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.

PEER GYNT, May Studio Theatre

Seeking students with exceptional talent and outstanding academic ability.

HEROES OF THE FOURTH TURNING, Shanklin Theatre
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 an award-winning traveling theatre troupe, allow actors to further develop and perfect their craft in a variety of hands-on settings.
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 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
This new 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 will allow 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 will allow them to develop their craft over four years of robust studies.

SPRING AWAKENING, 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.
This dynamic new degree opportunity uses an interdisciplinary approach to support students interested in careers that use cutting-edge technological innovation in the creative arts. Students will be challenged to develop their creative skills through immersion in the fundamentals of art, music, and creative writing and then bring those creations to life onstage, onscreen, or on-air through cutting-edge digital technologies. Combining studies in technology, design, communication, and fine arts, this exciting program offers students the flexibility to build an academic program focused on a variety of creative media, including audio production and design, graphic design and animation, music production and recording, theatrical production, film and video production, or any combination a student chooses.
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, LA
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, Company Manager, 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, DC
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
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
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.

UE’S BRITISH CAMPUS
Go Global!
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

Eric Renschler, Associate Professor, Scenic Design  
BS and BA, University of Evansville; MFA, University of Michigan  
Member, United Scenic Artists; Member, IATSE  
Associate Dean, William L. Ridgway College of Arts and Sciences

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

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

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

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

Liz Jenkins, Visiting Assistant Professor, Acting  
BFA, University of Evansville; MFA, University of California, San Diego  
Member, Actors Equity Association; Member, Screen Actors Guild

Scott Carpenter, Visiting Assistant Professor, Technical Direction/Production Manager  
BS, University of Evansville

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, Movement  
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 ninth year with the Department of Theatre
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.

TASL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Think, Act, Serve, Live

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.
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.

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.

Audit/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 25–26, 2025
Chicago | February 3–6, 2025
Los Angeles | February 8–9, 2025

UE ON-CAMPUS AUDITIONS

October 19, 2024
January 20, 2025
February 22, 2025
March 22, 2025

UE ONLINE AUDITIONS

November 2, 2024
January 20, 2025
March 29, 2025

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, 2025, national deadline for scholarship acceptance.

Schedule an audition or interview @ theatre.evansville.edu