

02/06/2017



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: This proposal is to establish: 1) A new degree, the Bachelor of Musical Arts, School of Music, College of Fine and Applied Arts, and 2) A new major in that degree, Lyric Theatre, with two new Concentrations, Performance and Creative.

SPONSOR: Dr. Julie Jordan Gunn, Director of Lyric Theatre Studies, 217-840-1079; gunn@illinois.edu, Dr. Linda R. Moorhouse, Associate Director for Undergraduate Affairs, School of Music, FAA; 217-244-4108; moorhouz@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: Linda Robbennolt, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs - Academic Programs, FAA; weasel@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Bachelor of Musical Arts, Lyric Theatre major, is an interdisciplinary degree for the singer-actor, which incorporates training in dance and theatre with music. This degree requires students to choose one of two Concentrations: Performance (performer) or Creative (director, choreographer, dramaturg, set designer, composer).

JUSTIFICATION:

The University of Illinois School of Music is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). This national body conducts outside reviews of music programs and curriculum every ten years. The Illinois School of Music works within the curriculum framework of NASM with all of our music major and music minor programs to maintain accreditation. The new Lyric Theatre curriculum does not fall into any of our existing music degree formats (Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Arts in Music, Bachelor of Music Education) according to NASM guidelines. The proposed new Bachelor of Musical Arts is the appropriate degree for this new curriculum: “studies in music comprise a minimum of 50% of the total program”; “the program offers opportunities for at least 15% of the total program to involve studies in a field outside of music” (e.g. dance, theatre); “the program features an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach developed for each student on the basis of a counseling process developed and operated to support the Bachelor of Musical Arts degree.”

The interest in sung theatre (opera, musical theatre) has been at the forefront of School of Music prospective student interest for many years now. The space, tools, faculty, and resources all currently exist to offer a formal degree of this type. The Lyric Theatre area in the School of Music has developed a baccalaureate degree focusing on sung theatre in keeping with the campus focus on interdisciplinary study and increasing undergraduate enrollment. Sung theatre incorporates many areas of study, among which are music, theatre, dance, world languages, music education, literature, and sound and visual design.

Our proposed new degree differs from those in other universities, though they may offer somewhat similar degree formats in either vocal performance and/or musical theatre. Our new degree is a combination of the vocal studies for a vocal performance degree (which may include opera studies) and a musical theatre degree. While our degree involves significant collaboration

with the Departments of Theatre and Dance, and with the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, it is heavily music-centric. We created our program on the assumption that there are fundamental skills and values common to all types of sung theatre, which are ultimately forms of storytelling. Rather than focus on a particular style or current industry practices, we have chosen to focus on the fundamental vocal skills necessary to build and maintain creativity, flexibility, and wellness. The new degree and curriculum does this, and will give our students a competitive edge in the sung theatre industry. In addition to their General Education requirements, students in the BMA in Lyric Theatre will take 31-33 units of a music core, and 41 units of a group of courses we call the Lyric Theatre core, comprised of instruction in acting, dance, songwriting, language and diction, theatre practicum, and the history of opera or musical theatre. Students in the Lyric Theatre major will select one of two Concentrations in either Performance (singer-actor-dancers) or Creative (directors, choreographers, composers, conductors, etc.) for a minimum of 12 Concentration hours.

The proposed BMA curriculum involves significant collaboration with the Departments of Theatre and Dance, and with the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. We plan to invite well-known industry professionals to campus as part of an annual 2-3 day symposium to engage in all aspects of sung theatre. Student capstone productions will be presented to this professional audience. This intensive learning platform will allow our students to interact with scholars, composers, directors, conductors, producers, and agents. It will be a unique opportunity for the visiting professionals to learn from each other, and to explore the technological and intellectual resources that the University of Illinois has to offer, in the world-class facility of the Krannert Center.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

1) Resources

- a. How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

The School of Music's Lyric Theatre area represents a component of the School of Music where support for production costs comes from ticket income and donor gifts. Existing faculty in Music, Dance and Theatre will teach the courses and lessons in all three disciplines, and existing staff will support production.

- b. How will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? If applicable, what functions or programs will the unit no longer support to create capacity?

Most of the core courses in the curricula are already being taught in Music for our BM, BME and BA degrees, so no additional funds should be necessary to offer the courses for the new degree. The five new courses can be managed between existing faculty and staff in Music (4 courses) and Dance (1 course).

School of Music's Admissions and Undergraduate Academic Affairs existing personnel will manage admissions, advising, and course enrollment.

- c. Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No.

- d. Please provide a letter of acknowledgment from the college that outlines the financial arrangements for the proposed program.

Please see the attached letter from FAA Dean.

2) Resource Implications

- a. Please address the impact on faculty resources including the changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

There will be no obvious impact on faculty resources outside of the need to utilize one faculty member in Dance to teach one course per year. There is ample room in the voice studios, and Dance and Theatre students will be able to take the four new proposed courses as well. Theatre and Dance are committing teaching assistants to help address course requirements in their areas.

- b. Please address the impact on course enrollment in other units and provide an explanation of discussions with representatives of those units.

Targeted enrollment for the first year and each subsequent year is 12-15 new students. This enrollment level would not cause a significant impact on current resources in the School of Music, and should have no impact on other Units with the exception of Dance and Theatre. Letters committing support from the UEOs in Dance and Theatre accompany this proposal

- c. Please address the impact on the University Library.

None. See attached letter from University Library

- d. Please address the impact on technology and space (e.g. computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.).

None anticipated. We are using existing rooms and equipment.

For new degree programs only:

- 3) Briefly describe how this program will support the University's mission, focus, and/or current priorities. Include specific objectives and measurable outcomes that demonstrate the program's consistency with and centrality to that mission.

This new degree supports the mission of our university by creating the first interdisciplinary music degree in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, providing a new platform for contemporary artistic expression with growing appeal in our culture. Its primary purpose is to produce informed singer-actors and artists with music, dance, and acting expertise who are comfortable and competitive performing in a range of lyric theatre styles. Our graduates will gain a strong musical platform from which to make artistic contributions in their own, individual ways, establishing our position as a forward-looking university in the expanding world singer-actor artist community.

The Bachelor of Musical Arts degree, Lyric Theatre major, will provide comprehensive training for the singer-actor that is different than that of a student in the Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance curriculum. Flexibility and vocal health will also be at the forefront of the BMA as it is in the BMUS, but the interdisciplinary opportunities afforded by instruction in acting, dance and alternative musical processes in collaborative context will provide our students with the skills required to lead the performing arts industry.

Professor Nathan Gunn, a singer of world renown in the professional world and our own esteemed faculty colleague, has led the charge to bring this new degree into our curriculum. Where opera and musical theatre were once considered vastly different art forms with singers and composers in one arena never venturing into the other, contemporary professional artists must now be knowledgeable, comfortable, equipped, and able to move freely from one sung-theatre form to another. In addition to the singer-actor, the composers, sound designers, and directors of this generation also need and want the interdisciplinary context that this collaborative process offers. This new degree also broadens the intellectual scope of this new combination of students by including historical courses in musical theatre and opera.

The unique Bachelor of Musical Arts would be the first degree of its kind, integrating a rigorous core foundation in music with creative music options and much-needed dance and theatre courses in the curriculum. The closest degree of this type offered by peer universities is a degree in “musical theatre,” where music comprises only one-third of the required curriculum, with no choice of Performance or Creative Concentration options. Our degree is much more music-centric, individualized and rigorous, with an emphasis on flexibility, wellness, and creativity.⁴⁾

- 4) Please provide an analysis of the market demand for this degree program. What market indicators are driving this proposal? What type of employment outlook should these graduates expect? What resources will be provided to assist students with job placement?

Our admissions and recruitment data from the last few years indicates very strong demand for a multi-disciplinary degree that encompasses vocal performance, dance and theatre. Other universities with somewhat similar degrees are turning away literally hundreds of students for very limited numbers of freshmen openings each year (University of Michigan, University of Cincinnati, etc.). Graduates of our program will be well equipped to go on to graduate degree study of similar scope and interest, or they may choose to pursue jobs and/or apprenticeships upon completion of the BMA with local, regional and national opera companies both here and abroad, with Broadway musical theatre, or other similar avenues.

The capstone project of this new degree is called the Senior Project Showcase. It highlights the talents and expertise of our singers, composers, directors, and designers. We plan to invite well-known industry professionals to campus as part of an annual 2-3 day symposium to engage and confer in all aspects of sung theatre with our students and each other as well as provide feedback for senior, final student productions. This intensive, capstone learning platform will allow our students to network with scholars, composers, directors, conductors, producers, and agents from the professional world and job market that they would not normally have access to outside of New York.

- 5) If this is a proposed graduate program, please discuss the programs intended use of waivers. If the program is dependent on waivers, how will the unit compensate for lost tuition revenue?

N/A

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: August 2018

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

Bachelor of Musical Arts, Lyric Theatre

Professor Jeffrey Magee, Director

School of Music

2040 Music Building, 1114 West Nevada, Urbana

(217) 333-2620

<http://music.illinois.edu/>

For the Degree of Bachelor of Musical Arts, Lyric Theatre

This degree requires a minimum of 129 semester hours of credit for graduation.

The Bachelor of Musical Arts with a major in Lyric Theatre is an interdisciplinary degree designed for the singer-actor, which incorporates training in dance and theatre in addition to music. This degree requires students to choose one of two Concentrations: Performance (performer) or Creative (director, choreographer, dramaturg, set designer, composer).

The BMA Lyric Theatre curriculum is formed around courses in music, dance, and theatre. Advanced coursework includes a senior project.

For admission requirements for the Bachelor of Musical Arts, please see the School of [Music's Admissions website](#) or contact the Music Admissions Office:

Music Admissions Office

School of Music

1114 W. Nevada Street

Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: (217) 244-7899

E-mail: musicadmissions@illinois.edu

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Jeffrey Meyer
Unit Representative:

11/7/16
Date:

Jack Robinson
College Representative:

11-7-16
Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

Appendix A:

BACHELOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN LYRIC THEATRE (BMA in Lyric Theatre)

General Education Requirements

General Education Requirements	Hours
Composition I	4
Advanced Composition	3
Humanities and the Arts - <i>fulfilled by MUS 313 and MUS 314</i>	6
Cultural Studies: Non-Western and Western Cultures ¹	6
Cultural Studies: US Minority Culture ¹	3
Natural Sciences and Technology	6
Social and Behavioral Sciences	6
Quantitative Reasoning I and II	6
Foreign Language	0-12
	40-52

Music Core Requirements

Music Theory		Hours
MUS 101	Music Theory and Practice I	2
MUS 102	Music Theory and Practice II	2
MUS 201	Music Theory and Practice III	2
MUS 107	Musicianship I	2
MUS 108	Musicianship II	2
MUS 207	Musicianship III	2
MUS 208	Musicianship IV	1
Musicology		Hours
MUS 110	Introduction to Art Music–International Perspective	2
MUS 313	The History of Music I ²	3
MUS 314	The History of Music II ²	3
Performance Studies		Hours
MUS 181	Applied Voice instruction	8
MUS 260-3/450	Ensemble	8
MUS 172	Group Instruction in Piano for Music Majors I (non-keyboard) ³	2
MUS 173	Group Instruction in Piano for Music Majors II (non-keyboard) ³	2
MUS 454	Advanced Keyboard Skills I (keyboard performers only) ³	2
		39-41 ⁴

1 At least one “Storytelling” course is to be selected in consultation with advisor from the General Education requirements.

2 Completion of both MUS 313 and MUS 314 meets the general education requirement for Humanities and the Arts.

- 3 All students must demonstrate keyboard competency by examination when they matriculate or by enrolling in MUS 172 and/or MUS 173. Keyboard majors enroll in MUS 454. It is possible to proficiency out of group piano courses through examination.
- 4 The 39-41 hours of the Music Core Requirements reflect 39 hours for keyboard majors, 41 hours for non-keyboard majors.

Lyric Theatre Core Requirements

Required Courses		Hours
MUS 468A	Lyric Studio	8
MUS 472	Senior Project Showcase	2
MUS 422	Musical Theatre Repertoire	2
MUS 467	Lyric Theatre Applied Voice	8
MUS 125	English Diction and Dialects	1
MUS 121	Italian Diction	1
ITAL 101	Elementary Italian I	4
DANC 101 & DANC 102	Ballet I & II or Modern Dance I & II	4
DANC 209	Lyric Theatre Dance	2
THEA 100	Practicum I	2
THEA 170	Fundamentals of Acting I	3
THEA 175	Fundamentals of Acting II	3
One (1) Somatics class required from the below courses		
DANC 245	Introduction to Somatics	1
DANC 301	Yoga Practicum for Dancers	1
DANC 401	Alexander Technique for Dancers	1
DANCE 402	Alexander Technique Practicum	1
		41

BMA in Lyric Theatre Concentrations

In addition to the Music and Lyric Theatre core areas, students choose one of two Concentrations (Creative or Performance). Courses will be determined in consultation with and approval of their advisor. Students must complete a minimum of 12 hours of coursework in their area of concentration.

(1) Creative Concentration (minimum of 12 hours)

Students choose a minimum of 12 hours from a combination of the below courses in consultation with and approval of their advisor. At least six (6) hours must be taken from the first three (3) courses which deal with the performance of original work. With the other courses, similar type classes may be substituted with the approval of the Lyric Theatre faculty.		Hours
MUS 468C	Lyric Studio Workshop	4
DANC 259	Contact Improvisation for Act/Mus/Dan	1-4
DANC 424	Collaborative Performance	2
MUS 106	Beginning Composition	2
MUS 206	Intermediate Composition	2
MUS 209	Music, Sound, Technology	3
MUS 404	Contemporary Composition Techniques	2
MUS 406	Advanced Composition	3
MUS 426	Orchestration	3
MUS 446	Songwriting	2
DANC 262	Choreographic Process	2

THEA 211	Introduction to Playwriting	3
THEA 212	Introduction to Directing	3
THEA 220	Survey of Theatrical Design	3
THEA 410	Dramaturgs Workshop	3-4
THEA 411	Playwrights Workshop	3
THEA 412	Directors Workshop	3
THEA 453	Theatre Sound Technology	3
THEA 454	Theatre Sound Design	3
THEA 455	Audio Production	2

(2) Performance Concentration (minimum of 12 hours)

Students must select 12 hours from the below courses. See the next table for elective options, to be chosen in consultation with and approval of their advisor.		Hours
DANC XXX	Additional dance courses	4
THEA 270	Advanced Acting for Non-Majors, plus another acting course	6
MUS 468B	Opera Scenes	2

Suggested Electives for BMA-Performance Concentration		Hours
DANC 104	Making Dances	2
DANC 111	Cultural Dance Forms	2
DANC 212	Musical Theatre Dance	2
DANC 259	Contact Improvisation for Act/Mus/Dan	1
DANC 268	Music Theory for Dancers	3
KIN 130	Analysis of Basic Movement	2
MUS 122	German Diction	1
MUS 123	French Diction	1
MUS 242	Elements of Conducting	2
MUS 411	Genres Studies in Musicology	3
MUS 474	Vocal Repertoire I	1
MUS 475	Vocal Repertoire II	1
THEA 110	Broadway Musicals	3
THEA 220	Survey of Theatrical Design	3
THEA 360	History of Theatre I	4
THEA 361	History of Theatre II	4
	Foreign Language	



Senate Educational Policy Committee Proposal Check Sheet

PROPOSAL TITLE (Same as on proposal): This proposal is to establish: 1) A new degree, the Bachelor of Musical Arts, School of Music, College of Fine and Applied Arts, and 2) A new major in that degree, Lyric Theatre, with two new Concentrations, Performance and Creative.

PROPOSAL TYPE (select all that apply below):

A. Proposal for a NEW or REVISED degree program. Please consult the Programs of Study Catalog for official titles of existing degree programs.

1. Degree program level:

Graduate Professional Undergraduate

2. Proposal for a new **degree** (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.):

Degree name, "e.g., *Bachelor of Arts or Master of Science*": Bachelor of Musical Arts

3. Proposal for a new or revised **major, concentration, or minor**:

New or Revised **Major** in (name of existing or proposed major): Lyric Theatre

New or Revised **Concentration** in (name of existing or proposed concentration):
Performance or Creative.

New or Revised **Minor** in (name of existing or proposed minor): _____

4. Proposal to rename an existing major, concentration, or minor:

Major Concentration Minor

Current name: _____

Proposed new name: _____

5. Proposal to terminate an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor:

Degree Major Concentration Minor

Name of existing degree, major, or concentration: _____

6. Proposal involving a multi-institutional degree:

New Revision Termination

Name of existing Illinois (UIUC) degree: _____

Name of non-Illinois partnering institution: _____

Location of non-Illinois partnering institution:

State of Illinois US State: _____ Foreign country: _____

- B. Proposal to create a new academic unit (college, school, department, program or other academic unit):

Name of proposed new unit: _____

- C. Proposal to rename an existing academic unit (college, school, department, or other academic unit):

Current name of unit: _____

Proposed new name of unit: _____

- D. Proposal to reorganize existing units (colleges, schools, departments, or program):

1. Proposal to change the status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department)

Name of current unit including status: _____

2. Proposal to transfer an existing unit:

Current unit's name and home: _____

Proposed new home for the unit: _____

3. Proposal to merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B):

Name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Proposed name and college of new (merged) unit: _____

4. Proposal to terminate an existing unit:

Current unit's name and status: _____

- E. **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Nature of the proposal: _____

Revised 10/2012

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Fine and Applied Arts

Office of the Dean
100 Architecture Building
608 East Lorado Taft Drive
Champaign, Illinois 61820



24 January 2017

Senate Educational Policy Committee
University of Illinois
608 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Committee:

The College of Fine and Applied Arts acknowledges and supports the new Bachelor of Musical Arts, Lyric Theatre major with Performance and Creative Concentrations proposed by the School of Music.

No additional resources will be required by the School of Music, Department of Dance or Department of Theatre to deliver this new degree program. Revenue generated through the campus budget model will be credited to the School of Music and the Departments of Dance and Theatre consistent with FAA's budgeting procedures.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Harleman
Acting Dean

BACHELOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN LYRIC THEATRE (4-year example)

Year 1		hrs	Year 2		hrs	Year 3		hrs	Year 4		hrs
FALL	MUS 101–Music Theory & Practice I	2	MUS 201–Music Theory & Practice III	2	MUS 2xx/MUS 450–Music Ensemble	1	MUS 2xx/MUS 450–Music Ensemble	1			
	MUS 107–Aural Skills I	2	MUS 207–Aural Skills III	2	MUS 467 ² –Lyric Theatre Applied Voice	2	MUS 467 ² – Lyric Theatre Applied Voice	2			
	MUS 110–Introd Art Mus: Intl Perspect	2	MUS 313–The History of Music I	3	MUS 468A–Lyric Studio	2	MUS 472*–Senior Project Showcase	1			
	MUS 181–Applied Voice	2	MUS 181– Applied Voice	2	MUS 422*–Musical Theatre Repertoire	2	Lyric Theatre Concentration Courses ³	3			
	MUS 26x–Choral Ensemble	1	MUS 26x–Choral Ensemble	1	Lyric Theatre Concentration Courses ³	3	General Education Courses or Electives	8			
	MUS 121–Italian Diction	1	MUS 172 ¹ –Group Piano I	2	General Education Courses	6					
	ITAL 101–Elementary Italian I	4	MUS 468A–Lyric Studio	2							
	DANC 107–Ballet I	2	THEA 175–Fundamentals of Acting	3							
	FAA 101–Arts at Illinois	1									
Total	17	Total	17	Total	16	Total	15				
SPRING	MUS 102–Music Theory and Practice II	2	MUS 208–Aural Skills IV	1	MUS 2xx/MUS 450–Music Ensemble	1	MUS 2xx/MUS 450–Music Ensemble	1			
	MUS 108–Aural Skills II	2	MUS 314–The History of Music II	3	MUS 467 ² –Lyric Theatre Applied Voice	2	MUS 467 ² – Lyric Theatre Applied Voice	2			
	MUS 181–Applied Voice	2	MUS 181–Applied Voice	2	MUS 468A–Lyric Studio	2	MUS 472*–Senior Project Showcase	1			
	MUS 26x–Choral Ensemble	1	MUS 26x–Choral Ensemble	1	Lyric Theatre Concentration Courses ³	3	Lyric Theatre Concentration Courses ³	3			
	MUS 125*–English Diction & Dialects	1	MUS 173 ¹ –Group Piano II	2	General Education Courses	8	General Education Courses or Electives	8			
	THEA 100–Practicum	1	DANC 209–Lyric Theatre Dance	2							
	THEA 170–Fundamentals of Acting	3	DANC 245–Intro to Somatics	1							
	DANC 101–Modern Dance I	2	THEA 100–Practicum	1							
	RHET 105–Principles of Writing	4	MUS 468A–Lyric Studio	2							
Total	18	Total	15	Total	16	Total	15				

¹ All students must demonstrate keyboard competency by examination when they matriculate or by enrolling in MUS 172 and/or MUS 173.

² Students may substitute this course with another applied lesson course with permission of voice instructor.

³ BMA in Lyric Theatre concentrations include “Performance” and “Creative.”

* New Course (English Diction and Dialects, Lyric Theatre Dance, Lyric Theatre Applied Voice, Musical Theatre Repertoire, Senior Project Showcase)

Note: The above assumes there is no deficiency in foreign language coming out of high school. This curriculum is 129 hours.

Music Core: 41 hours

Lyric Theatre Core: 41 hours

Concentration: 12 hours

Gen Eds (34 min)

10/29/2016
4-year plan-Version 9

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Fine and Applied Arts

Office of the Dean
100 Architecture Building
608 East Lorado Taft Drive
Champaign, Illinois 61820



5 October 2016

Senate Educational Policy Committee
University of Illinois
608 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Committee:

The College of Fine and Applied Arts acknowledges the School of Music's proposal to establish a new Bachelor of Musical Arts in Lyric Theatre degree program.

No additional resources will be required by the School of Music, Department of Dance or Department of Theatre to deliver this revised curriculum. Revenue generated through the campus budget model will be credited to the School of Music and the Departments of Dance and Theatre consistent with FAA's budgeting procedures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Harleman'.

Kathleen Harleman
Acting Dean

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University Library
Office of Dean of Libraries
and University Librarian
230 Main Library, MC-522
1408 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



October 10, 2016

Linda Robbennolt
Associate Dean, Academic Programs
College of Fine and Applied Arts
408 E Peabody Dr.
M/C 590

Dear Prof. Robbennolt:

Last week, we received a proposal to establish a new Bachelor of Musical Arts (BMA) in Lyric Theatre in the School of Music, College of Fine and Applied Arts.

Based upon the documents received and reviewed by Kirstin Dougan on September 19, 2016 and further conversations on October 5, 2016, it is our belief that there will be no significant impact on collection development, instruction, or other operations in the University Library.

If additional services or materials are required as the program develops, we will be happy to discuss those needs as they emerge.

Sincerely,



John P. Wilkin
Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

e-c: Kirstin Dougan
Thomas Teper

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Theatre

4-122 Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
500 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



September 6, 2015

Jeffrey Magee
Director, School of Music
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1114 West Nevada Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Professor Magee,

I write on behalf of the Department of Theatre to express my unit's support of the Lyric Theatre Initiative, on which our units have collaborated to innovate in curriculum, pedagogy, performance, and production in the development of a flexible and significant training emphasis.

Illinois Theatre is committed to providing appropriate LTI classroom support for courses in Acting (sequenced), Theatrical Design, Sound Design and Technology, Directing, Dramaturgy, and Playwriting. We believe we have the means to offer enough places in courses, as specified in the LTI proposal. This commitment should not create a negative impact on delivery of our own curriculum. Should the course expand rapidly, we may need to revisit the deployment of resources with the Office of the Dean.

Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Eric Jenkins'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeffrey Eric Jenkins
Professor and Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Dance

907½ West Nevada Street
Urbana, IL 61801-3810



September 8, 2015

Dear Ms. Gunn,

On behalf of the Dance faculty, I write to enthusiastically endorse the new Lyric Theatre Curriculum proposed on July 7, 2015. We believe it is an exciting new direction for the School of Music, further enhancing the breadth of offerings while maintaining the excellence and rigor of this traditionally strong program. The three curricular concentrations (Creative, Classical, Musical Theatre) provide a flexible path that will serve student interest and skills. The in-depth work in voice will provide core skills while an enhanced background in movement and acting will facilitate overall skill levels and further student readiness for the professional field.

The Dance Department is well situated to support the dance component of this program. We currently offer 22-25 courses per year in physical practice classes in styles such as modern, ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and African. These classes are often not filled to capacity, so we will have space within the current program to serve Lyric Theater Majors. We also welcome students with the appropriate skill level to audition for dance major classes in technique. Should classes become inaccessible due to large enrollments, we will work out a system to prioritize Lyric Theatre majors over other non-dance majors. We will develop a course, Lyric Theater Dance, which we plan to offer on a regular basis. The Creative Concentration is one of the most unique and exciting aspects of this program. We offer numerous courses in improvisation, making dances, and choreographic process, which will serve those who seek to develop and create within this form.

As stated in Dean Feser's email of August 14, we expect the College to find a way to "account" for contributions of each unit, which will be important to our abilities to generate the resources necessary, and provide release time, or add new faculty as the program grows. In the future, we also encourage you to consider offering a minor, so Dance majors may be able to better access this program.

We realize logistics toward collaborative production processes (schedules, auditions, casting, rehearsals, performances) are not easy, and often create conflicts of interest. But we are committed to mediating these processes with Music and Theatre with the underlying goal to best serve the interests of our students. We look forward to this joint adventure and commend you for initiating this curriculum!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Erkert".

Jan Erkert
Head, Department of Dance

cc: Jeffrey Magee, Director of the School of Music, Kathleen Harleman, Interim Dean of FAA, Jeffrey Jenkins, Head of the Department of Theatre

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.17.33

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



November 8, 2016

Bettina Francis, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Francis:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to establish a Bachelor of Musical Arts in Lyric Theatre.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Kathryn A. Martensen'.

Kathryn A. Martensen
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: J. Jordan Gunn
L. Moorhouse
L. Robbennolt
A. Edwards