

Choose Nebraska Wesleyan Theatre.



Put yourself in the

SPOTLIGHT

Nebraska Wesleyan University Theatre in Lincoln is like no other program on your list. Here's why—in three acts.

Act I: OPPORTUNITY

Young actors everywhere are looking for their big chance—their shot. At Nebraska Wesleyan University, “once-in-a-lifetime” theatre opportunities come early and often.

NWU attracts talent from all over the country by providing more opportunities to act, direct, design, sing, manage and build.

- > At NWU, you'll learn theatre by doing theatre. Begin building a breadth of experience right away in your first year. Then take an incredibly full resume with you into the professional world.
- > *OnStage Blog* named NWU to its list of top 30 college acting/performing arts programs **AND** its top 30 musical theatre programs in the U.S.



Head Over Heels



A Shayna Maidel

Theatre degree options at NWU

NWU offers theatre degrees in seven areas.

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Acting

Develop your acting skills through experiences in the classroom and the performance laboratory. Gain experience with an annual production schedule that includes 30+ faculty-directed and student-directed productions.

Few programs in the country can match the number of shows NWU produces each year.

Musical Theatre

We're one of the few universities that offer a BFA in musical theatre. Most universities produce a musical once every two or three semesters. We produce three to five each year.

With our rich musical production schedule, the experience you'll build here in two years can match what others may only reach at the graduate level.

Directing

NWU positions you to direct performances as soon as your sophomore year. Work closely with experienced faculty directors as members of the production team and in stage management. Then take the director's chair with the skills and experience you need to bring your vision to the stage.

NWU's directing core equips you with coursework in everything from script analysis to stage combat.

Theatre Design and Technology

NWU Theatre has the BFA program to develop your technical and design skills through both the classroom and the performance laboratory. Work with an exciting mix of guest designers. Learn how to better design and assemble the sets, lighting, props and costumes that bring the story to life.

Expand your technical and design skills with opportunities in every facet of working shows.

Theatre Studies

You can explore multiple interests with this build-your-own degree option. It gives you flexibility few other BFA programs can match. You can even go interdisciplinary and combine theatre design with art history, acting with psychology, or stage management with business administration. Give yourself the skills and experiences you need to reach your career goals in professional theatre.

With theatre studies at NWU, it really is your show. Adapt your experiences to write the ending you're looking for.

Bachelor of Arts

Theatre Arts

Theatre arts is a traditional theatre degree designed to provide you with a broad knowledge of theatre. You can use that base to pursue graduate study or a career in professional theatre. Theatre arts graduates also use their cultural understanding, aesthetic sense and creative skill to pursue work in a variety of fields, including law, ministry and education.

Your interests stretch beyond the stage. The BA in theatre arts is a popular choice for theatre students who wish to double major.

Theatre Arts Education

If you want to gain a broad foundation of knowledge and skills to teach theatre arts in a secondary school, then this BA program is geared for you. This program leads to a supplemental endorsement in secondary theatre education and must be coupled with a primary endorsement in another subject. Work closely with professors and build experience in all the areas you'll supervise as a theatre educator: acting, directing, costuming, scenography, playwriting, theatre history and management.

Your capstone experience will include 14 credit hours of supervised teaching in a secondary school.

A deep lineup

Our volume of productions is the main reason so many talented artists choose NWU Theatre. Compare our performance lineup with any other program on your list. Few schools can match what we do, year in and year out.

Each year, NWU Theatre produces on average:

- > Three to five musicals
- > At least one Shakespeare or Greek production
- > An eclectic mix of comedy, drama and world premieres by new stars and all-stars.

Check out past performances at theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu.

Recent NWU productions

Musical theatre from the Golden Age to contemporary

- > American Idiot
- > Footloose
- > Fun Home
- > In the Heights
- > Mamma Mia!
- > Seussical
- > South Pacific

Shakespeare

- > As You Like It
- > Julius Caesar
- > Macbeth
- > Much Ado About Nothing

Classic to modern drama

- > Boeing, Boeing
- > The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
- > Death of a Salesman
- > A Doll's House, Part 2
- > A Lie of the Mind
- > Little Women
- > Nell Gwynn
- > Noises Off
- > A Shayna Maidel
- > The Wolves

Find a complete list at theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu.

The stage is yours

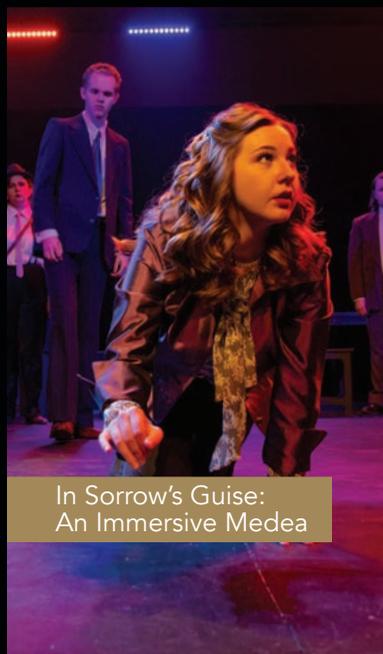
Nebraska Wesleyan gives you more opportunities to perform—and direct—on a variety of stages. From outdoor performances to lab theatre and mainstage productions, NWU students find the variety of production opportunities they need to grow.



The Bald Soprano



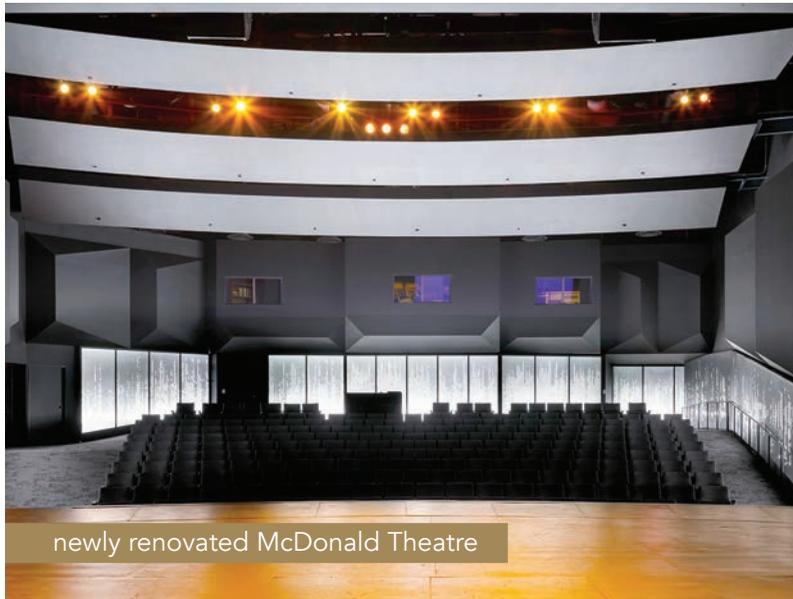
Macbeth



In Sorrow's Guise:
An Immersive Medea



Umbra



newly renovated McDonald Theatre



Blanke Costume Library



Lincoln's Haymarket District

A perfect setting

Finest facilities

We've renovated McDonald Theatre with a completely updated interior, new lighting, a new stage and wider seats. Our Studio Theatre now features a dance space with a Marley floor. NWU also boasts the Great Plains' largest costume and prop libraries. That means every time you step onstage to act, sing or dance, you'll do it outfitted and supported by the best facilities and the deepest theatre collections in the region. Our facilities and resources give you the flexibility you need to expand and achieve your vision.

Right city

Lincoln, Neb., is both a theatre destination and a springboard for creative careers. NWU Theatre's reputation puts you at the heart of this city's supportive arts community.

Lincoln's thriving downtown is just 10 minutes from Nebraska Wesleyan University's campus. NWU and Lincoln connect you to exciting internships, a friendly community atmosphere, and excellent parks and trails. This is a beautiful place for artists to live, study and perform.

Greater reach

Nebraska Wesleyan's emphasis on internships and study abroad expands your opportunities beyond the campus boundaries. Students have recently interned at Disney, the Second City and the Goodman in Chicago. And they've studied theatre in Argentina, Greece, France and at Shakespeare's Globe in London.

Act II: PREPARATION

NWU Theatre does more than simply offer you opportunities. We prepare you to make the most of them.

Our BFA programs are pre-professional by design. They're geared to equip you with the tools you need to enter professional theatre immediately. More than a stepping stone to an MFA program, NWU Theatre is a launching pad to the theatre industry.



stage combat with Professor Ryan Kathman



rehearsal with Professor Jay Chipman

Top professors

NWU Theatre professors look at the stage as your laboratory—an extension of your learning space where you put classroom instruction into action. They're practicing artists and great teachers who know how to mentor, coach, challenge and motivate you.

"We're committed to getting our students involved early and often. We want to place theatre students in a production their first semester, so they can apply what they're learning in the classroom right away."



—Ryan Kathman
assistant professor of acting
and directing

"NWU Musical Theatre gives students the tools to succeed while encouraging curiosity in all areas of theatre. It's an approach that creates well-rounded, thoughtful theatre artists."



—Anne McAlexander
assistant professor of musical
theatre and directing



Broad foundation

NWU connects you to every side of professional theatre, from writing scripts and designing sets to running lights and managing the box office. Your experience in the classroom, onstage and in the audience will expose you to some 150 performance pieces in your four years here.

Your Nebraska Wesleyan University experience reaches beyond the stage. At NWU, you succeed by weaving an outstanding theatre education together with valuable lessons in the humanities, the social and natural sciences, and more.

Explore your interests beyond the theatre. And use all you learn to deepen your art. Everything you do here plays a part. Your knowledge of history, culture and psychology will give you a richer understanding of the characters you play. Use your knowledge of business to sustain an arts organization. Apply those networking skills to your auditions. It all adds to your strengths.



Guest artists

NWU Theatre gives you rare access to successful theatre professionals. We host multiple guest artists to work directly with you.

They give you fresh insights—and valuable practical know-how.

You can use their expertise to prepare your plan for entering the industry. Practice your auditions, seek advice and strengthen your network for future opportunities. You will immediately apply their expertise to your work.

Recent guest artists include:

Emily Kinney ('06), Broadway actor, singer, songwriter, performer

Kila Packett ('99), commercial and stage actor

Jenna Winnett, agent, Bowles, Winnett, and Assoc.

Kally Duling ('06), Broadway actor

Kaylee Marshal, writer, composer

Laura Osnes, Tony-nominated Broadway actor

Lawrence Stallings, Broadway performer (Book of Mormon)

Nick Coleman, film and stage actor and specialist in artist marketing

Jason O'Connell, actor, regional theatre director

Aaron Phillips, actor, voice-over actor

Sheri Sanders, vocal coach (Rock the Audition)

Kathy Perkins, lighting designer

"It's an absolute must that students see the real business of show business. It's not all jazz hands and high notes. NWU students get that great education in a healthy environment where the artists come to them. They learn the right way that dreams can come true, no matter where you're from. Take it from me—a Nebraska girl with big dreams!"



—**Q Smith**
guest artist, Broadway performer,
"Come From Away"



Through our NYC@NWU series, we connect students—both on campus and virtually—to actors, directors, designers and other guest artists in the professional theatre industry.

Act III: SUCCESS

We're proud of our alumni's success across the industry—on Broadway, in film and TV and comedy venues, at centerstage and behind the scenes, on cruise ships and in schools across the country.

They leave NWU Theatre with the tools they need to immediately begin work in the performing arts industry.



Little Women



Hello, Dolly!

Culture of success

NWU equips you with the knowledge, experience, versatility and grit you need to thrive in the performing arts industry.



“Nebraska Wesleyan gifted me with the knowledge I needed in all aspects of theatre. My mentors pushed me to keep learning and never get too comfortable. (You never know what opportunity is out there waiting for you!) I learned to walk into any situation with confidence in myself and in my training.”

—Theresa Chambers ('22)
Coterie Theatre



“NWU gave me firsthand experience leading teams and developing a production from the initial vision to the final product. That collaboration and creativity prepared me for the arts and startup worlds that I find myself in today.”

—Mackenzie Davenport ('21)
founder and CEO, Ensemble



“NWU theatre changed my life in the best of ways. I met my best friends, collaborated with professionals and learned from amazing faculty. This program helps you grow into the best version of yourself while preparing you for professional theatre. I wouldn't trade my NWU experience for anything.”

—Elke Myers ('22)
Missoula Children's Theatre



“With all the incredible opportunities on stage and the guidance of my professors, I've learned a lot about balancing the different pieces of my life. There are so many tools from my BFA that give me an edge on the stage. And those same tools apply to my everyday life and every job I've taken.”

—Joseph Sanford IV ('20)
Denver, Colo.



Seussical



Measure for Measure

BFA audition and interview process

Your talent, academic ability and potential for success are the keys to your admission to Nebraska Wesleyan University's theatre program. We're selective so you can work alongside the best talent in small classes and have maximum opportunities to perform.

Prospective students interested in these programs must apply, prepare and share materials to be considered for admission.

Act now: Pursue NWU Theatre in 3 steps.

1 Apply to Nebraska Wesleyan for free at nebrwesleyan.edu/apply.

2 Prepare materials.

BFA in Acting

- > A resume
- > A photograph (We prefer headshots, but will accept any close-up.)
- > Two contrasting one-minute monologues from published plays. (You may replace one monologue with 20–30 lines of verse monologue or soliloquy from Shakespeare.)

BFA in Musical Theatre

- > A resume
- > A photograph (We prefer headshots, but will accept any close-up.)
- > A one-minute monologue from a published play
- > Two contrasting selections from Broadway musicals of 16–32 memorized bars

BFA in Design and Technology, Directing, or Theatre Studies

- > A resume
- > Examples of your work in photographs, prompt-scripts, slides or drawings of productions
- > Examples of related skills (e.g. painting, drawing, sewing, handwork, woodworking, etc.)
- > Directors might want to include a 1–2 page essay describing a directorial concept for a prospective or realized production

3 Share your materials with us by one of these four methods.

> Visit NWU.

You may audition and interview on campus between September and April. Please plan your visit two weeks in advance and bring materials with you. We'll provide you an accompanist, if needed. Visiting campus is the best way to experience NWU Theatre.

> **Share your materials** in Chicago (UNIFIEDS) or at select regional thespian festivals. Musical theatre students should provide recorded musical accompaniment.

> Go online.

Go to getaccepted.com/nebraskawesleyan and upload the necessary materials. Please include a video stating your name, hometown, and the pieces you'll perform.

> Audition via Zoom.

We want you to showcase your talents in the way that suits your strengths. Reach out to us to arrange a Zoom audition.



Three Sisters



Moscow, Moscow, Moscow, Moscow, Moscow, Moscow

Join NWU Theatre.

Apply for free today at nebrwesleyan.edu/apply
Learn more at theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu

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YouTube

#NWUtheatre



NEBRASKA
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

A Christmas Carol

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