

Musical Theatre BFA

Acting Proficiency

Goal Description:

Each musical theatre student will acquire the knowledge and the acting skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency and artistry necessary to be successful in both the academic and professional worlds.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Character Development

Learning Objective Description:

During a juried performance of a pre-prepared monologue, the student will demonstrate proficiency in character development including effective movement, playing objectives, textual clarity, and vocal energy.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Acting - Musical Theatre Combined Jury

Indicator Description:

All musical theatre majors are required to complete a combined jury focusing on a combination of three areas: voice, acting, and dance. At the jury, students prepare two contrasting monologues (each 1min to 1.5 mins. in length) for the jury session and are required to display proficiency in character development including effective movement, playing objectives, textual clarity, and vocal energy. Students' acting proficiency is evaluated on a 1 to 5 scale on each monologue by each judge. The score of 5 is high. Judges discuss scores and come to a holistic determination about the students' proficiency and where improvement may be needed.This will be followed up by a self assessment interview with the student.

Attached Files

 [dance and acting jury rubric](#)

Criterion Description:

Individual student's jury performance is either accepted or rejected based on the actual score and the improvement in score from previous juries. We expect at least 95% of Musical Theatre students to meet this benchmark

Findings Description:

Musical Theatre majors showed an improvement from Fall'15 to Spring'16 acting juries. During Fall'15 89% showed improvement. During Spring '16 95% of the students showed increased proficiency in all areas.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Juried Assessment- Acting

Action Description:

The juries at the end of each semester have proven to aid the student in preparation for academic and professional auditions and as such been an excellent indicator of the potential success of the student. We will continue to us this form of evaluation.

Dance Proficiency

Goal Description:

Each musical theatre student will acquire the knowledge and dance skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency and artistry in jazz and tap, as well as basic knowledge and dance skills in the areas of ballet and modern dance.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Basic Technical Dance Skills

Learning Objective Description:

During a juried performance, the student's proficiency in basic technical dance skills will be evaluated. These skills include subsets of techniques from ballet, tap, jazz, modern and lyrical.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Dance Musical Theatre Combined Jury

Indicator Description:

All musical theatre majors are required to complete a combined jury focusing on a combination of three areas: voice, acting, and dance. At the jury, the student is taught one or two new dance combinations of different genres during the jury session and are required to perform those combinations with a minimum of rehearsal. Students' dance proficiency is evaluated on a 1 to 5 scale on each combination by each judge. The score of 5 is high. Judges discuss scores and come to a holistic determination about the students' proficiency and where improvement may be needed. This will be followed up by a self assessment interview with the student.

Attached Files

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Criterion Description:

Individual student's jury performance is either accepted or rejected based on the actual score and the improvement in score from previous juries. We expect at least 95% of Musical Theatre students to meet this benchmark.

Findings Description:

Students showed improvement in all areas from fall'15 to the jury in Spring'16. During the Fall'15 juries there was a 60% improvement overall. In Spring'16 there was an overall 90% improvement in all areas.

The large jump in proficiency is believed to be connected to the addition of an active professional dancer and choreographer from Broadway to our faculty.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Dance Proficiency- Juried Assessment

Action Description:

Each semester's dance juries have been key in identifying the need for instructional consistency in this area. The performance of the students when taught by choreographers and dancers with a track record of their own professional careers has proven to increase our student's performance in this area. We will continue to strive for the correct match of a professional dancer/choreographer and teacher to head this area.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Execution Of Combinations

Learning Objective Description:

During a juried performance, the student's proficiency in combination execution will be evaluated. Students are evaluated on use of space, energy, expressiveness and stylistic choices while performing a piece introduced during the jury session.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Dance Musical Theatre Combined Jury

Indicator Description:

All musical theatre majors are required to complete a combined jury focusing on a combination of three areas: voice, acting, and dance. At the jury, the student is taught one or two new dance combinations of different genres during the jury session and are required to perform those combinations with a minimum of rehearsal. Students' dance proficiency is evaluated on a 1 to 5 scale on each combination by each judge. The score of 5 is high. Judges discuss scores and come to a holistic determination about the students' proficiency and where improvement may be needed. This will be followed up by a self assessment interview with the student.

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Vocal Proficiency

Goal Description:

Each musical theatre student will acquire the knowledge and the vocal skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency and artistry necessary for success in both the academic and professional worlds.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Artistry

Learning Objective Description:

Each student, through a juried performance, will demonstrate proficient artistry in vocal performance. Specifically, students will be evaluated on communication of text, playing objectives, acting, and personality/type.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Musical Theatre End Of Semester Vocal Assessment

Indicator Description:

Each musical theatre student is required to complete a juried vocal performance. The juries consist of Theater and Musical Theatre faculty. The performance is evaluated using a 100 point departmental rubric (attached). A final, comprehensive score representing the evaluation of all vocal areas of proficiency is determined.This will be followed up by a self assessment interview with the student.

Attached Files
[_vocal jury rubric](#)

Criterion Description:

Scores resulting from the end of semester juries are categorized as 95-100= Excellent; 90-94= Above Average; 80-89= One or more area need development; 70-79= Below Average. As a unit, the department considers above average proficiency by 90% of students to be a success.

Findings Description:

Musical Theatre students increased in proficiency of vocal technique in Fall'15 to 75%. In Spring there was an increase of 80% improvement.

Musical Theatre students increased their proficiency in voice characteristics in Fall'15 70% and in Spring'16 80%. Vocal training is diverse among those accepted into musical theatre. New students in particular have varying levels of training and ability. During the first semester of each school year new students spend considerable time working on and attempting to apply basics. There is a large upsurge in proficiency in the spring semesters.

Vocal juries show that 80% of the students scored above average on musicianship in vocal juries in both Fall '15 and Spring '16.

Musical Theatre students increased their skills in artistry in vocal performance from 75% in the Fall'15 to 93% in Spring '16.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Vocal Proficiency- juried Assessment-voice

Action Description:

Students continue to grow in the area of vocal proficiency. Continued use of the jury system for assessment and training will continue.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Musicianship

Learning Objective Description:

During a juried performance, the student's proficiency in musicianship will be evaluated relative to rhythm, tempo, dynamics, musical sensitivity, and appropriate styling choices.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Musical Theatre End Of Semester Vocal Assessment

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Vocal Proficiency- juried Assessment-voice

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Students continue to grow in the area of vocal proficiency. Continued use of the jury system for assessment and training will continue.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Vocal Technique

Learning Objective Description:

Each student will demonstrate, through a juried performance, proficiency in vocal technique relative to flexibility, breath support, diction, registration shifts, intonation, and control.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Musical Theatre End Of Semester Vocal Assessment

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RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Vocal Proficiency- juried Assessment-voice

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RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Musical Theatre Majors Will Demonstrate Proficiency In Voice Characteristics

Learning Objective Description:

Each student, through a juried performance, will demonstrate proficient voice characteristics. Specifically, they will be evaluated on quality, evenness of registration, and belt range.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

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RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Vocal Proficiency- juried Assessment-voice

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Students continue to grow in the area of vocal proficiency. Continued use of the jury system for assessment and training will continue.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Sophomore "gate" assessment has proven to be an effective tool.

Sophomore Interviews will take place at the conclusion of the sophomore year or end of first year for transfer students. Musical theatre majors will participate in an assessment interview with the Head of Musical Theatre and Department Chair. The student will be expected to have met following criteria:

1. Received a 3.0 grade point average in all four semesters of study.
2. Sight reading and keyboard competency.
3. Student must be in good standing with the Musical Theatre Program having exemplified professional behavior and a positive attitude in the following areas: Professionalism, Composure, Initiative, Tolerance, Dependability, Positive Attitude responsibility for one's own learning.
- 4 Taken an active role in contributing to the department during the last four semesters. Contributing is defined by students who participate in department functions, shows, crews and community opportunities.
5. Student must be serious about pursuing a career in musical theatre, having been an invested and engaged participant in their own development.
6. Shown consistent growth in the areas of acting, dance, voice and musicianship.

We will continue to employ this evaluation system.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

Ongoing assessment of musical theatre students by theatre, dance and musical theatre faculty will continue each semester. Juries are a vital component of that assessment process. Each student within the program is individually assessed as to how to improve with particular attention to their weaker areas.

Plan for Continuous Improvement

Closing Summary:

The assessment for all classifications of students and in all areas of Musical Theatre will continue. End of the semester juries for each student will continue to identify needs of the individual student.

The addition of a full time professor to head the dance component within the program has been identified. This will provide a continuity in that area that has been missing for the past few years.

The department will continue to bring in guest artists in the area of Musical Theatre to develop new musicals and to expose the students to new trends in professional theatre.