

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.

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 is 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/>) which 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
- ✓ 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 ballet, jazz, hip hop and tap dance with opportunities to take other dance styles.
- ✓ Performance opportunities in our productions, classes, events, and clubs.

Program Requirements:

- ✓ *Promote ‘ensemble’ wherever possible.*
- ✓ *Audition for every mainstage production and seek audition feedback.*
- ✓ *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 encouraged to fulfill two (2) years (four semesters not including summers) in the BFA/MT program after acceptance.*
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Application Process & Deadlines

STEP 1: APPLICATION

1) **SUBMIT THE GOOGLE FORM AND EMAIL CARRIE YOUR HEADSHOT/RESUME AT LEAST 2 WEEKS BEFORE THE START OF YOUR NEXT TERM:**

- [GOOGLE FORM APPLICATION](#)
- **EMAIL CARRIE: Send your headshot and resume to ccolton@msudenver.edu and inform me that you have submitted your application**

STEP 2: MUSIC DEPARTMENT AUDITION

Go to: <https://www.msudenver.edu/music/program-admission/auditions/> and schedule a music department audition on their next audition day!

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. Please DO NOT let this scare you and reach out to Carrie if you want some private coaching to help you beforehand.*

STEP 3: THEATRE AUDITION & INTERVIEW

THEATRE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) **Present TWO (2) contrasting songs** from American musical theatre repertoire. (32 bar cuts are perfectly acceptable and you are also welcome to perform the whole song).

Please provide sheet music in the appropriate key for both songs. No transpositions are allowed. Music should be emailed to Carrie before the audition. An accompanist will be provided. Acapella, self-accompanied, or digital accompaniments are not allowed.

- 2) **Present ONE (1) one-minute contrasting monologue.**
 - 3) **Participate in the BFA/MT INTERVIEW:**
 - a. A 15 – minute interview will follow your audition.
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