

# **THE MUSICAL THEATRE BFA PROGRAM KENT STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **AUDITION INFORMATION/APPLICATION**

For those aspiring to a career in Musical Theatre, Kent State offers a program designed to train talented young men and women in an intensive interdisciplinary study of music, theatre, and dance. In recent years, there has been an increased demand in the professional world for trained singer/actors who have well-developed movement and vocal skills as well as dancers who can project their voices, establish a believable character, and "sell" a musical number. Kent State's Musical Theatre program was created to train such "total performers," who feel comfortable with today's diverse musical forms and demands.

Kent State is currently one of the few schools in Ohio that offers a program encompassing these three major disciplines. The program at Kent was one of the first established programs of its kind in the state. The course work consists of 129 semester hours in the humanities, social sciences, natural and physical science, and fine and professional arts. The basic concentration is composed of courses in each performance discipline. In addition students are required to participate in co-curricular productions prepared for the public. Moreover, the musical theatre students will be evaluated at the end of their freshman, sophomore, and junior years to help them review past accomplishments and set future goals.

Like any program, the proof of its effectiveness lies in the work and accomplishments of its alumni. Kent's Musical Theatre BFA program has alumni in New York, Chicago, and California, as well as some who are furthering their training in MFA programs throughout the United States. We at Kent State firmly believe that our Musical Theatre program offers solid intellectual training for the dedicated future theatre artist. We also work hard to further the growth of our program and students.

The faculty of this program is comprised of members from each specific performance discipline. Working together, they train students within the structures of each individual art form while they facilitate the student's understanding of each specific art's unique interdependency within the Musical Theatre format.

# MUSICAL THEATRE BFA DEGREE PROGRAM

## Admission Information for Auditions

Candidates may be admitted to the School of Theatre and Dance and the Musical Theatre Program, after successful completion of entrance auditions. The following summaries are offered to guide the candidate in preparing an audition. The candidate must meet minimum standards in each of three areas. BFA musical theatre candidates must be successful in at least two of the three auditions (theatre, music, and dance) in order to be accepted into the BFA musical theatre program. Based on the auditions, major area of concentration will be determined.

**DANCE:** The candidate will participate in ONE of the two dance auditions outlined below:

1. A candidate with at least 2 years of ballet training will participate in an intermediate-level dance class conducted by the Dance Faculty. The class will include ballet barre, modern center and improvisation, and a jazz combination.
2. A candidate who does not have at least 2 years of ballet training will participate in a movement/musical theatre audition conducted by the Dance Faculty.

All candidates are asked to dress in dance attire and bring ballet slippers and/or jazz shoes, if available.

**THEATRE:** The candidate will prepare one contemporary monologue from a published play not to exceed two minutes.

**VOICE:** The candidate will prepare two songs; both must be memorized. Both songs must be from the standard musical theatre repertory and must represent a contrast of style, (i.e. one up-tempo and one ballad). Both must be memorized. Selections should not be an entire song. Thirty two bars are sufficient. Selections should not exceed three minutes combined. Please bring sheet music in your key. An accompanist will be provided. Candidates may be asked to participate in a pitch-matching exercise.

**PIANO PLACEMENT EVALUATION:** A brief piano placement evaluation will be given as part of the audition weekend. Students who do not play piano or have limited piano experience will be advised to enroll in MUS 17111 Piano Class. Students with a more extensive piano background will be expected to play a piano piece that they have prepared from a score and to bring that score to the test.

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Recommendation forms are attached herewith. Please bring completed recommendations to the audition and completed application form. For more information, please contact Professor Terri Kent at the School of Theatre and Dance, Kent State University, POB 5190, Kent, OH 44242-0001 or by calling 330/672-2082 or you can send a FAX to 330/672-2889. Or e-mail: [tkent@kent.edu](mailto:tkent@kent.edu).

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KENT STATE UNIVERSITY - SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE

MUSICAL THEATRE BFA DEGREE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Please print clearly

Mr.  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name, First, Middle or Maiden

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT ADDRESS	PERMANENT ADDRESS: Check Here if <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Present, or:	EMERGENCY ADDRESS: Check Here if <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Permanent or:
_____	_____	_____
STREET	STREET	STREET
_____	_____	_____
CITY/STATE/ZIP	CITY/STATE/ZIP	CITY/STATE/ZIP
_____	_____	_____
PHONE		PHONE
		PHONE

◆ Vocal selections:  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

◆ Monologues:  
1. \_\_\_\_\_

◆ *Dance auditions will be held in the MACC Annex studios.*

**RESUME:** To be completed by all applicants. Prepared resumes may also be attached.

**ACADEMIC TRAINING:** List any music, acting or dance classes in which you were enrolled or audited.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE POINT AVERAGE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SAT Score** \_\_\_\_\_ **ACT Total** \_\_\_\_\_

High School or University/College Attended: \_\_\_\_\_  
Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUS FORMAL TRAINING**

**SINGERS:**

Voice Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Training: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instructor/Studio: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of years: \_\_\_\_\_

**DANCERS:**

# Yrs. Ballet: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Yrs. Modern: \_\_\_\_\_

# Yrs. Jazz-Tap: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor/Studio: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of years: \_\_\_\_\_

**THEATRE EXPERIENCE:**

<u>Title of Show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Theatre</u>	<u>Year</u>
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\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

I hereby make application for admission to the Kent State University BFA Musical Theatre Program and affirm that to the best of my knowledge all the information contained herein is complete and accurate.

**\*\*This form to be brought on day of audition.**

# RECOMMENDATION FORM

Recommendation for: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name, First, Middle or Maiden

**NOTE TO APPLICANT:** Please bring two completed recommendation letters with you to the audition.

**NOTE TO RECOMMENDER:** Please complete your recommendation for the above named applicant (use reverse if necessary), place in an envelope, and sign on the back. Return letter to applicant.

I have known the applicant as a \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
E.g. STUDENT, PERFORMER, ETC. # YEARS

In my opinion the applicant as an artist is  exceptional  average  below average.

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	Upper 5%	Upper 10%	Upper 25%	Middle 50%	Lower 25%
<u>Intellectual Ability</u>					
<u>Imagination and Creativity</u>					
<u>General Education Background</u>					
<u>Preparation in Chosen Field</u>					
<u>Interest and Enthusiasm</u>					
<u>Ability to Communicate</u>					

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**IF YOU WISH TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Official Position \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Institution/Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*This form to be brought on day of audition.

# RECOMMENDATION FORM

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Official Position \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Institution/Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*This form to be brought on day of audition.

“New freshman” admitted to Kent State University will receive from the University reservation information to attend the PASS (Placement Advising and Scheduling System) program. PASS is the advising and registration program for all new freshmen. **It is important that you schedule and attend a music and/or dance audition prior to attending PASS or you will not be able to register in music or dance courses** (see audition schedule). If you have any questions regarding scheduling PASS dates, please call 330/672-2014.

## AUDITION DATES

### FALL 2009

Friday - November 13, 2009

Voice/Acting Auditions 3:00 - 9:00 pm Music, Music and Speech  
Open House in all theatre performance classes throughout the day

Saturday - November 14, 2009

Meet and Greet 9:00 am Theatre, Music and Speech  
Dance 11 am - 6:00 pm Dance, MACC Annex

### SPRING 2010

Friday - February 26, 2010

Voice/Acting Auditions 3:00 - 9:00 pm Music, Music and Speech  
Open House in all theatre performance classes throughout the day

Saturday - February 27, 2010

Meet and Greet 9:00 am Theatre, Music and Speech  
Dance Audition 2:00 - 6:00 pm Dance, MACC Annex

Your completed registration form must be received by the Theatre office at least three weeks before your selected audition date, with the audition being closed when registration slots are filled. Registration received after an audition date has been filled will be scheduled for the next available date.

\*\*\*\*\* **To register, please cut and return the lower half of this sheet to the Theatre office \*\*\*\*\***  
**THIS PORTION NEEDS RETURNED NO LATER THAN 3 WEEKS BEFORE AUDITION DATE.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you already been accepted by the University? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your current GPA? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever taken a college level music theory course? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you had voice lessons? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how long have you studied? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously auditioned for the musical theatre program at KSU? \_\_\_\_\_

Over the past 5 years, please list your years of formal dance training in Ballet? \_\_\_\_\_

Jazz? \_\_\_\_\_ Modern? \_\_\_\_\_ Improv? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to attend the November or February audition? \_\_\_\_\_