

School of Theatre and Music

Contact Information:

Campus Location: Education, Theatre, Music, and Social Work Building (ETMSW), 1040 West Harrison Street
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Administration:

Director, Christine Mary Dunford
 Head of Theatre, Yassen Peyankov
 Head of Music, Brent Talbot

The School of Theatre and Music provides innovative, rigorous, and comprehensive academic and performance programs as part of its diverse, urban context. These programs develop practical knowledge, cultural sensitivity, intellectual resourcefulness, and imaginative daring in emerging artists and scholars. They connect students to Chicago's abundant, vibrant theatre culture and to the city's dynamic jazz and classical music networks.

The School of Theatre and Music offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts in Music; the Bachelor of Arts in Music Business; the Bachelor of Music in Performance; the Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies; the Bachelor of Music in Music Education; the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Performance; the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Design, Production, and Technology; and the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting.

Department of Music

BA in Music; BA in Music Business; BMus in Performance; BMus in Jazz Studies; and BMus in Music Education

The Music program curricula emphasize skills and knowledge that are fundamental to the diverse music discipline: music theory, music history, performance, aural and keyboard training, orchestration, composition, conducting, private study on a principal instrument, and ensemble participation. Core course requirements for all music degrees include two years of work in theory and aural skills, as well as course work in piano, music history and literature, analysis, digital music, and ethnomusicology. Beyond these, each of the four degrees includes requirements particular to its focus.

For all students, the program offers opportunities for private study in piano, voice, and orchestral and band instruments with some of Chicago's most outstanding artist-teachers. For students in Jazz Studies, the program provides private study, big band, and combo work with leading Chicago jazz artists. Students in the Music Business degree program graduate with practical work experience through participation in a practicum with a Chicago or national business.

An audition is required for admission to the BA in Music, BA in Music Business, BMus in Performance, and BMus in Jazz Studies majors. Applicants to the BMus in Music Education will be interviewed and will perform musical selections for acoustic musicians, with submission of audio and score files for digital musicians.

Many graduates pursue advanced degrees in music. Others find employment as performers, teachers, composers, and arts managers in a wide variety of settings.

Department of Theatre

BA in Theatre and Performance; BA in Theatre Design, Production, and Technology; and BFA in Acting

The Theatre program curricula emphasize a balance between history, theory and practice, and integrate traditional performance theories and forms with contemporary interdisciplinary performance practices. With a commitment to ensemble-based learning, the program fosters student exploration from originating impulse or idea to realization in course work, performance, and production. Students in all degrees take courses in acting, voice, movement, directing, and/or playwriting, history, and design in order to develop a broad understanding of the field. BA in Theatre and Performance degree students have the opportunity to take advantage of a wide range of courses across the discipline and then to focus work in general, performance or authorship (writing, devising, adapting, directing) tracks. Likewise, BA in Theatre Design, Production, and Technology degree students take courses across the discipline with a particular focus on theatre design or technology. Finally, BFA in Acting degree students pursue a structured course of study that focuses on developing the actor for professional work and training.

Students in all degrees are encouraged to actively participate in the department's productions in conjunction with their ongoing class work. Theatre degree students participate in the UIC's Mainstage season performances and student-generated projects under the direction and coaching of the theatre faculty and renowned guest artists, all of whom are highly regarded professional artists in their respective fields.

An audition, an interview, or a portfolio review is required for all degrees. A total of 120 semester hours is required for graduation. Some Theatre courses require grades of C or higher in courses listed as prerequisites. Please check the Course Descriptions for more information.

Degree Programs

- [BA in Music](#)
- [BA in Music Business](#)
- [BMus in Performance](#)
- [BMus in Jazz Studies](#)
- [BMus in Music Education](#)
- [BA in Theatre and Performance](#)
- [BA in Theatre Design, Production, and Technology](#)
- [BFA in Acting](#)

Minors

- [Minor in Music](#)
- [Minor in Theatre](#)