THE SCHOOL OF
THEATRE ARTS

BREAKTHROUGH
“IWU has given me the opportunity to become an elevated version of myself. A version that knows what beautiful qualities I alone bring to the industry.”

—Ian Coulter-Buford, BFA Music Theatre ’12

Select NYC/TOUR credits include: starring in Broadway’s After Midnight (International Tour), Fat Kid Rules The World, Rocket Boys starring Robert Picardo in association with Universal Pictures. Select Regional Credits: Disney’s Aladdin (The Muny) starring Robin De Jesus, The Wiz (Maltz Jupiter Theatre) starring Brenda Braxton and Jacob in La Cage Aux Folles (Lake Dillon Theatre).

Illinois Wesleyan has dozens of performance opportunities per year

4 MAIN STAGE PRODUCTIONS

3-4 laboratory theatre productions
20+ student productions
200+ registered student organizations
Why consider the School of Theatre Arts at Illinois Wesleyan?

IWU’s School of Theatre Arts is committed to fostering the creative confidence of every student-artist. We identify their uniqueness, help them develop their “authentic voice,” and prepare them for a rich life after IWU.

We are a tightly knit group that celebrates the artist in all of us.

Because ours is a highly selective program, IWU students experience close, personal instruction from an outstanding faculty who lead them through a rigorous, theatrical training. Our top-notch productions provide an array of opportunities for students to perform, design, and direct, bringing classroom learning to its feet, and empowering students to experience a variety of production positions. **IWU students graduate knowing how to “make” theatre.**

IWU has graduated some of the most successful, well respected show business professionals working in entertainment today. **Our alumni include Oscar®, Emmy, and Tony Award nominees, Broadway producers, as well as countless talented performers, directors, playwrights, and designers, making their livings as artists every single day!**

We proudly offer four distinct degree programs which combine a professional, conservatory-style training with a nationally-ranked, multi-disciplinary education. It is precisely this blend that we believe leads our students to discover, refine, and live out their passions into “breakthrough” careers.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Jean MacFarland Kerr  
Director and Associate Professor of Theatre Arts
I loved the small community of educators and students all working together to produce art. The small class size affords extra attention to students and the chance to make strong professional relationships. My professors are still my mentors today and those foundations were built at IWU.”

— Sarah Bockel, BFA Music Theatre ‘10

Beautiful (Broadway, 1st National/2nd National Tours — lead); Million Dollar Quartet (Apollo Theatre, Chicago); Parade (Boho Theatre Ensemble — Jeff nomination) and more...
The Cross-Disciplinary Advantage
With a commitment to a strong and broad education, the School of Theatre Arts ensures students leave with an understanding of the world beyond the performing arts and the ability to think critically. This unique approach combines conservatory style training with traditional liberal arts values, enhancing students’ abilities to understand, interpret and create.

Undergraduate Focus
As a wholly undergraduate institution, IWU students are never taught by or asked to compete with graduate students, allowing them far more opportunities to perform, direct, and design than at large schools.
DEGREE PROGRAMS

Majors:
The Bachelor of Arts in Theatre
The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting
The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre
The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Design & Technology

Minors:
The Minor in Theatre Arts
The Minor in Theatre Dance
The Minor in Arts Management
The Minor in Theatre Design & Technology

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

For All Degree Tracks
- Resume of theatre work
- Recent photo or headshot
- Interview application
- On-campus interview with faculty

BA in Theatre Arts
- Talent audition: Students wishing to audition for a talent award or talent scholarship may present either an acting audition or design portfolio.

BFA in Acting
- Prescreen: Please visit getacceptd.com/iwutheatre for requirements and to submit
- Audition: Prepare two contrasting monologues that are within your casting age and range. They should be taken from modern plays (no Shakespeare, verse or dialects please). Select active monologues (not passive voice) that you feel express your current strengths as an actor. Each selection should be memorized, thoroughly rehearsed and one to two minutes in length.

AUDITION DATES

November 17, 2018
January 26, 2019
February 9, 2019
February 23, 2019

SCHOLARSHIPS

Talent Awards, Scholarships and Grants
Scholarships are renewable for four years and are awarded on the basis of a combination of auditions/portfolio evaluations. Awards range up to $30,000 per year.
Institutional need-based aid is also available.
BFA in Music Theatre

• **Prescreen**: Please visit [getacceptd.com/iwutheatre](http://getacceptd.com/iwutheatre) for requirements and to submit

*The audition has four components:*

• **Dancing**: The dance audition will be taught as a class, with warm up, followed by ballet and jazz combinations

• **Acting**: Prepare two contrasting monologues within your casting age and range (adolescent to 30 years old) and personality type; no Shakespeare, verse or dialects please. Each one should be approximately one minute in length. Avoid text from musical theatre librettos. Each selection should be memorized and thoroughly rehearsed.

• **Singing**: Prepare vocal selections from music theatre literature, one ballad and one up-tempo. Cut the song to 32 bars of music (do not sing the whole song). An accompanist will be provided; bring your sheet music and make sure your cuts are clearly marked and you are prepared to talk with the accompanist. Please note that a 32-bar cut is sufficient, but you may be asked to sing the entire song. Each selection should be memorized and thoroughly rehearsed.

**BFA in Design & Technology**

• **Portfolio**: The portfolio should represent examples of your theatrical work in the form of costume sketches, scenic sketches, paint elevations, light and sound plots, hand or computer drafting or sketches and prompt books from theatrical productions and production photography. Rough design sketches, sketchbooks and construction process photography are welcomed. Other examples may include light and sound paperwork and cues, programs/posters, sewing and patterning projects, craft and properties projects, design collage boards and background research. Additional evidence of your artistic abilities may include fine art photography, drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry and printmaking.
No. 10 Top College Town
(Business Insider, 2017)

Top 50 College towns with best music scenes
GoodDeedSeats, 2018

No. 1 Most educated city in Illinois
Yahoo! Finance, 2016

1 of 11 “Amazing cities you’ve never thought to live in, but should”
Huffington Post, 2016

No. 3 Best job destinations for college grads (under 250,000 residents)
American Institute for Economic Research, 2016

Illinois Wesleyan University

To schedule a campus visit or for additional information, contact:
The Admissions Office
Illinois Wesleyan University
P.O. Box 2900
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
309-556-3031 or 1-800-332-2498

Recruitment Office
School of Theatre Arts
309-556-3944
email: theatre@iwu.edu

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