DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DRAMA,
AND CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Musical
THEATRE

BFA
at
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Greetings from Richard Roland

Dear Prospective Student,

Welcome! Thank you for having a look at the Indiana University Musical Theatre B.F.A. Program in the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance. We are a small program offering a rigorous curriculum of performance and technique classes, taught by a faculty of working professionals who encourage individuality and artistic exploration. This is not a “cut” program. While we hold individual evaluation and assessment sessions every semester, we do not decide whether or not a student is allowed to progress to the next academic year. We are also not a “cookie-cutter” program. We celebrate the individual. We don’t “break you down” so that we can reshape you—however we work you hard and we challenge you while we recognize and encourage your unique gifts, and through highly disciplined training, nurture them to their full potential.

Solid techniques in acting, dance, and voice, and the integration of all three are at the core of what we provide, all while honoring and upholding the text of the musical theatre literature. These essential disciplines are augmented with opportunities to explore musical theatre writing, direction, choreography, and history through unique courses and independent projects that expand students’ creative learning experiences. By cultivating an entrepreneurial approach in preparing for the performing arts industry, we empower our students to become valuable collaborators and successful professional musical theatre artists. Housed in a research-one university, our program will also challenge you to think critically, going beyond the performance aspect of Musical Theatre and exploring its roots, history, form, and function in American culture.

As experienced practitioners, we faculty members understand that musical theatre is a highly competitive field. In order to build students’ professional networks and provide a pathway to their careers, we provide master classes with visiting guest artists, casting directors, and agents. The four-year B.F.A. degree culminates in New York City with our Senior Launch, a two-day event which includes Showcase and introductions to theatre professionals.

Our students are performing on Broadway, national and international tours, in prestigious regional and summer stock theatres, first-rate cruise ships and theme parks, and have appeared on television and in film. Some move beyond the footlights to become casting directors, directors, choreographers, artistic directors, writers, and agents. We understand that some students will move directly to New York while others will go to Chicago, Los Angeles, or any of the many cities hosting thriving theatre communities. We encourage and support each student’s artistic path and assist them individually in finding employment.

As a professional faculty, our mentorship doesn’t end on graduation day. We are available to our alums for advice, information, or just conversation. Professors Fellman, Gray, Haughton Gillis, LaBolt, Swaney, and I value our individual relationships with students and continue to nurture that bond well after that B.F.A. is earned.

Thanks again for having a look at us, and please feel free to contact us with any questions. We hope to hear from you!

Sincerely,

RICHARD ROLAND
Head of Musical Theatre
DJ GRAY
Professor of Practice
Musical Theatre Dance
dg1@iu.edu

is a performer and choreographer. She performed on Broadway in The Producers. She was the Associate Choreographer with Tony Award winning The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. (On and Off-Broadway, and Non-Equity Tour), Associate Choreographer with Tony nominated Xanadu, and assistant starring with Sandra Bernhard on Broadway (Broadway, as well as Merrily We Roll Along (Encores!). DJ has also staged TV appearances and events for Broadway, including Xanadu, The Early Show, Broadway in the Park, and the Tony Awards. Most recently, DJ directed and choreographed Melby and Shire’s Closer Than Ever for IU Summer Theatre. Previously, she directed and choreographed Candlelight Pavilion's Singin’ in the Rain. Other experience includes: Florida Studio Theater (World Goes Round, I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change, Pump Boys and Dinettes), Candlelight Theatre (Chorus Line, 42nd Street, Phantom).

RAY FELLMAN
Professor
Vocal Instruction, Musical Director
eve@iu.edu

has conducted over 40 musicals Off Broadway, regionally, and internationally and over 100 cabaret shows in NYC. Credits include Stephen Schwartz’s Captain Louie with a performance on The Today Show. Ray received the Backstage Magazine Bistro Award in 2007 for his music direction of The After Party at the Laurie Beechman Theatre on 42nd St. Ray has sung important roles with regional opera companies, and been a featured soloist with many symphony orchestras. Voice coaching credits: Tribeca and Toronto Film Festival selection Greetings from Tim Buckley (2013) starring Penn Badgley, and Twentieth Century Fox film Joy (2015) starring Jennifer Lawrence and Edgar Ramirez.

LAUREN HAUGHTON GILLIS
Assistant Professor
Musical Theatre Dance
lagillis@iu.edu

holds an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre from San Diego State University and a B.F.A in Musical Theatre from Syracuse University. She appeared on Broadway in Wicked. Select directing and choreography credits include: Ship Show for Virgin Voyages International, The Magic Hummingbird at The Cutting Room in NYC, The Gardens of Anuncia at The Old Globe (w/ Graciela Daniele), PDA at La Jolla Playhouse, She Loves Me at San Diego Musical Theatre, Matilda and Godspell at Festival 56, Bright Star and The Marvelous Wonderettes: Dream On at Okoboji Summer Theatre, And the World Goes Round at Coronado Playhouse. A Year With Frog and Toad at Cardinal Stage, Carrie and Head Over Heels at Indiana University. She has directed and choreographed benefit concerts and cabarets for BCEFA across the US and Canada for the National Touring Companies of Hamilton, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, The Book of Mormon, and Wicked.

TERRY LABOLT
Professor of Practice
Vocal Instruction, Musical Director
tlabolt@indiana.edu

began his career as a Broadway conductor in the 1980s conducting 42nd Street, Hello, Dolly! (with Carol Channing), George M. (with Joel Grey) and Sugar Babies (with Ann Miller and Mickey Rooney). He is co-author of The Wonder Years—the Baby Boom Musical Revue, which enjoyed success Off-Broadway and in Los Angeles, winning 12 Drama-Logue Awards in 1987. As pianist: The Fantasticks (Sullivan Street Theatre), and tours of The Phantom of the Opera, Aida, Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar, Annie, Guys & Dolls, and Mamma Mia. Prior to joining the faculty of Indiana University in 2008, he was the music director of musical theatre at the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music, where he conducted shows and coached students for more than a decade. At IU he conducts most mainstage productions, teaches privately, and supervises the Broadway Cabaret ensemble.

RICHARD ROLAND
Assistant Professor
Director, B.F.A. Musical Theatre Program
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DR. SUE SWANEY
Adjunct Professor
Vocal Instruction
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teaches studio voice for the B.F.A. program. Swaney has music-directed Les Miserables, West Side Story, and My Fair Lady for Cardinal Stage, as well as vocal-directing Next to Normal and Wizard of Oz. She conducted IU Ballet’s production of Toyko Tharp’s Sweet Fields and Pirates of Penzance for IU Theatre (with Elizabeth Stanley as Mabel); and was vocal coach for the midwest tour of John Mellencamp and Stephen King’s musical, Ghost Brothers of Darkland County. She has sung leads in Candido, Ghosts of Versailles, Nixon in China, Fiddler on the Roof, and others and performed in NYC. Washington, DC, Israel, and Mexico. She can be heard singing backup on Mellencamp’s “Thank You,” and she played Florence Foster Jenkins (opposite Ray Fellman) in Cardinal’s Souvenir. Dr. Swaney holds degrees in Music History, Voice, and Conducting from University of Michigan and IU.
2022/23 Season

Everybody
Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde
Natasha, Pierre, & the Great Comet of 1812
Journeys of Joy: Winter Dance Concert

Agamemnon
The Winter’s Tale
At First Sight: A Festival of New Plays
Something Rotten!
New Moves/New Directions: Senior Capstone Projects

Performance opportunities are abundant. Led by a professional faculty recognized on Broadway, national tours, regional theatres, and internationally, the Department's main stage season of theatrical productions and dance concerts includes two musicals, one in the fall and one in the spring. The Department's professional Summer Theatre season includes musicals as well. Students have ample opportunity to produce, direct and act with University Players, a student run performing organization, as well as independent projects performed in our Studio Theatre. In addition, Bloomington boasts Constellation Stage and Screen, a professional community theatre which regularly employ our students.

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS is a student-run theatre organization at Indiana University dedicated to providing further opportunities in the areas of theatrical performance, production, management, and educational outreach to undergraduate students of all majors and backgrounds. “Theatre of the students, for the students, by the students, University Players is a source of community building within the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance.”

Students are also encouraged to produce independent projects, which provide even more chances to be cast from the moment you arrive on campus!
NOAH MARCUS ('22)
DISNEY CRUISE LINES

LARKIN REILLY ('21)
MUSIC THEATRE WICHITA: A Chorus Line

OGONQUIT PLAYHOUSE: The Nutty Professor (world premiere)

COLE WINSTON ('21)
CARNEGIE HALL, NYC: Great American Songbook Concert with Michael Feinstein

BRODERICK O'NEAL ('20)
NORWEGIAN CRUISE: Kinky Boots

DANIELLE MCKNIGHT ('20)
DISNEY CRUISE LINES

NINAKO (NINA) DONVILLE ('20)
OFF-BROADWAY: A Beautiful Noise: the Neil Diamond Musical (Dec '22)

SAM SANDERSON ('20)
DISNEY CRUISE LINES

MAX FOWLER ('19)
OLNEY THEATRE, WASHINGTON, D.C.: Singin’ in the Rain

MICHELLE ZINK-MUÑOZ ('19)
WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE: Spring Awakening

GREEN ROOM 42, NYC: Revelation: Manhattan

COLIN LEMOINE ('18)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hello, Dolly!

MILES DAVIS TILLMAN ('18)
NATIONAL TOURS: The SpongeBob Musical; Spamilton, an American Parody

CAROLINE (HUERTA) KENNEDY ('17)
SEACOAST REP: In the Heights

ANDREW MINKIN ('17)
ASSISTANT TO HEAD OF THEATRE AT UNITED TALENT AGENCY

MEADOW NGUY ('17)
ALABAMA SHAKESPEARE: Annie

TV: The Blacklist, Madam Secretary, Law & Order: SVU

TODD AULWURM ('17)
NATIONAL TOUR: Once

BRIAN BANDURA ('16)
MARRIOTT LINCOLNSHIRE: Something Rotten!, Newsies

ELAINE COTTER ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: The Sound of Music

OFF-BROADWAY: Young Charles Dickens

KAYLA EILERS ('16)
DISNEY CRUISE LINES: Cinderella, The Little Mermaid

MEGAN FADDIS ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hamilton

THE MUNY: Gypsy

MIA FITZGIBBON ('16)
ENCORES, NYC: Grand Hotel

GOODSPEED: Thoroughly Modern Millie

WESTCHESTER BROADWAY: Gypsy

KAITLYN MAYSE ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: Bandstand, Cinderella

CAMERON MULLIN ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: Rent

KAITLYN LOUISE SMITH ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: Mean Girls

ROYAL CARIBBEAN: Grease

MIKKEL LEWIS ('16)
NATIONAL TOUR: Newsical

GOODSPEED: Thoroughly Modern Millie

MADDIE SHEA BALDWIN ('15)
BROADWAY AND NATIONAL TOUR: Bright Star

FRANCESCA AROSTEGUI ('12)
NATIONAL TOUR: Mamma Mia

WILLIAM HALTIWANGER ('12)
AGENT AT THE ROSTER AGENCY, NYC

NATHAN MITTLEMAN ('12)
DRURY LANE: Mary Poppins

PARAMOUNT THEATRE: The Producers

HANA SLEVIN ('12)
ROYAL CARIBBEAN: Grease

THEATREWORKS USA: Dragons Love Tacos

CJ PAWLIKOWSKI ('14)
NATIONAL TOUR: Book of Mormon

OFF-BROADWAY: Jersey Boys

HANNAH SLABAUGH ('14)
NATIONAL TOUR: Annie

ZACHARY FRANCIS STEWART ('14)
OFF-BROADWAY: The Bad Years

JULIAN RAMOS ('14)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hamilton

MARRIOTT LINCOLNSHIRE: West Side Story

OLD GLOBE: Freaky Friday

CHARNETTE BATEY ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hamilton

ENCORES, NYC: Seussical, Book of Mormon

TAYLOR CROUSORE ('13)
OFF-BROADWAY: Forbidden Broadway, Neversical

ERICA EVANS ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: Chicago, Crazy For You

MARRIOTT LINCOLNSHIRE: Mamma Mia

EVAN MAYER ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: My Fair Lady, A Christmas Story, Annie

GOODSPEED: Thoroughly Modern Millie

CHLOE WILLIAMSON ('13)
OFF BROADWAY & INTERNATIONAL: 50 Shades of Gray the Musical

FRANCISCO MARDIAGA ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: Mamma Mia

WILLIAM BRENNER ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hamilton

MARRIOTT LINCOLNSHIRE: West Side Story

MAYA LEFFERT ('13)
HAMILTON: The Musical

JOYCE CHEN ('13)
NATIONAL TOUR: Hamilton

THEATREWORKS USA: Guys and Dolls

CAROLINE (HUERTA) KENNEDY ('17)
SEACOAST REP: In the Heights

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ASSISTANT TO HEAD OF THEATRE AT UNITED TALENT AGENCY

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GOODSPEED: Thoroughly Modern Millie

CHLOE WILLIAMSON ('13)
OFF BROADWAY & INTERNATIONAL: 50 Shades of Gray the Musical
Each spring, graduating seniors travel to New York City to perform their senior showcase for casting directors, talent agents, and other professionals in the business. In addition to the showcase, seniors spend the week participating in career building opportunities. A typical showcase week includes performing at Joe’s Pub, The Laurie Beechman Theatre (or a similar venue) sponsored by the IU Alumni Association, meeting supporters at a reception expressly for the showcase participants, attending open call auditions, seeing Broadway and off-Broadway productions, and, of course, performing the showcase for industry professionals.
Performance Venues

The Wells-Metz Theatre is a 236-seat flexible venue which is home to four mainstage productions each academic year. An intimate space with audience as close as 5 feet from the action, the Wells-Metz is an ideal venue for small cast shows, as well as musicals and large ensemble productions. With a full stage trap room and overhead suspension grid, the theatre has become known for its environmental productions with performers playing throughout the space from trap to grid.

The Ruth N. Halls Theatre is a beautiful 439-seat proscenium space. In addition to four mainstage productions in the season, the Halls hosts guest lectures, presentations, and our annual department graduation celebration. With an orchestra pit that can seat 30, the Halls Theatre is an ideal venue for large musicals and theatrical pieces with expansive offstage wings providing plenty of space to store scenery.

The Studio Theatre is a true black box space. With a seating capacity of 40, this space has moveable audience risers and a lighting grid and plays host to dance concerts, University Players productions, independent projects, acting and movement classes, and several Musical Theatre studio classes including the weekly Master Class, at which the entire B.F.A. MT program meets every Wednesday, and, over the course of a semester, each student performs for peers, faculty, and the occasional guest.
Bloomington (aka B-town) is the quintessential college town: a small city of just over 80,000 with cultural resources and opportunities that rival cities many times its size. From the diverse shops and restaurants of Kirkwood Avenue to the annual Lotus World Music and Arts Festival, it’s easy to see why USA Today named Bloomington one of the top 10 cities for campus culture. For more information about things to do in B-town, check out VisitBloomington.com.

You’ll Love Being Here
IU blends a vibrant university community with a small-town atmosphere to give you a quality of life that’s hard to match. You’ll quickly become part of the spirit and tradition of IU, an experience two centuries in the making. IU Bloomington attracts students from around the globe who want a classic college experience: great traditions, a gorgeous campus, international culture, Big Ten sports, and a progressive academic climate.
FOUNDATION COURSES (24 CREDITS)
T100 Introduction to Theatre
T116 Introduction to Musical Theatre
T121 Acting I for Majors: Introduction to Acting
T125 Performance as Art and Design
T370 History of Theatre and Drama I
T370 History of Theatre and Drama II
Tech Classes (choose two)
T334 Costume Construction
T335 Stage Lighting Design
T347 Intro to Sound Design for Theatre
T350 Entertainment Technology and Production

ACTING/STUDIO COURSES (22–26 CREDITS)
T203 Broadway Cabaret: (4 semesters)
T220 Acting II: Scene Study
T325 Voice and Speech
T319 Acting III: Advanced Scene Study
T300 Musical Theatre Workshop A: Acting the Song
T300 Musical Theatre Workshop B: Business of the Business
T300 Musical Theatre Workshop C: American Songbook
T300 Musical Theatre Workshop D: Audition Techniques
T401 Senior Showcase (2 semesters)

DANCE COURSES (18 CREDITS)
T483/T117 Pilates for the Singer/Actor/Dancer
T204 Musical Theatre Dance
T301 Musical Theatre Dance Styles I
T302 Musical Theatre Dance Styles II
T304 Advanced Musical Theatre Dance Styles
D254 Intermediate Tap
4 additional credits, as advised by the Musical Theatre Faculty
May include Pilates Certification Course, third or fourth year

MUSIC COURSES (20 CREDITS)
T305 Voice for Musical Theatre (8 semesters)
MUS-Z111 Introduction to Music Theory (or MUS-Z211 Music Theory II)
MUS-Z112 Introduction to Music Skills
T312 History of American Musical Theatre; or MUS-Z373 The American Musical Cultural Studies in Music - options include:
AAAD-A110 African American Choral Ensemble*
AAAD-A112 Black Music of Two Worlds
AAAD-A120 Soul Revue*
AAAD-A290 Socio-Cultural Perspectives of African American Music
AAAD-A388 Motown
HIST-A383 Rock, Hip-Hop, and Revolution
MUS-Z201 History of Rock and Roll Music I
MUS-Z202 Hist. of Rock and Roll Music II
MUS-Z385 History of the Blues
MUS-Z393 History of Jazz
MUS-Z394 Survey of African American Music
MUS-Z395 Contemporary Jazz and Soul Music

THE CAPSTONE PROJECT
Each B.F.A. Musical Theatre student is required to complete a Capstone Project before graduating. This is an independent project which the student will propose and execute with the guidance of a faculty advisor. The topic is completely at the discretion of the student, but the idea is that it should be a challenging and meaningful yet fun and rewarding project with realistic goals and expectations. Past projects have included self-produced one-person shows, self-produced large-cast shows, directing, choreographing, writing a musical, producing a holiday CD featuring the MT graduating class, and conceiving and writing short shows for children’s hospitals, to name a few. Students have also taught master classes in acrobatics, stage combat, tap dancing, opera and MT singing, MT history, etc. The possibilities are endless, as long as there is some connection to the theatre with the project. Ideally, the Capstone Project is proposed sometime between the second and third years, and executed/presented within the third and fourth years.
AUDITION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

An application and audition are required for admission to the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance Musical Theatre B.F.A. major at Indiana University.

We are proud to announce that our program has joined the alliance of top tier university musical theatre programs utilizing the Tony Award winning Paper Mill Playhouse + Acceptd universal criteria for video submissions: the Musical Theatre Common Pre-Screen!

Until now, colleges and universities each created school-specific guidelines. Stephen Agosto, Senior Manager of Artistic Engagement at Paper Mill Playhouse describes: “these universal criteria are intended to streamline the digital pre-screen process while keeping with current industry standards for auditioning musical theatre performers.”

For questions or more information, please contact:
Scott Hogsed, Musical Theatre B.F.A. Liaison Phone: (812) 856-4024 BFAaud@indiana.edu

Audition Tip:
Be yourself! Approach the audition as a chance to do what you love best: perform. Bring your passion, joy, and imagination and look upon the audition day as an adventure and opportunity to work with new people and learn new things.
Take your place