



MASTER OF  
FINE ARTS IN  
DIRECTING

THE  
THEATRE  
SCHOOL

at DePaul University

# WELCOME.

Welcome to **The Theatre School at DePaul University**, one of America's oldest and most respected theatre conservatories. For over **90 years**, we have prepared students for careers in professional theatre. Our highly specialized programs employ a learning-by-doing approach, featuring student work in all areas of production in more than 30 shows each season. Our students learn their profession under the guidance of a diverse and talented faculty and staff of working artists. All of this takes place in the **heart of Chicago**, acclaimed as one of the greatest theatre cities in the world. Forged at our founding as the Goodman School of Drama and strengthened by our move to the major urban university that is DePaul, our tradition remains—to **educate, train and inspire** those who will shape the future of American theatre.

STEP INTO **THE THEATRE SCHOOL** ON ANY GIVEN DAY AND YOU FEEL AN ENERGY SURROUND YOU – THE KIND OF **INFECTIOUS ENERGY** THAT IS PRODUCED WHEN ARTISTS ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CULTIVATE THEIR CRAFT AND DEVELOP THEIR TALENT FOR A **CAREER IN THE ARTS.**

# MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN DIRECTING

The Theatre School's Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in directing is a three-year program that allows directors to develop and explore their artistic vision and apply their ideas through constant collaboration with other artists—actors, designers and dramaturgs. Coursework is focused on preparation—research, theory and analysis—as well as practical application through scene study, workshops and quarterly full-length directing assignments.

## FIRST YEAR

The focus of the first year is preparation and research. Directing students complete coursework in play analysis, dramatic theory, historical perspective, and organizing ideas in order to collaborate with designers and actors. They then move to transform analysis into action with staging and scene study. Students also take a progression of improvisational acting and scene study in order to become familiar with the acting approach and vocabulary of The Theatre School. Production work will include one assistant directing assignment with a faculty or guest artist in our public production season and a directing assignment in The Theatre School studio series.

## SECOND YEAR

The second year is a laboratory approach to the rehearsal and collaboration process—elevating your ability to merge the craft of directing and theatrical imagination. Students continue their collaborative investigation of the production process with design and technical students. They continue to learn the actor's process, moving into Shakespeare and heightened text. Production work will include directing a play in the Healy Theatre (our 100-seat flexible stage) and two full-length productions in our studio series.

## THIRD YEAR

The primary focus of the third year is the thesis project produced on the Fullerton Stage, our 250-seat thrust theatre. Students also begin their transition into the professional theatre community with an internship. Students can enhance their portfolio through elective coursework and will direct one more full-length production in The Theatre School studio series.

## YOUR FACULTY

As one of two directors admitted each year, you will be closely mentored by a dedicated and professionally-connected faculty. The directing faculty have strong roots in the Chicago theatre community and actively and regularly direct professional productions outside of The Theatre School.

## YOUR TRAINING

You are guaranteed to direct six on-stage production assignments and one film project during your three years in the program. The material we produce every year ranges across the theatrical spectrum—diverse work, classics, musicals, theatre for young audiences and new plays.

## YOUR CITY

Chicago has long been recognized as a world-class destination for diverse and groundbreaking live theatre. The city is home to hundreds of theatre companies, ranging from small storefront, non-union companies to major commercial theaters with multimillion dollar facilities and productions.

There is no better place to establish a career in the theatre. And we should know—over 90 years of training theatre artists has established The Theatre School as an essential part of the foundation of the city's thriving arts community.



**KEIRA FROMM**  
2008-2009 SEASON  
*THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES*



**SCOTT ILLINGWORTH**  
2007-2008 SEASON  
*CLOUD TECTONICS*



**MARC PINATE**  
2012-2013 SEASON  
*IN THE RED AND BROWN WATER*

# YOUR TRAINING IN ACTION

When you graduate from The Theatre School you join a vast and exciting network of working alumni. They live and work all over world and in all parts of the entertainment industry. In just the past year our alumni have racked up some pretty impressive numbers.

- 1 Academy Award
- 2 Emmy Awards
- 100+ television shows
- MORE THAN 50 commercials
- 400+ theatre productions worldwide
- 20+ Broadway shows or national tours
- MORE THAN 90 films
- 35+ artistic directors of theatre companies
- 100+ educators at colleges or universities

THE THEATRE SCHOOL FOUNDED IN 1925, IN HONOR OF

**Keira Fromm, MFA, Directing, '09** recently directed "Significant Other" with About Face Theatre/Theater Wit and "hang" for Remy Bumppo. She recently directed "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Gynecologic Oncology Unit at Sloan-Kettering Memorial Cancer Center of New York City" for Route 66 Theatre Company and "I Am My Own Wife" for About Face Theatre.

**Scott Illingworth, MFA, Directing, '08** is a member of the full-time movement and acting faculty in the MFA acting program at the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

**Marc Pinate, MFA, Directing, '13** is the Producing Director of Borderlands Theater in Tucson, AZ, where he recently directed "Building the Wall" by Robert Schenkkan for Borderlands.

# MAKE NO MISTAKE,

the MFA program at The Theatre School means a full-time commitment. It means many hours each day of classes and work. It means excitement, success, failure and fearless leaps into the unknown. **It means a serious dedication to a life in the arts.**

Our faculty expect the deepest commitment to the work, and return that commitment to your individual growth. Your fellow students will demand your partnership every day. More importantly, you will come to realize your full artistic potential.

## TUITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition is billed as a guaranteed package rate, meaning you pay one flat fee each year for all of your coursework and production work. Your tuition rate is locked in at the rate you pay in your first year of the program.

Additionally, every applicant admitted to The Theatre School's MFA program is awarded a scholarship.

For current tuition rates and additional program-specific scholarship information, visit [theatre.depaul.edu](http://theatre.depaul.edu).

## VISITING CAMPUS

Schedule a personalized campus visit or request complimentary tickets to attend one of our productions. Please visit [theatre.depaul.edu](http://theatre.depaul.edu) to schedule a visit of The Theatre School and view our current season.

## APPLYING

Program application requirements can be found at [theatre.depaul.edu](http://theatre.depaul.edu).

When you're ready to apply, visit [go.depaul.edu/apply](http://go.depaul.edu/apply) to start your application.

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