MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY DIGITAL MEDIA AND PERFORMING ARTS

THEATRE ARTS AUDITIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP OPEN HOUSE

Marquette Theatre is located in the Evan P. and Marion Helfaer Theatre, 1304 W. Clybourn St. (building 16) on the Marquette Campus. Parking structures are located on Wells St. (building 67) or 16th St. (building 55).

Auditions are held for acceptance into the Theatre Arts major, pending admittance to Marquette University. Theatre Arts scholarships will be awarded based on the auditions held on February 15, 2020.

8:45 — 9:15 am Registration/Meet and Greet, Helfaer Lobby
9:15 — 9:30 am Welcome – Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Chair
Helfaer Theatre Mainstage (Helfaer 006)
9:30 – 10:30 am Parent Panel, Helfaer Theatre Mainstage (Helfaer 006)
Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Chair
Dr. Sarah Feldner, Acting Dean, Diederich College of Communication
Rose Littlefair, Admission Counselor, Undergraduate Admissions
Laura Schram, Director of Student Success and Recruitment, Diederich College of Communication
10:30 am Parents are free for the day. Please join us for the Optional Campus Tour at 3 pm and a special performance of *The Theory of Relativity* at 7:30 pm.

Student Program

8:45 — 9:15 am Registration/Meet and Greet, Helfaer Lobby
9:15 — 9:30 am Welcome – Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Chair
Helfaer Theatre Mainstage (Helfaer 006)
9:30 – 10:15 am Student Workshop and warm-up, Helfaer 013
10:30 – 10:45 am Performance of 10-minute scene from Directing Class
11:00 – 12:00 pm Lunch and Student Q&A with Current Students, Helfaer Lobby
12:00 – 12:10 pm Audition and Interview Information Session with Faculty, Helfaer Lobby
12:15 – 6 pm Auditions with Performance Faculty, Helfaer 013
Interview/Portfolio presentation with Design Faculty, Helfaer 103
Facility tours with Current Students
3 – 4 pm Optional Campus Tour, departs from Helfaer Lobby
7:30 pm A special performance of *The Theory of Relativity* at the Helfaer Theatre. Please plan on staying for this event.
HOW AUDITIONS WORK:

1. Check in at the registration table in the Helfaer Theatre lobby.

2. Faculty and current students will take participants through a class experience. The class may include improvisation, movement, and vocal expression exercises. We encourage participants to wear comfortable clothing that is appropriate for physical activity. You will have the opportunity to change into other clothing for your audition.

3. You will then take part in a short conversation with Diederich College faculty and current students. Bring your questions about the program: this is your time to find out more about the college, its majors, and other opportunities.

4. After the lunch break, you will proceed to the individual auditions. Each participant will have a ten-minute time slot in which to audition before the performance faculty. You will have time to change into audition clothes and warm up. We highly encourage you to warm up for your piece(s).

5. Following the performance section of the audition, you will meet briefly with Stephen Hudson-Mairet in a one-on-one meeting, which will conclude the audition process. There are no callbacks. At this point you will have free time to explore the rest of Marquette University’s campus—take a campus tour, stock up on gear in the spirit shop, check out the Alumni Memorial Union, or explore Downtown Milwaukee and have dinner.

6. Thereafter, we encourage you to return to the Helfaer Theatre for a special performance of The Theory of Relativity for prospective students and families.

AUDITION GUIDELINES

- Students auditioning as actors or directors should prepare two contrasting monologues, not to exceed three minutes together. Singers and dancers should prepare one monologue and one song or choreographed piece, not to exceed three minutes total. An accompanist, as well as an ipod/mp3 player will be provided. Please plan to sing with the music, do not prepare an a cappella piece.

- Please bring a photo and a résumé (or list of theatre/theatre related credits).

- Monologues from published plays are preferred. Do not use poetry or something from films.

- Because our goal is to see you at your best and your full potential, we suggest you prepare pieces that highlight what you do and like best.

- Videotaped auditions are accepted for program acceptance but are not accepted for scholarship auditions. All students auditioning for a scholarship must be present for audition & interview.

- There is time provided during your audition slot for a short interview with the performance faculty. There is not a fixed format or schedule of questions for the interview. We believe that the questions you have for us are just as important as the questions we have for you. The faculty who conduct the interview are interested in the whole you—your theatre experiences, academic record, personal achievements, extracurricular activities, and your aspirations for the future.

- We recommend that to prepare for the interview you come with plenty of questions both about the Theatre Arts Program and Marquette University.
HOW DESIGN AND TECHNICAL INTERVIEWS WORK

Check in at the registration table in the Helfaer Theatre lobby.

1. Faculty and current students will take participants through an in-depth tour of our theatre shop spaces. This is a time for students to ask questions one-on-one and get a feel for what their experience will be like with Marquette Theatre. You will have the opportunity to change into other clothing for your interview.

2. You will then take part in further conversation with Diederich College faculty and current students. Bring your questions about the program — this is your time to find out more!

3. After the lunch break, you will proceed to the interview portion of the afternoon. Each student will have an interview with our design faculty. Each interview will run for approximately 10 minutes. As there is no fixed format to the interviews, timing may vary.

4. Following the interview, you will meet briefly with Stephen Hudson-Mairet in a one-on-one meeting, which will conclude the interview process. There are no callbacks. At this point you will have free time to explore the rest of Marquette University’s campus — take a campus tour, stock up on gear in the spirit shop, check out the Alumni Memorial Union, or explore downtown Milwaukee and have dinner.

5. Thereafter, we encourage you to return to the Helfaer Theatre for a special performance of *The Theory of Relativity* for prospective students and families.

DESIGNER/TECHNICAL INTERVIEW GUIDELINES

- Be prepared to present a portfolio highlighting your best work.

- There is no fixed format or schedule of questions for the interview. We believe that the questions you have for us are just as important as the questions we have for you. The design faculty who conduct the interview are interested in the whole you — your theatre experiences, academic record, personal achievements, extracurricular activities, and your aspirations for the future.

- To assemble a portfolio, choose up to 20 pieces of your work that demonstrate your strength and depth in areas of particular interest and the range of your abilities and your exposure. The pieces tell us a great deal about you, so choose pieces that show your best work. Feel free to include renderings, drawings, photographs, drafting and mechanical drawings, etc. Your imagery need not be from theatre alone — we are interested in your graphic, artistic, painting and drawing work as well.

- Résumés also are encouraged.

- Portfolios may be mailed in for program acceptance but are not accepted for scholarship consideration; scholarship competitors must be present to interview for a scholarship.
OUR MISSION

In Marquette University’s J. William and Mary Diederich College of Communication, the study of theatre takes place within the context of a liberal arts education. A liberal education is a freeing education. Its aim is to release the student from the bonds of ignorance, intolerance, parochialism and prejudice. A liberal education seeks to free the student for citizenship in the realm of the intellect.

The mission of the Theatre Arts program is to lay a foundation for our students in the theatrical principles, techniques and practices that will help them realize their potential not only as artists, but also as human beings. We recognize the role of theatre in social communication and the importance of fostering in our students and in ourselves scholarship, artistic expression, and expertise in the performing arts to accomplish our mutual goal.

The curriculum of the theatre major in the Diederich College is dedicated to the idea that the study of theatre outside the context of cultural traditions which gave it birth is essentially meaningless. At the same time, we insist on the careful and disciplined integration of curriculum with actual stage production of plays. Such integration differentiates a Marquette education from a professional theatre-training program.

The department expects its undergraduate students to gain practical experience in every area of theatre, developing all their strengths, even those that had been previously undiscovered. The department believes the hands-on, realized stage experience is just as important as classroom work. The production season is an active element of Marquette’s pedagogical program, where much of the true learning happens under the close individual guidance of department faculty. The departmental production program instills a strong professionalism grounded in the respect and caring for others that graduates carry into the world beyond graduation. An education at Marquette University with a major in theatre therefore combines knowledge and skill; it requires that theory be tested in practice and that skill be demonstrated in production.

EVENT DAY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

A member of our office staff will be following up with all registrants to schedule audition times and provide further information. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Hudson-Mairet at 414-288-3391. Stephen can also be reached at 414-313-9863 or stephen.hudson-mairet@mu.edu.

All of the faculty, students, and staff look forward to seeing you on Saturday, February 15, 2020. We start right at 9:15 am so be sure to get here early.