

# BFA in Theatre

## Concentration in Music Theatre

The Department of Theatre and Dance at MSU Denver produces outstanding musicals, dramas, dance concerts, and multidisciplinary performances and festivals. The department also develops and tours original works and cultivates strong community partnerships (such as with Kaiser Permanente’s Educational Theatre Touring Company and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance).

The work of our theatre and dance students, faculty, and staff has earned local and regional awards for many years. We believe that theatre and dance are inclusive ‘ensemble’ experiences that provide transferable skills that will support you in a variety of professions. Our coursework and practical experiences prepare you for a career in theatre or dance or for graduate school after graduation. Our department has highly accomplished and professionally skilled faculty and staff who care about your success toward achieving your educational and professional goals. Carefully crafted curriculum provides theoretical foundations and practical applications to prepare students for graduate school, employment, and for personal and aesthetic development, all grounded in a strong liberal arts tradition. The theatre program’s motto is “Theatre as Equipment for Living” and the dance program’s motto is “Dance to Be Moved.”

As a Liberal Arts based university and in partnership with the Department of Music, our program is the only one of its kind in the Denver-Metro region. The theatre program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) (<http://nast.arts-accredit.org/>) that sets standards for training programs in theatre and music theatre nationally. Our qualified faculty of theatre professionals mentor students toward the goal of becoming well-rounded, professionally prepared artists ready for the working world or for additional training in a graduate program.

### The BFA Music Theatre Program provides:

- ✓ A positive ensemble-based learning environment *where “Everybody Counts! Everybody Contributes! and Every Cares!”*
- ✓ Individualized training in music theatre performance, audition techniques and a balance of theatre, music and dance classes to help you become a well-rounded artist.
- ✓ Training in music theory, basic piano skills, involvement in choral groups, and private voice lessons with music theatre repertoire.
- ✓ Training in jazz and tap dance with opportunities to take other dance styles.
- ✓ Performance opportunities in our productions, classes, events, and clubs.

### Program Requirements:

- ✓ *Promote ‘ensemble’ where “Everybody Counts! Everybody Contributes! and Every Cares!”*
- ✓ *Audition for every mainstage production and seek audition feedback.*
- ✓ *Participate in two mainstage theatre productions every year.*
- ✓ *Attend music theatre coaching sessions every Friday from 2pm-4pm.*
- ✓ *Attend every MSU Denver theatre production. Students receive one free ticket with your student I.D.*
- ✓ *Fulfill the requirements of the BFA/MT Handbook.*
- ✓ *Maintain a “C-” grade or above in all theatre and associated classes (including music and dance).*
- ✓ *Maintain a 2.0 GPA in the major and overall (as required for graduation).*
- ✓ *Complete 120 total hours (including 40 upper-division hours and all general studies requirements).*

### NOTES:

- 1) *All applicants must be able to demonstrate some level of competency, experience and/or educational training in theatre and music prior to acceptance into the program.*
- 2) *ALL TRANSFER STUDENTS are required to fulfill two (2) years (four semesters not including summers) in the BFA/MT program after acceptance.*

## Application Process & Deadlines

**STEP 1: APPLY BY POSTED DEADLINES**

**STEP 2: AUDITION FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

**STEP 3: AUDITION AND INTERVIEW FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE**

<b>Application Deadlines</b>	<b><u>Music Department Audition</u></b>	<b><u>Theatre Department Audition</u></b>
	<b>Call 303-615-1010 to schedule.</b>	<b>BFA/MT will contact you after receiving your application.</b>
Apply by: JULY 15	The 1st and/or 2nd Saturday in <b>August</b> (Dates are subject to change).	The Thursday before the start of the Fall semester. (Dates are subject to change).
Apply by: DECEMBER 15	The 1st and/or 2nd Saturday in <b>January</b> (Dates are subject to change).	The Thursday before the start of the Spring semester. (Dates are subject to change).
<b><i>NOTE: Additional audition dates for the Department of Music may be available. All audition dates are subject to change. Contact each department to verify dates. Late Applications will not be processed until the next published application deadline.</i></b>		

## STEP 1: APPLICATION

### 1) SUBMIT THE APPLICATION FORM AN APPLICATION MATERIALS BY THE DEADLINES:

- **JULY 15**
- **DECEMBER 15**

### 2) WRITE A LETTER OF INTENT:

- Provide a 2-page typed letter of intent addressing the following:
  - What are your educational goals?
  - What are your professional aspirations and goals after graduation?
  - What skills are you hoping to learn through our training program?
  - What personal attributes and strengths do you bring to the program?
  - Why did you choose MSU Denver?

### 3) PROVIDE AN ACTOR RESUME AND PHOTO:

- An actor resume is a one-page document that includes:
  - Your name, contact information, and other appropriate artist information (voice type, range, height, etc.).
  - A listing of your theatre, music, and dance performance experience.
  - A listing of your education, degrees, workshops, and training (voice lessons, dance classes, etc.).
  - A listing of honors or awards, professional affiliations, club associations, etc.
  - A listing of special skills (juggling, gymnastics, dialects, impressions, etc.).
- Provide a photo.
  - Application photos can be a 3”x 5” photo or a professional 8”x 10” headshot.

### 4) PROVIDE TWO (2) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

- Letter #1 should be from a **previous teacher, director, or coach** who knows your artistic work, habits, and ethics as an artist in theatre.
- Letter #2 should be from a **work manager or mentor** who know your skills, habits, and ethics in the work place.
  - Letters can accompany the application and do not need to be mailed separately.

### 5) PROVIDE A TRANSCRIPT:

- Include an **unofficial** copy of your most current high school or college/university transcript.
  - NOTE: A transcript must accompany your application. Even if you submitted a transcript for admission to MSU Denver, a separate un-official copy must be included.
  - Current students should supply your most Degree Progress Report (available from the Student Hub).

### **SUBMIT APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:**

#### **BY MAIL:**

Associate Professor Jeffrey Parker  
MSU Denver Department of Theatre and Dance  
Campus Box 93, PO Box 173362  
Denver, CO 80217-3362

#### **BY EMAIL:**

[jparke80@msudenver.edu](mailto:jparke80@msudenver.edu)

#### **IN PERSON ON CAMPUS:**

Department Office – Arts Building 269

## STEP 2: MUSIC DEPARTMENT AUDITION

Call the Department of Music at **303-615-1010** to set up your music audition 4-6 weeks in advance of each audition date. Auditions are in August, January (with some additional spring semester dates). **Notify the Department of Music that you are applying to the Music Theatre Concentration.**

### ***MUSIC AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:***

- **Present TWO (2) contrasting songs** from American musical theatre repertoire.

Please provide sheet music in the appropriate key for both songs. No transpositions are allowed. Music should be double-sided and placed in a 3-ring binder. An accompanist will be provided. Acapella, self-accompanied, CD or digital accompaniments are not allowed.

- *All applicants will take a Theory Placement Test, Sight-Singing & Ear Training Test.*

**NOTE: All applicants are required to PASS this audition BEFORE proceeding to the Theatre Audition.**

## STEP 3: THEATRE AUDITION & INTERVIEW

### ***THEATRE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:***

**NOTE: All BFA/MT applicants are required to PASS this audition BEFORE proceeding to the Theatre Audition.**

- 1) **Present TWO (2) fully blocked contrasting songs** from American musical theatre repertoire. (3-minute time limit per selection)

Please provide sheet music in the appropriate key for both songs. No transpositions are allowed. Music should be double-sided and placed in a 3-ring binder. An accompanist will be provided. Acapella, self-accompanied, CD or digital accompaniments are not allowed.

- 2) **Present TWO (2) one-minute contrasting monologues.** (1-minute time limit per selection)

Monologues should be contrasting in style. No Shakespeare or Classical period monologues allowed.

- 3) **Participate in the BFA/MT INTERVIEW:**
  - a. A 30-minute interview will follow your audition.



## BFA in Theatre (Concentration in Music Theatre) Application Form

First Name		Last Name	
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Cell Phone		Home Phone	
Email		MSU Denver Email	
High School		City	GPA
College/University		City	Major
			GPA

Enrollment Term  Fall  Spring Year

**Status:**

- Incoming Freshman
- Current MSU Denver Student
- Transfer

*\*Note: ALL current or transfer students must complete a minimum of four (4) full semesters not including summers after program acceptance.*

**Vocal Range:**

- Soprano  Alto  Tenor  Baritone/Bass

**Music reading skills:**

- Expert  Good  Basic  None

**Voice Lessons:**

- < than 1 year  1-2 years  3-5 years  5+ years

List styles studied (i.e. classical, jazz, music theatre, etc.)

**Choir Experience:**

- < than 1 year  1-2 years  3-5 years  5+ years

List types of choir ensembles (i.e. show choir, chorale, open choir, etc.)

**Dance Training:**

- < than 1 year  1-2 years  3-5 years  5+ years

List styles studied (i.e. jazz, ballet, tap, modern, other)

**Instrumental Training:**

- < than 1 year  1-2 years  3-5 years  5+ years

List instruments studied (i.e. piano, guitar, clarinet, etc.)

**Special Skills:** List special skills (magic, juggling, acrobatics, gymnastics, specialty acts, etc.):

**How did you hear about our program?**

- A friend told me
- My school counselor

- I attended an Open House
- I searched online
- I got a brochure
- From a convention
- Other

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: 900#**

- |                                      |                                     |                                       |                                     |  |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Intent     | <input type="checkbox"/> Resume/Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> LOR #1     | <input type="checkbox"/> LOR #2        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transcript |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audition    | <input type="checkbox"/> Music-P/NP | <input type="checkbox"/> Theory-P/NP  | <input type="checkbox"/> Essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatre -P/NP |                                     |