



WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY

BFA Musical Theatre Program



Theatre Artists Who Work

Wright State University's BFA Musical Theatre Program prepares you for life as a professional artist. For almost 40 years, an outstanding faculty of working professionals has trained students just like you to enter the full range of stage, screen and corporate entertainment careers. With wide-ranging courses, small class sizes, ample performance opportunities and a state-of-the-art facility, start making your dreams come true today.

Get Ready

To make your dreams come true

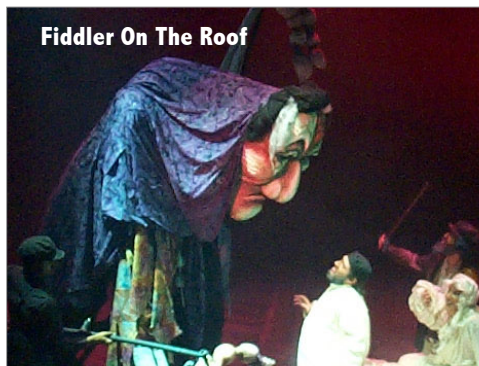
Conservatory Training with a Liberal Arts Attitude

Wright State University's highly selective BFA Musical Theatre Program offers one of the most rigorous training plans you'll find anywhere. Small class sizes and lengthy class sessions mean lots of individual attention.

- Four full years of acting training (half classically based, and half musical)
- Four full years of dance – everyday (Jazz, Ballet, Tap and Theatre Dance)
- Four full years of hour-long private singing lessons
- Three semesters of Movement and Voice & Speech Training
- *Acting for Camera* sequence – in-studio and on-set training for TV and Film
- Thought provoking classes and projects to train the artist *and* the craftsperson

Award-Winning Faculty

Wright State University's BFA Musical Theatre Program boasts a faculty of internationally recognized teachers and artists. They have worked in Broadway and touring productions of *Anything Goes*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *My Fair Lady*, *Singin' In The Rain* and many others. They continue to direct, act, teach and choreograph in top regional theatres, schools and conferences internationally. We help students develop the core skills, creative impulse and artistic imagination to begin professional work early – most of our students work in professional theatres before they even graduate. This supportive and demanding group of teachers can talk the talk *and* walk the walk.



Get Onstage Early and Often

We produce three musicals and three plays each year. You'll audition every term you're here - and Freshman are eligible for casting in their second term. We work to cast you as often as possible in musicals *and* plays - as understudies, ensemble members, supporting parts and leading roles. So, your experience here will be filled with intensive classroom training that's put to the test on stage. Titles range from the most recent (*The Light In The Piazza*, *Spelling Bee* and *The Wild Party*) to classics (*The Pirates of Penzance* and *Hello, Dolly!*) and everything in between. Annually, there are also up to 40 student productions in the newly renovated Directing Lab. We're exclusively an undergraduate program, so you'll never be taught by graduate students or compete with them for roles.

Thrilling Guest Artists

Students have constant contact with industry professionals and working artists at the top of the field. Recent guest artists include:

Adam Pascal – Star of Broadway *Rent*, *Aida*, *Memphis*, *Cabaret* and more

Sutton Foster - Tony Award, Best Actress for *Anything Goes*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

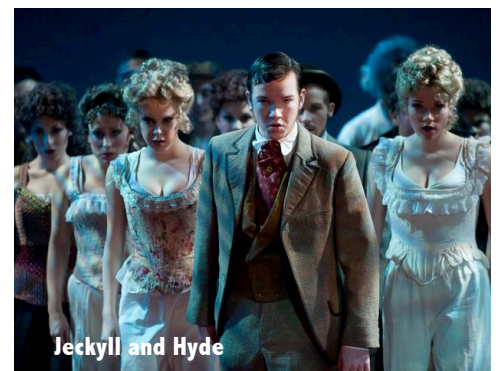
Victoria Clark - Tony Award, Best Actress for *The Light In The Piazza*

Jason Robert Brown - composer *The Last Five Years*, *Bridges of Madison County*, *Parade*

Stephen Schwartz – composer/lyricist, *Wicked*, *Pippin*

Audra McDonald - Tony Award-winning actress

plus Leslie Uggams, Howard McGillan, Ted Sperling, Brian Yorkey and dozens of theatre, television and film agents and business professionals.



“ These students are, without a doubt as good as, or even better than what I've seen on Broadway.”

Tom Hanks
Academy Award Winner



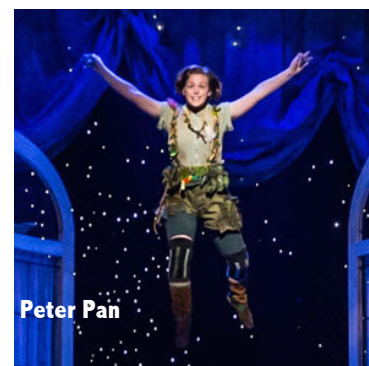
Outstanding Facilities – Outstanding Opportunities

Our three state-of-the-art theatres are all dedicated to creating productions for you.

With this year's \$28 million renovation and expansion, the Creative Arts Center features a Broadway-styled Festival Playhouse, the flexible Herbst Theatre, and the intimate Jubilee Theatre (*exclusively* for student produced works). New Dance, Stage Combat and Pilates studios, plus ample and fully renovated classrooms and studios make this one of the nation's best university performing arts centers. Our top-rated film program includes an on-campus film and production studio where you can act with Academy Award nominated faculty and student filmmakers in the new Tom Hanks Motion Pictures Center. So, you have a chance to be in something all the time, or to explore and create what interests you.

Stunning Professional Quality Productions

Imaginative design and exacting execution help make our productions among the best you'll see anywhere. At Wright State University you'll work with talented designers, technicians and production faculty who create sets, costumes and lighting that rival those you'd see at top regional theatres. Guest Directors and Choreographers frequently come to lend their Broadway experience staging or restaging productions like *Rent*, *Forty-Second Street*, *The Wild Party*, *Spring Awakening*, the university premiere of *Parade* and many others. And, you'll be supported by a fully professional orchestra in the pit. You'll take part in tech theatre classes and crews as part of your total theatre education.



Great Education At A Great Price

Wright State University offers first-class conservatory training at state university prices.

Now, more than ever, the cost of your education is a major factor in deciding where to go. At Wright State you'll get a fully accredited college degree while studying in one of the most rigorous and thorough professional training programs in America. And the cost to you is much lower than many comparable private institutions you may be considering. Wright State's annual tuition is under \$9,000 for Ohio residents and roughly twice that for out-of-state students. Compare that to the \$35-55,000 per year you can expect to pay elsewhere. It's truly an exceptional education value.

Master The Business of Show Business

Our graduates start work immediately. Wright State Musical Theatre graduates average 85% industry employment within six months of graduation. Over the course of your four years at Wright State, you'll be prepared for working in all parts of the entertainment industry through classroom intensives, workshops with top casting directors and agents, and constant contact with industry professionals. So, you'll know what you're getting into. In addition to annual campus visits by top industry leaders, we bring seniors to New York City for an industry showcase and four-day career intensive of workshops with elite casting agents and creative talent to give your career a jumpstart. Our national alumni network is ready to welcome you into the business, no matter where you start your career.

Get Set

For Success



Susan Blackwell

Recent Projects: *[title of show]* (Broadway and off-Broadway), *Now. Here. This.* (Vineyard Theatre, off-B'way), *Speech and Debate* (Roundabout Theatre Company, off-B'way), *The Sopranos* (HBO)

Susan graduated over decade ago and has worked steadily in regional theatres (Guthrie), in film & television (*Law and Order*), and in top New York theatres, creating her own work as well as in traditional settings. Now, she's one of the most sought after actresses in New York.



Jon Hacker

Recent Projects: *Jersey Boys* (Broadway), *Newsies* (First National Tour), *Torch Song Trilogy* (Regional)

Jon graduated from Wright State with a contract for the first national company of *Newsies* in his pocket, understudying the lead. He left that tour and almost immediately went into *Jersey Boys* as one of the youngest actors ever to cover the role of Frankie Valli.



Shavey Brown

Recent Projects: *The Fantasticks* (Broadway), *The Scottsboro Boys* (National Tour), *Swing* (International Co.), *Vinyl* (HBO)

Shavey has worked almost non-stop since he graduated in everything from national tours to cruise ships, regional theatre and television. Now, he's playing El Gallo in *The Fantasticks on Broadway*. A game changer, and an exceptional professional artist, Shavey continues to make history.

You've seen our Alums in Broadway, National & International Companies of:

A Chorus Line, Aida, Anything Goes, Book of Mormon, Cabaret, CATS, Cinderella, Chitty-Chitty Bang-Bang, Elf!, The Fantasticks, 42nd Street, Holiday Inn, Jersey Boys, Les Miserables, The Lion King, Memphis, Mamma Mia!, The Music Man, Newsies, The Producers, Ragtime, The Scottsboro Boys, Seussical, Singin' In The Rain, Sister Act, Tommy, We Will Rock You, White Christmas, Wicked *and many others.*

GO

We hold auditions four times a year at Wright State University from November to February, seeing 400-500 students annually. We select about 14 Musical Theatre and 14 Acting students to join our program annually (about 3% acceptance rate in Musical Theatre). The day before you audition, we offer workshops and a chance to see our outstanding productions.

The Audition - Prepare two one-minute long monologues from plays (not musicals or collections). Select roles that are roughly your age. The monologues should be contrasting – showing us two sides of who you are. Classical or Contemporary, Comic or Dramatic, its up to you.

You'll also present two contrasting one-minute song cuttings (at least one from a contemporary musical). Show us two aspects of singing and acting ability. You might choose one classic musical and one that's more contemporary, or one ballad and one up-tempo. Women might select one "legit" soprano piece and another where you "belt". Have your sheet music marked to the appropriate length, double-sided in a binder for our accompanists. No recorded tracks.

There is also a dance component to the audition that helps us place you in the right classes when you begin your training.

We want to meet you through your work. And we're looking for all kinds of students – as long as you show potential to develop into a working professional.

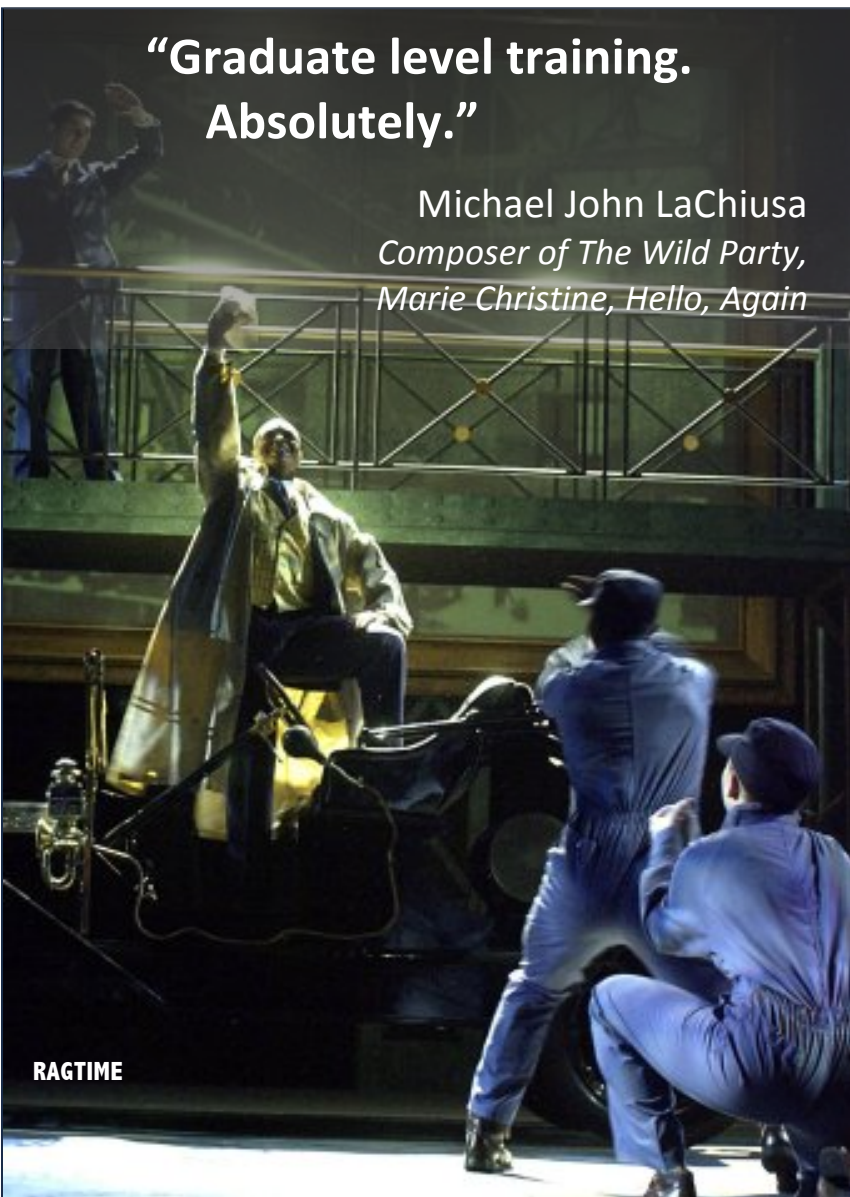
"A lovely program."

Jason Robert Brown
*Composer of The Last Five Years,
Parade, Bridges of Madison County*



**"Graduate level training.
Absolutely."**

Michael John LaChiusa
*Composer of The Wild Party,
Marie Christine, Hello, Again*



“ One of the finest
Theatre Arts programs
in America.”

- Martin Sheen
*Emmy & Golden
Globe Winner*

Wright State University

Department of Theatre, Dance and Motion Pictures
3640 Colonel Glenn Highway
Dayton, OH 45435

To arrange your campus visit and audition, contact:

Victoria Oleen, Managing Director

(937) 775-3072

victoria.oleen@wright.edu

www.wright.edu/tdmp



Newly renovated and expanded
Creative Arts Center

