth Performing Arts School Showcase  
Musical Theater College Auditions

\*Please check our website for updates on events.

**University of Evansville Theatre is a proud founding member of the National Unified Auditions.**

New York City | January 24–25, 2026

Chicago | February 2–5, 2026

Los Angeles | February 7–8, 2026

### UE ON-CAMPUS AUDITIONS

October 18, 2025

January 20, 2026

February 28, 2026

March 21, 2026

### UE ONLINE AUDITIONS

November 1, 2025

January 20, 2026

March 28, 2026

## Notification

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, declined, 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, 2026, national deadline for scholarship acceptance.

**Schedule an audition or interview @ [theatre.evansville.edu](http://theatre.evansville.edu)**



**YOUTUBE**

[youtube.com/UETheatre](https://youtube.com/UETheatre)



**INSTAGRAM**

[@UETheatre](https://www.instagram.com/UETheatre)



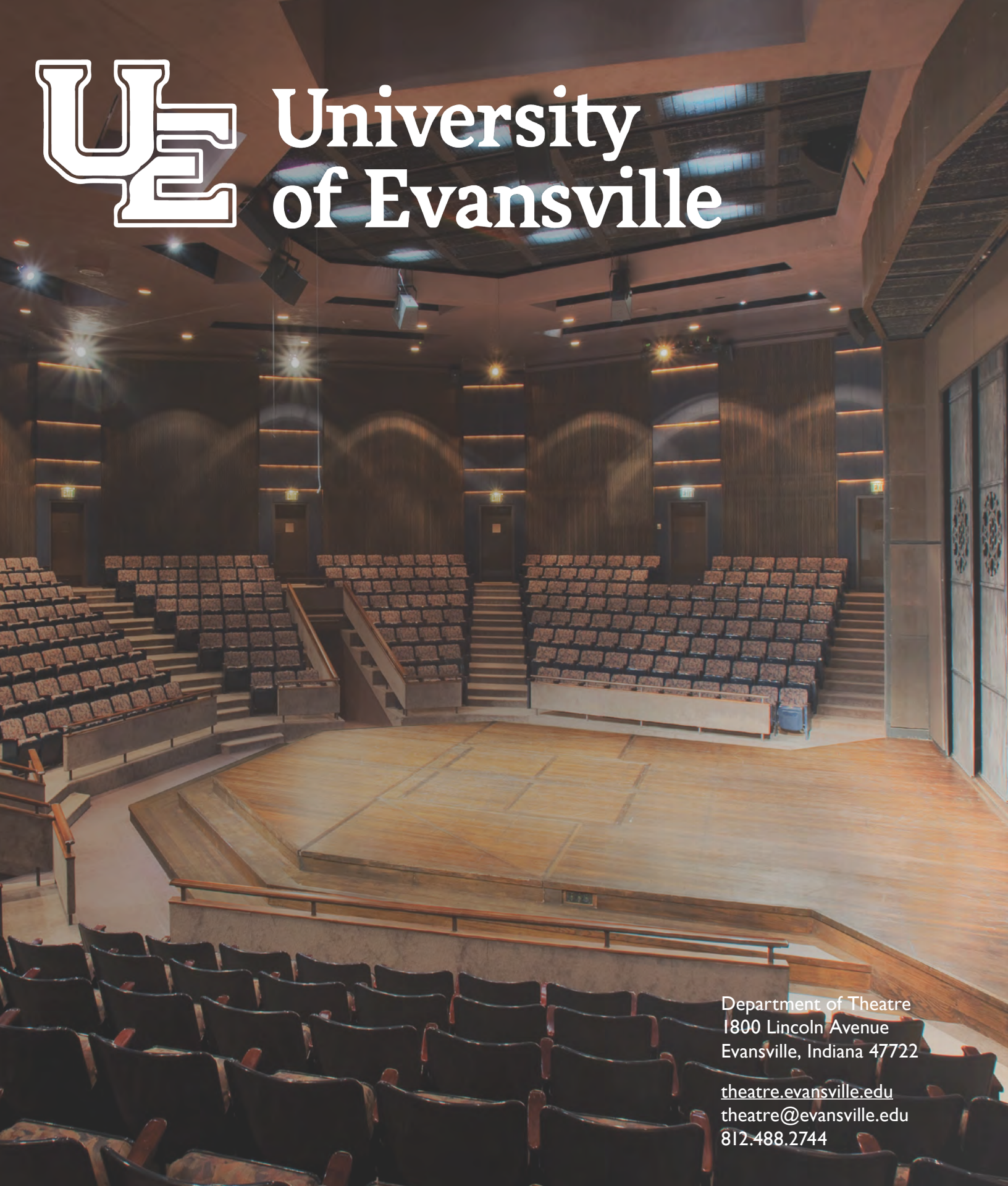
**FACEBOOK**

[facebook.com/UETheatre](https://facebook.com/UETheatre)

MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS, Shanklin Theatre  
Front Cover: ROMEO AND JULIET, Shanklin Theatre



# University of Evansville



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