

## Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Ronald Elsenbaumer

Chancellor

**Carl Drummond** 

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management

From: Terri Swim

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs

Date: May 6, 2021

RE: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre

The Department of Theatre proposes a BFA Musical Theatre degree. The degree is intended to serve serious performance students (admitted by screening audition and subject to annual juries) that seek specialization in Acting, Musical Theatre, Dance and Music. These are students that hope to pursue a graduate degree or seek employment as professional stage performers. All areas of study already exist at the University, so the degree creation involved culling the appropriate theatre, dance and music courses into a scope and sequence as well as developing the BFA Project assignments and assessment criteria of annual juries designed specifically for Musical Theatre majors.

This is the most desired form of study for university theatre students nationally. The degree's specialization requires commitment that fosters purposeful, focused learning to an extent greater than the general BA tracks. Additionally, there are employment opportunities for performers that can act, dance and sing at summer stock, theme parks, national tours, cruise ships and regional theatre venues. As our graduates mature, it is possible for them to pursue other related fields, such as theatre management and arts administration.

Docusigned by:	5/7/2021
Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer, Ph.D.	Date
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Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs & Enrollment Mangagement,	Date
Carl Drummond, Ph.D.	