

# MUSIC THEATRE

AT ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF THEATRE ARTS

## WHY IWU MUSIC THEATRE?

Illinois Wesleyan University's Music Theatre department provides professional training in a traditional college setting. We value each individual artist and pride ourselves on our diverse and inclusive community. Our commitment to the rich history of American musical theatre and rigorous training in music, acting and dance enable the next generation of brave artists to emerge. To all this, students additionally benefit from a variety of general education courses at a top-level liberal arts university.

At IWU, students gain a broader view of the professional theatre community by building a network of contacts through alumni, internships and summer employment. By graduation, music theatre majors leave IWU with a professional resume, a game plan for entering their performance careers and a superior foundation on which to build their dreams.

## BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

- #10 best college town in the U.S. (Business Insider, 2017)
- A campus population of 1,636



## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

- Co-Curricular Season:
  - Fall: Main stage play and musical, plus two plays in the "Lab" theatre.
  - Spring: Main stage play and a musical in the "Lab," plus a main stage musical or Faculty-Choreographed Dance Concert (on alternating years).
  - One audition for the Fall and Spring seasons, respectively.
- Extracurricular Performance Opportunities:
  - Annual One-Act Play Festival, 24 Hour Theatre Performance, Annual Student-Choreographed Dance Concert, Annual Music Theatre Society Musical, Jm7\* Improv Group, Quickies! Sketch Comedy Group and Shringara Multicultural Theatre Company various performances.
  - The Phoenix Theatre is a student-run black box producing musicals, plays, original student work, cabarets, one-person shows and much more.



## THE SCHOOL OF THEATRE ARTS AT ILLINOIS WESLEYAN AT A GLANCE

- 4 degrees offered
  - BFA in Acting, BFA in Music Theatre, BFA in Theatre Design & Technology and BA in Theatre Arts.
- 5 minors offered
  - Arts Management, Dance, Theatre Design & Technology, Theatre Arts and Film Studies.
- 7 full-time faculty, 23 adjunct faculty
- Faculty-student ratio in Music Theatre is around 1:3
- IWU Music Theatre ranked 7th in the U.S. (Onstage Blog, 2018)



## EDUCATION

### • ACTING TRAINING

- 3 required semesters, no limit to additional classes
- Classes offered: Acting the Song, Music Theatre Workshop, Music Theatre Scene Study, Acting 1, Acting 2, Acting 3, Acting Shakespeare, Acting for the Camera, Advanced Scene Study, Play Workshop, Voice/Speech 1-4, Movement for the Actor 1, Movement for the Actor 2, and two Stage Combat classes ("Sticks and Stones" and "Rapier and Dagger").

### • MUSIC TRAINING

- 2 required semesters of both Music Theory and Keyboard
- 8 required semesters of voice lessons
- Classes Offered: Music Theory, Keyboard, 8 semesters of Voice Lessons all taught by faculty within the School of Theatre Arts. Weekly Music Theatre Repertory Master Class.

### • DANCE TRAINING

- 14 enrollments required, on average 1-4 per semester
- Most students take approximately 21 enrollments
- Classes Offered: Three levels of ballet, tap, jazz and modern; social dance; Dance Appreciation; Advanced Contemporary Dance and Dance Composition.

### • OTHER

- Senior Showcase (annually, in Chicago), Auditions, Music Theatre History & Literature and many more electives.



## FINANCIAL AID

- Scholarships are eligible for up to \$30,000 per year based on need and merit.
- Every accepted BFA Music Theatre student receives a talent scholarship.
- IWU is ranked one of Kiplinger's "Best Values in Private Colleges."
- Tuition cost per semester is \$25,000.
- More than 95% of IWU students receive financial aid. In fact, on average, that aid covers over half of their tuition costs.
- The school also offers need-based grants and loans. The success rate of Illinois Wesleyan graduates paying their loans is over 99%, well above the national average.



TOP-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN A LIBERAL ARTS SETTING, VALUING THE INDIVIDUAL ARTIST