

The School of Theatre Arts at Illinois Wesleyan University (SoTA) fosters the creative confidence of every artist-in-training. Inspired by your uniqueness, our dedicated faculty cultivates your authentic voice, preparing you for a rich life after IWU.

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

Our programs are selective and intentionally small. SoTA students experience close, personalized instruction from an outstanding faculty who guide them through rigorous theatrical training. Our professional grade productions provide opportunities for students to experience every aspect of theatre.

IWU alumni are some of the most successful, well-respected theatre professionals working in arts and entertainment today, including Tony winners and Oscar, Emmy and Golden Globe nominees.

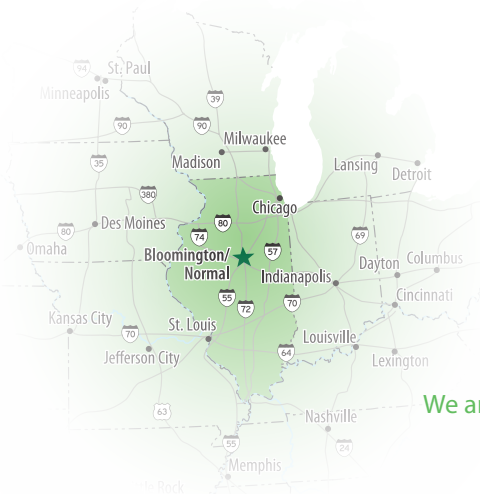
Our four distinct degree programs combine conservatory-style professional training with a nationally-ranked, multi-disciplinary liberal arts education. It is precisely this blend of theory and practice that we believe leads our students to “breakthrough” and achieve their dreams.

Looking forward to seeing you!



Jean M. Kerr

Jean MacFarland Kerr
Associate Professor and Director, School of Theatre Arts



**No. 1 HAPPIEST
CITY IN THE U.S.**
Niche, 2020

We are conveniently located 2 hours from
Chicago and 3 from St. Louis.



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
Shaw Hall 103A
School of Theatre Arts
309-556-3944
email: theatre@iwu.edu

www.iwu.edu/theatre

Facebook.com/iwutheatre

@IWUtheatre

@iwusota

6/22



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY THE SCHOOL OF THEATRE ARTS

ACCOLADES

No. 11 Best Schools for Musical Theatre
— Authority.org, 2022

No. 1 Best Theatre Design Colleges &
Universities in Illinois
— Prepler, 2021 & collegefactual.com, 2022

Each year there are dozens of
opportunities to **create, perform** and
practice theatre at Illinois Wesleyan.

- 6 Show production season
- Biennial dance concert
- Student run Phoenix Theatre
- 10+ Student organizations
- Summer stock opportunities
- Senior showcase
- Study abroad

HOW WILL YOU

BREAK THROUGH?

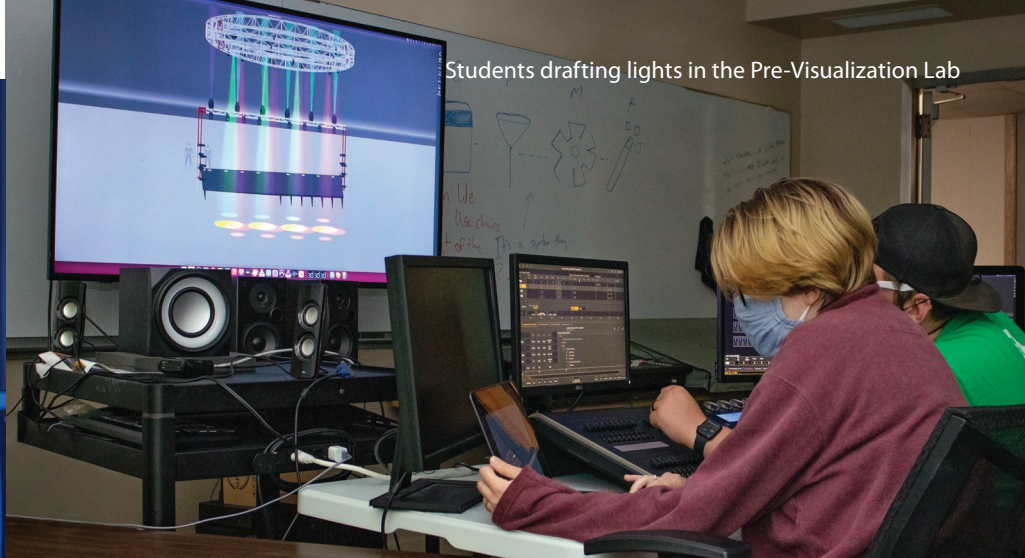


On The Cover:
Airline Highway, 2022

Wilderness, 2021



Head Over Heels, 2021



Students drafting lights in the Pre-Visualization Lab



The Lightning Thief, 2022



Midsummer's Night Dream, 2019

WHY IWU?

Individual Attention

The School of Theatre Arts prides itself on providing individual attention and mentorship to all students. Our small class sizes and student-focused curriculum offer dynamic, flexible professional training from experienced faculty.

The Liberal Arts Advantage

Our unique approach combines conservatory-style training in a liberal arts setting. Illinois Wesleyan students develop critical thinking skills and gain an understanding of the world beyond the performing arts.

Undergraduate Only

IWU students are never taught by or asked to compete with graduate students. Our students have more opportunities to write, perform, direct and design than most of our competitors.

Scene painting class



THE SCHOOL OF THEATRE ARTS

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

SoTA supports all students, faculty and staff and celebrates their differences through faculty training, contemporary repertoire and inclusive educational practices. We intentionally engage a variety of guest artists to illuminate the diversity of contemporary theatre. We aim to foster a community free from discrimination on the basis of race, gender, culture, age, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, and myriad other social identities and life experiences.



Life's a Dream, 2021

DEGREE PROGRAMS

The **BA in Theatre Arts** offers students an experiential and instructional approach that supports their individual and multifaceted interests. The Theatre Arts program highlights an interdisciplinary course of study that allows for a broad range of exploration in theatre as an artistic and educational endeavor.

The **BFA in Acting** focuses on each student's individuality and prepares them to enter the profession upon graduation. Students will take a variety of courses in acting, movement and voice, as well as dramatic theory, theatre history and literature. This highly personalized training is applied during an active season boasting six high caliber productions and numerous other workshop and performance opportunities, on stage and on camera, throughout the academic year.

The **BFA in Music Theatre** prepares students for professional theatrical careers through a well-rounded, conservatory-style curriculum in a traditional college setting. Our commitment to the rich history of musical theatre and rigorous training in music, acting and dance is complemented by a variety of general education courses at a top-level liberal arts university.

The **BFA in Theatre Design & Technology** is a practice-based, all-encompassing pre-professional curriculum including applied training in scenic, lighting, costume, sound and production stage management. During their time at IWU, students will have multiple opportunities to design and stage manage during our active season boasting six high caliber productions. They leave IWU with a robust portfolio and professional experience acquired during the summer.

Additionally, we offer minors in the following disciplines:

- Theatre Arts
- Theatre Dance
- Arts Management
- Theatre Design & Technology
- Film Studies

"Illinois Wesleyan University set me up to make strong, unique, and individual choices in my acting career. The faculty's investment in teaching allowed me to feel prepared for any production. I continually look back at the lessons I learned at IWU, which created the confident performer I am today. I am proud to be an alumnus of this program!"

—Carlos Medina Maldonado, BFA Acting, '16



AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective students are required to submit a School of Theatre Arts application via getaccepted.com and complete an on-campus audition and/or faculty interview. Specific requirements for each of our programs are detailed at iwu.edu/theatre.



SCHOLARSHIPS Up to \$36,000

Every applicant is eligible for renewable scholarships for all degree programs. Scholarships are based on students' auditions or portfolio evaluations and high school academic performance. Talent scholarships may be combined with institutional need-based aid.

Faculty Choreographed Dance Concert, 2021