



Program Assessment Report (PAR)

Acting (ACT) Baccalaureate Degree

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ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT: 2020-2021

I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate integrated technical and artistic skills in acting, voice and speech, movement, singing and dance to meet professional performance competencies. * (Selected for evaluation in 20-21) 2. Master current business practices of professional theatre, television, film and new media industries. * (Selected for evaluation in 20-21) 3. Implement professional processes in auditions, rehearsal and performance. 4. Determine modes of critical/historical inquiry in theatre or musical theatre history and literature, necessary for the realization of character in terms of the production and/or performance, and for a broad understanding of the history and aesthetics of theatre. 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the ways Acting and Musical Theatre performance and production reflects and affects broader views of social, cultural, and ethical issues.

II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

A. Direct Assessment

A. Direct Assessment (#1) -Measure One Sophomore Juries All Acting/Musical Theatre majors undergo a comprehensive jury and evaluation process, starting Freshman year, and continuing through both fall and spring semester of the sophomore year. Sophomores must demonstrate technical competency in the aspects of Acting, Movement, Voice and Speech, Singing, Dance, and Professional Practice and Classroom Etiquette as covered by the previous semester's work. The jury panel consists of all acting, voice, and dance faculty. Scores are given in each category described above. Sophomore Juries were conducted in Fall 2020 virtually due to Covid restrictions and Spring term 2021 live with masks and social distancing. -Measure Two Required Repertory Class Performance Every student in the Acting and Musical Theatre emphasis is required to perform work at least once a semester from their repertoire, and are evaluated by both Acting and Voice faculty in the Musical Theatre sections, and by Acting and Speech faculty

in the Acting sections. Students receive direct feedback and correction from all faculty present. They are given notes for immediate adjustment and are often asked to show work a second time. Repertory classes were conducted in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021, in a hybrid format (performing students in person, masked and observers online). -Measure Three Required Composer Recital Musical Theatre students must perform material by a different composer in each semester of their Freshman and Sophomore years. There is an additional recital in the spring term of the Junior year. Primarily Voice faculty evaluates the student work at the recital. Acting faculty attend as part of jury evaluations. The composers required express the variety of styles and vocal qualities each student must master before graduation. In Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 recitals were held in a hybrid fashion with masks and socially distanced or fully online. -Measure Four Department Production Auditions All Acting and Musical Theatre students must prepare specific material each semester for department productions in the coming term. This means preparing a song and monologue and participating in a dance audition. Students are assessed on their artistry and technical mastery, as well as preparedness and professionalism. The assessment of this work is included in end of semester jury evaluations for freshman and sophomores. In cases when upperclassmen need correction or adjustment, they are called into an evaluation meeting with faculty. In Fall of 2020 auditions were done by video submission and for Spring of 2021 all auditions were in a hybrid mode. -Measure Five Examination Each major completes an examination of skills through end of semester project or demonstrations of accumulated skill sets. These include skill tests, written exams or writing intensive projects, performance project assessments (that could include ensemble work, scene work or solo work), and a written self-assessment. B. Direct Assessment (#2) - Measure One Website Each senior Acting and Musical Theatre emphasis student completes a capstone project of building a professional website that is in preparation of moving into the industry. Each faculty and student meets to give/receive critique and make changes to promote the student's individual skill sets to their strengths so that the website information is clear, professionally presented, reflective of career goals, and uses current industry practices.

B. Scoring of Student Work

Assessment of #1 - Measures (1-4) Each student's growth is scored with the follow rubric Strong, Good, Weak, or Fair. (Faculty score collectively.) Students are then assessed as to whether their growth is sufficient to A.) Receive an affirmation of expected progress, B.) Placement onto probation with a prescription to remedy any identified deficiencies. A student remains on probation pending development of unproven skills, or C.) Dismissal from program for lack of development. Assessment of #1 - Measures (5) Scoring of examinations, written, or performance work is outlined clearly in the syllabus for every class according to the faculty's expectations and requirements. The rubric falls along the academic tradition of lettered grades A, B, C, D, F on a 10-point scale. In the Acting and Musical Theatre Programs, the grade of "A" is reserved for exceptional work, as defined by the instructor; the grade of "B" for good work, well above average; and the grade of "C" is given for average

work. Grades of “D” or lower in BFA Studio classes results in dismissal from the BFA Professional Actor Training Program (PATP). Assessment of #2 - Measures (1) Scoring of each assignment is outlined clearly in the syllabus for every class according to the faculty’s expectations and requirements. For the website capstone assignment, the assignment was graded as “completed satisfactorily” or not. After feedback and coaching, if the website is completed satisfactorily per the syllabus and industry standards, the grade will be an “A” for the assignment.

C. Indirect Assessment

Assessment of #1 - Measures (1-4) Record of students employed in the entertainment industry (theatre, film, television, live entertainment) during the year. · Assessment of #2 - Measures (1) Feedback from Professional Casting Directors and Agent who see students at their NY Showcase Unsolicited Feedback from current employers of Actors from Wright State.

III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:

1.Assessment (#1) TH 4370 - Senior Seminar for the Musical Actor Spring 2021	2. Department
_____ Auditions Fall 2020 Spring 2021	_____
_____ Sophomore Juries Spring 2021 Evaluation/Juries	3. Fall 2020
_____ Repertory Class Performance ‘20/’21	4. Required
_____ Composer Recital Freshman and Sophomore Fall ‘20 Junior Spring ‘21 Freshman and Sophomore Spring ‘21	5. Required
_____	6. Examination

1. All graduating BFA Acting and Musical Theatre majors are required to create an Actor Website, which serves as an online portfolio to showcase Actors work for casting directors and industry professionals, meeting current professional business practices for stage, television and film standards for independent business operation. All graduating Musical Theatre majors did this in Spring of 2021. All current Senior Acting majors did this in Fall of 2021. These websites were externally assessed by a professional casting director based in New York City. Fall 2020 - Method of assessment was not established Spring 2021 – 12 graduating Senior Musical Theatre, 100% completion with a grade of “B” or better on that assignment

2. Auditions for Spring 2021 production projects were done in December 2020 by video submission. Due to continued Covid-19 spread and University protocols, no

student was required to be cast this term. Because the format was new to both faculty and students, it was decided that a self submission workshop would be warranted. More than 80% of students submitted an audition. Auditions for Fall 2021 were done in live, socially distanced auditions. 100% of students available auditioned.

3. Fall 2020 - 100% of Sophomores were meeting expected progress. 0 students were placed on probationary status. 95% received markings exclusively in the good to strong range. Spring 2021 - 100% of Sophomores were meeting expected progress. 0 students were placed on probationary status. 82% received markings exclusively in the good to strong range.

4. 100% of students performed in Repertory Class during both Fall '20 and Spring '21. While working in hybrid mode and masked, students were able to maintain a high quality work.

5. 100 % of Musical Theatre Sophomores and 100% of Freshman performed in the recitals in Fall '20. 100% of Musical Theatre Juniors participated in the On-line version of this recital in Spring '21 100 % of Musical Theatre Sophomores and 82% of Freshman performed in the recitals in Spring '21.

6. Fall 2020 and Spring 2021, 100% of students achieved passing grades in all core curriculum.

1. Acting/Musical Theatre Majors were successful in demonstrating their ability to analyze text, apply imagination, and show expected technical proficiencies in their acting craft and technical skills.

2. Acting/Musical Theatre Majors were successful in demonstrating their ability to analyze text, apply imagination, showed expected technical proficiencies in their acting and/or singing, their ability to craft material for performance, and their technical proficiency. While also demonstrating their professional competency in performance.

3. Musical Theatre Majors were successful in demonstrating their understanding of genre, style, and medium, as well as, demonstrate their ability to analyze text, apply imagination, showed expected technical proficiencies in their acting and/or singing, their ability to craft material for performance, and their technical proficiency. While also demonstrating their professional competency in performance

4. All majors demonstrated expected professional competency and protocols; and improved their confidence in auditioning and improved their ability to prepare materials and themselves for audition.

5. All students exhibited the expected growth and proficiency in the core curriculum.

IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING

A new measure Department Production Performance Evaluation; was created to assess students in relation to Learning Outcome #3, (Implement professional processes in auditions, rehearsal and performance). All Acting and Musical Theatre students who have been cast in a department production in the term are assessed on four aspects of their work through rehearsal, and into performance. These criteria are, 1.) Preparation this is work done by the student prior to the first rehearsal. as well as preparedness and professionalism 2.) Practicum this is the supervise practical application of skills learned in the classroom as it relates to daily rehearsal and incorporates the elements mentioned in (1) 3.) Performance this is the combination of the elements mentioned in one and two resulting in the student actor's performance before a live audience 4.) Professionalism this is the student actor's professional comportment during the entire rehearsal and performance process. This assessment is completed by the Directors, Music Directors, and or Choreographers, depending on the make-up of the creative team, for their individual shows. The assessment of Direct Assessment (#1), measures One through Four during both semesters demonstrate the continued attainment of technical proficiency and practice by Acting and Musical Theatre Majors. However, the faculty do see a deficiency in students' ability to use these skills efficiently with a partner, due to the fact that the last three terms have been affected by remote delivery modes. Faculty will work to emphasize in person collaboration, and continue to emphasize craft, creativity, and professional practice in the specialized skill sets they teach. In addition to the new Department Production Performance Evaluation, the program will continue to utilize benchmarks like Acting and Singing juries, Acting, Movement, and Dance Performance exams and final projects as significant standards to test the abilities of students and their technical and artistic ability. The assessment of Measure 6 during both semesters reflects the success of BFA Acting and Musical Theatre majors at an advanced stage of training in the PATP. The findings support the above average knowledge of students in the creative craft and technical proficiencies identified in Section I Program Learning Outcomes. Some additional curricular changes will be made at this time Utilizing a current NYC Casting Director as an Adjunct Instructor to teach senior level Acting Professionally course. This ensures students are receiving current industry information in real time. Broadening BFA Acting and Musical Theatre curriculum to include Acting for the Camera every year in the Spring (replacing a guest artist workshop in the specialized subject) to provide an immersive study in preparation for entering the TV/Film industry. BFA Acting and Musical Theatre curriculum now includes a complete semester of technical theatre and production education by adding Production Practicum I - TH 1100, which introduces the fundamentals of theatre technology, emphasizing basic processes and materials through participation in the production shop Ongoing collaboration with BIPOC Alumni and current students allows for reexamination of class text and content to be more inclusive of all voices. This resulted in changes to language in the student handbook for 20/21, changes of required reading in class with an emphasis on BIPOC and female identifying playwrights, and a specific goal of opportunities for BIPOC casting in the 21/22 production calendar, which resulted in the inclusion of Sweat by Lynn Nottage. The Student Council, which includes a

representative from every class year as well as a representative of the BIPOC community met on October 21, November 17, 2020, and Feb 15 2021

RE V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS As a department, we formally meet with all faculty, staff, and adjuncts present prior to the start of fall classes. Notes from that meeting are available if needed. Area Faculty meet regularly on a bi-weekly basis to discuss the progress and events of the program, so no formal meeting minutes are taken during the weekly meetings. The Acting/Musical Theatre Program meets with all majors the first week of each academic year to discuss policies and all program information and to discuss program expectations and rules set forth in the Student Handbook. The PATP Student Handbook can be provided if needed. The Student Council, which includes a member from every class year as well as a BIPOC community representative, meets formally at the beginning of each semester with additional ad hoc meetings as needed; to discuss any program, curricular, cultural, or other matters. No formal meeting minutes are taken during the meetings. Area Faculty provides a jury form to each student after the jury is scored and meets each individual Freshman and Sophomore following juries to discuss the feedback sheet provided from the jury. The assessment form for Freshman and Sophomore juries as described in Measure 1 can be provided if needed. Supporting Documents Include: -List of students employed in the entertainment industry (theatre, film, television, live entertainment) during the current season.. -Rubric for directors to assess proficiency of performance. -Data received from proficiency of performance rubric for Fall 2021 to add Spring 2022 data to use for future quantitative data for assessment. -Data received from Theatre History faculty on a question impeded in Final Exam for Fall 2021 to add Spring 2022 data for future quantitative data for assessment of Learning Outcome #4

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.