

## Interdisciplinary Certificate Program in Musical Theatre Performance

### I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Institution: University of Georgia. Date: 3/5/2019
2. School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
3. Department/Division: Department of Theatre and Film Studies
4. Certificate Title: Musical Theatre Performance
5. Level: Undergraduate
6. Proposed starting date: Fall 2019
7. Abstract of the program for the University Council's agenda:

For most of the past century, musical theatre has been one of the most popular, dynamic, and influential performance genres in the world, and the recent success of works such as *Hamilton* and *Dear Evan Hansen* demonstrate that the genre continues to evolve and resonate with contemporary audiences. Many students who come to UGA to study performance developed a passion for musical theatre in high school and yearn to pursue their training at the college level. Until now, however, they have not had an opportunity to do so in a rigorous and systematic way.

The challenge with musical theatre pedagogy is that the topic is inherently interdisciplinary, requiring advanced training in acting, vocal performance, and dance—three areas that are taught at UGA in different, geographically dispersed units: the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, and the Department of Dance. The Musical Theatre Performance Certificate will finally provide comprehensive training in musical theatre for UGA students by bringing together resources from these three units, thereby progressing the institution's commitment to both interdisciplinary academics and experiential learning. Students will take specialized courses in music theatre techniques, acting, voice, dance and the history and creation of music theatre. The capstone of each student's program will be a public showcase performance. This program will meet a pressing need for current students, and will provide a magnet to recruit many excellent students who have in the past not considered UGA because it does not provide comprehensive musical theatre training.

The Musical Theatre Certificate Program will be open only to students pursuing an undergraduate major (AB, BFA, or B.Mus) in Theatre, Music, or Dance, and is designed to supplement and build on the curricula of those majors. Certificate courses in the student's major department will also count toward the students' AB, BFA, or B.Mus degree, and consequently the Certificate program will require that a student take between 10 and 17 hours beyond the requirements of their major. All but three of the courses in the curriculum already exist and are regularly offered, and the three new classes have all been submitted to curriculum systems for approval.

We foresee this program being extremely popular and competitive. In its initial phase, we will accept 12-15 students into the program each academic year. Within five years, we project a total enrollment of at least 60 students, with the limit being determined not by student demand but resources.

There has been a strong demand for a Musical Theatre Program for many years. In November 2018, the Department of Theatre and Film Studies conducted a survey of Theatre students to assess interest in a Certificate in Musical Theatre Performance. A total of 160 students responded. Fifty-four students indicated that if the certificate program becomes available, they "definitely" will apply to it, and another 67 indicated that they "probably" will apply to it. Since many students are too far along in their studies for it to be practical to add a certificate, the survey also asked how likely the student would have been to apply for the program if it had been available when they first enrolled at UGA. Fully 96 students

responded that they would “definitely” have applied, and another 42 that they would “probably” have applied. Since we will be able to admit only 12-15 students into the program each year, it is evident that the demand far outstrips the available slots—even without factoring in demand for the program from students majoring in Music or Dance.

8. Letters of support from academic unit heads involved in developing the program initiative:  
*See attached.*

SIGNATURES:



Dr. David Saltz  
Department Head, Theatre and Film Studies

Dr. Alan Dorsey  
Dean, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

## II. RESPONSE TO THE CRITERIA FOR ALL PROGRAMS

### 1. Purpose and Educational Objectives

#### A. Objectives

For most of the past century, musical theatre has been one of the most popular, dynamic, and influential performance genres in the world, and the recent success of works such as *Hamilton* and *Dear Evan Hansen* demonstrate that the genre continues to evolve and resonate with contemporary audiences. Many students who come to UGA to study performance developed a passion for musical theatre in high school and yearn to pursue their training at the college level. Until now, however, they have not had an opportunity to do so in a rigorous and systematic way. The challenge with musical theatre pedagogy is that the topic is inherently interdisciplinary, requiring advanced training in acting, vocal performance, and dance—three areas that are taught at UGA in different, geographically dispersed units: the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, and the Department of Dance. The Musical Theatre Performance Certificate will finally provide comprehensive training in musical theatre for UGA students by bringing together resources from these three units, thereby progressing the institution’s commitment to both interdisciplinary academics and experiential learning. Students will take specialized courses in music theatre techniques, acting, voice, dance and the history and creation of music theatre. The capstone of each student’s program will be a public showcase performance. Students who pursue the certificate will have increased their knowledge of the role of the arts in society and developed skills to better their opportunities in the marketplace. The program will provide students with the fundamentals necessary to audition and perform musical theatre at the academic, amateur, and professional levels based on their proficiency and talent. This program will meet a pressing need for current students, and will provide a magnet to recruit many excellent students who have in the past not considered UGA because it does not provide comprehensive musical theatre training.

#### B. Interdisciplinary nature of the proposed program.

The Musical Theatre Performance Certificate Program integrally involves three units within the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences: The Department of Theatre and Film Studies, The Hugh Hodgson School of Music, and the Department of Dance. The Musical Theatre Certificate Program will be open only to students pursuing an undergraduate major (AB, BFA, or B.Mus) in Theatre, Music, or Dance, and is designed to supplement and build on the curricula of those majors. Depending on the student’s major, the

Certificate program will require that a student take between 10 and 17 credit hours in units outside of their major department.

We foresee this program being extremely popular and competitive. In its initial phase, we will accept 12-15 students into the program each academic year. Within five years, we project a total enrollment of at least 60 students, with the limit being determined not by student demand but resources.

## **2. Need for the program.**

### *A. Explain why this program is necessary.*

This certificate program has been a long time in the making. There has been a strong demand for a Musical Theatre Program for many years from students in both theatre and music. Neither unit currently offers a structured program that focuses on musical theatre performance. Many of UGA's peer and aspirational institutions offer an emphasis or dedicated study in Musical Theatre, including the University of Florida, the University of Kentucky, the University of Arizona, The University of Iowa, the Ohio State University, the University of Maryland, Penn State, the University of Michigan, UCLA, and University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign. We are aware of many students who have chosen not to attend UGA as first-year or transfer students because the university currently does not offer such programming. This certificate program would go a long way toward meeting a pressing need.

### *B. Additional information:*

*Semester/Year of Program Initiation:*

Fall 2019

*Semester/Year Full Implementation of Program:*

Fall 2019

*Semester/Year First Certificates will be awarded:*

Spring 2021

*Annual Number of Graduates expected (once established):*

12-15

*Projected Future Trends for number of students enrolled in the program once it has been established:*

In its initial phase, we will accept 12-15 students into the program each academic year. After four years, then, we project a total enrollment of 48-60 students, with the limit being determined not by student demand but resources.

## **3. Evidence of student demand**

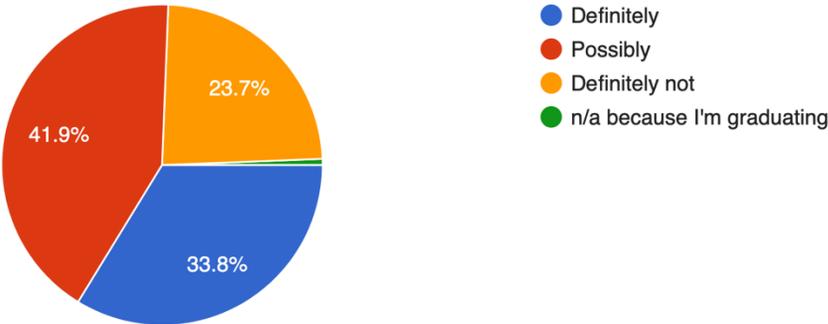
### *A. Documentation of the student interest in the program*

For many years, in senior exit interviews and surveys Theatre majors have expressed a strong and steadily increasing desire for curricular offerings in the area of Musical Theatre. In November 2018, the Department of Theatre and Film Studies conducted a survey of Theatre students to assess interest in a Certificate in Musical Theatre Performance. The response was overwhelming. A total of 160 students responded. Fifty-four students indicated that if the certificate program becomes available, they “definitely” will apply to it, and another 67 indicated that they will “probably” apply to it. Since many students are too far along in their studies for it to be practical to add a certificate, the survey also asked how likely the student would have been to apply for the program if it had been available when they first

enrolled at UGA. Fully 96 students responded that they would “definitely” have applied, and another 42 that they would “probably” have applied. Since we will be able to admit only 12-15 students into the program each year, it is evident that the demand far outstrips the available slots—even without factoring in demand for the program from students majoring in Music or Dance.

**How likely will you be to apply for this certificate program if it becomes available?**

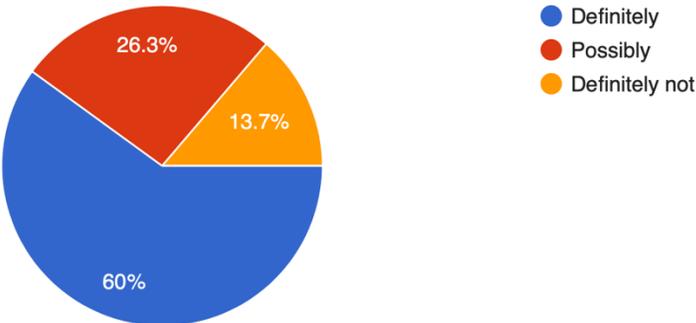
160 responses



Definitely:	54
Possibly:	67
Definitely Not:	38
n/a because graduating:	1

**If this certificate program were available when you first enrolled at UGA, how likely would you have been to apply for it?**

160 responses



Definitely:	96
Possibly:	42
Definitely Not:	22

Below is a sampling of comments students submitted with the survey:

- I would totally do it!
- Y'all better implement this program...!!!
- DO IT!!!!!!
- Musical theatre is a strong passion of mine, and I was very disappointed by the lack of availability at UGA. I had many universities in mind for studying theatre, and I chose UGA based on economic availability and proximity to my family (due to medical issues that are now stabilized), but I had hope that I would still have valuable experience here.
- This is really something that I believe a lot of people want to do. Please please PLEASE implement this into the program. I sort of wish that I could come back and complete this certificate.
- I know several people who are seniors in HS now that would love this & would have their college decisions impacted by this becoming available.
- Wish you did this sooner
- Sounds good! Too bad I'm already so close to graduating!
- About to graduate, but would've loved this & done this w/ more time!
- I think the musical theatre certificate is a great idea, especially having to take classes listed under different requirements. I feel a problem in the past is having the theatre & music departments be too segregated, so this could solve that problem.
- I am very passionate about musical theatre and really wish this course was offered. Theatre was a big reason coming to UGA and almost went to another school with this course. Glad I did not and now this is offered!
- A musical theatre certificate is a great idea!
- My original intent before I came to UGA was to major in musical theatre, so I think that adding this certificate would be a huge step in the right direction for the university. It would attract a lot of students and improve the theatre program even more.
- The musical theatre scene in Georgia is outstanding compared to other states and the fact that Musical Theatre students in high school seek to pursue studies elsewhere lies in the fact that in state schools don't offer MT certificates/degrees. This will bring more talent to UGA!
- I'm so glad UGA is finally going to have a way for students interested in a career in musical theatre to really take the classes needed to develop their skills.

*B. To what extent will minority student enrollments be greater than, less than, or equivalent to the proportion of minority students in the total student body?*

It is expected that minority student enrollments will be roughly equivalent to the proportion of the total student body. A priority of the program will be to ensure that the curriculum supports and encourages diversity.

#### **4. Design and curriculum**

##### *A. Curriculum outline*

The Musical Theatre Certificate Program will be open only to students pursuing an undergraduate major (AB, BFA, or B.Mus) in Theatre, Music, or Dance, and is designed to supplement and build on the curricula of those majors. Certificate courses in the student's major department will also count toward the students' AB, BFA, or B.Mus degree, and consequently the Certificate program will require that a student take between 10 and 17 hours beyond the requirements of their major.

#### **Courses in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies (10 hours)**

THEA 3500	Acting 1	3
THEA 5550	Performance Styles: Musical Theatre <i>[new class]</i>	3
THEA 4500/6500	The Broadway Musical and American Culture	3
THEA 5950	Musical Theatre Showcase <i>[new class]</i>	1

**Courses in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music (8-10 credit hours)**

*Either both of the following two courses:*

MUSI 2400	Voice 1 (group voice – dedicated section)	1
MUSI 3900	Applied Instruction for the Musical Theatre Certificate Program (2 semesters) <i>[new class]</i>	4

*or all of following three courses:*

MUSI 1810	Freshman Applied Instruction	2
MUSI 1820	Applied Music Instruction	2
MUSI 2810	Sophomore Applied Instruction	2

*Either the following course:*

MUSI 3550	Music Theory for Non-Majors	3
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*or both of the following two courses*

MUSI 1100	Music Theory I (for music majors only)	2
MUSI 1110	Aural Skills I (for music majors only)	2

**Courses in the Department of Dance (4 credit hours)**

*Any three hours from the following courses:*

DANC 1601	Tap Dance Foundations I	1
DANC 1603	Folk Dance Foundations	1
DANC 1604	Jazz Dance Foundations	1
DANC 1605	Contemporary Dance Foundations I	2
DANC 1606	Ballet Foundations I	2
<i>or</i>		
DANC 1616	Ballet Foundations II	2
DANC 1651	Contemporary Dance I	2
DANC 2300	Dance Improvisation	2
DANC 2642	Jazz Dance II	1
DANC 2652	Contemporary Dance II	2
DANC 2662	Ballet II	2

*B. Identify which aspects of the proposed curriculum already exist and which constitute new courses.*

All of the courses in the curriculum already exist and are regularly offered except for THEA 5550, Performance Style: Musical Theatre; THEA 5950, Musical Theatre Showcase; and MUSI 3900, Studio Voice Lessons (a class to focus specifically on vocal performance for musical theatre). MUSI 3900 has already completed the curriculum approval process, and THEA 5550 and THEA 5950 have been submitted to curriculum systems and are awaiting approval. THEA 5550 is based on a special topics course in musical theatre performance that the Department of Theatre and Film Studies has offered for the last two years under the number THEA 5580.

*C. Model programs*

This program is in line with similar programs at other universities. A successful model is the Musical Theatre Certificate at University of Kentucky, which similarly combines courses in Music, Theatre, and Dance to provide the breadth of coursework and performance experience required for musical theatre.

*D. If program accreditation is available, provide an analysis of the ability of the program to satisfy the curricular standards of such specialized accreditation.*

The University of Georgia's educational programs in Theatre are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), and those in Music by the National Association for Schools of Music (NASM). The two organizations collaborated to develop a set of guidelines for interdisciplinary programs in Musical Theatre, which are incorporated into both the *NAST Handbook 2018-19* (Appendix I.B.) and the *NASM Handbook 2018-19* (Appendix I.B.). These guidelines address only Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts programs, and establish no specific guidelines for certificate programs. It does indicate, however, that "Institutions offering areas of emphasis in musical theatre under the music or theatre major of a liberal arts or professional degree should use these standards as guidelines in developing the specifics of the program" (*NAST/NASM Handbook 2018-19*, Appendix I.B. Section 3.C). The proposed Certificate Program in Musical Theatre Performance is designed to provide the core competencies that NAST/NASM sets forth for B.A. programs in Musical Theatre, providing students with significant training in "voice production and technique," "vocal interpretation and role preparation skills," "musicianship," and "theatre skills" (*NAST/NASM Handbook 2018-19*, Appendix I.B., section 1.A). In addition, the program will easily meet the guidelines for faculty, facilities, equipment, and library by providing "specialized faculty appropriate to the scope and level of the program," as well as "musical theatre production facilities available and accessible for full productions" and "library resources for the study of roles through scores, recording, and analytical texts" (*NAST/NASM Handbook 2018-19*, Appendix I.B., section 2.C). Finally, the NAST/NASM guidelines stipulate that there should be "coordination among Music, Theatre, and Movement Components"; such coordination is integral to the interdisciplinary nature of this certificate program.

## **5. Faculty resources to support an effective program.**

*A. The size, experience, and specializations of full-time faculty needed to support an effective program.*

This program draws on the experience and specializations of full-time faculty in three departments. As mentioned previously, most of these courses are already currently being taught by faculty at UGA. However, given the intensive, one-on-one nature of vocal instruction in Music, it will be necessary to hire a full-time instructor in musical theatre vocal performance to support Musical Theatre Certificate students. Franklin College has approved the hire of a full-time lecturer to satisfy this need, and a search is currently underway for this position for an appointment starting in Fall 2019.

*B. Faculty members directly involved in this program*

### **THEATRE FACULTY**

George Contini, Josiah Meigs Professor, Master of Fine Arts (University of Miami). Specialty: Acting, Musical Theatre Performance. In the past five years, Professor Contini directed six professional productions, including *The Little Mermaid*, *Camelot*, *South Pacific*, *Don't Dress for Dinner* (all at the Aurora Theatre), *The One-Minute Play Festival* (Actor's Express), and *Assistance* (Pinch n' Ouch), and performed professionally in *The Explorers Club* (Aurora). He also directed six productions at UGA, including *Detroit*, *Always (K)new*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Sweeney Todd*, *A Lesson Before Dying*, and *Pride and Prejudice*. He will serve as program director for the certificate program and primary instructor of the required courses THEA 5550 (Musical Theatre Performance Styles) and THEA 5950 (Musical Theatre Showcase). The necessary adjustments in his teaching assignments can be made by redistributing

teaching responsibilities among the other three performance faculty members and teaching assistants in the MFA acting program.

Marla Carlson, Associate Professor, PhD (CUNY Graduate School). Specialty: Theatre History and Performance Theory. Dr. Carlson developed and teaches the course THEA 4500, The Broadway Musical and American Culture, which she will continue to teach regularly as a required course for the Certificate program. Since this popular course is already part of the Theatre curriculum, no changes to her assignment will be required.

Kristin Kundert, Associate Professor, MFA (The Ohio State University). Specialty: Acting, Voice and Dialect. In the past five years, Professor Kundert has worked professionally as a dialect coach for Lionsgate Productions and NBC-Bonanza-Magnolia productions and as a voiceover artist for film, and performed professionally at the Atlanta Lyric Theatre in *My Fair Lady*. During this same period, she directed six productions for UGA Theatre and served as vocal/dialect coach for three others. She is one of the regular instructors of THEA 3500, a required course in the Certificate program.

T. Anthony Marotta, Associate Professor, MFA (University of Tennessee). Specialties: Movement for the Actor, Physical Theatre, Puppetry and Masks. In the past five years, Professor Marotta has performed four original solo works at the Center for Puppetry Arts, in addition to performing at the Montreal Fringe Festival, the Boulder Fringe Festival, the Portland Fringe Festival, the Avignon OFF Festival, the Chicago Fringe Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. During this period he has also directed five productions for UGA Theatre and served as fight director or consultant for 12 others. He is one of the regular instructors of THEA 3500, a required course in the Certificate program.

Ray Paolino, Associate Professor, MFA (Indiana University). Specialty: Directing, Acting. In the past five years, Professor Paolino performed in *Mafia on Prozac* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and directed the US premiere of *Pesach* at 7 Stages Theatre, as well as directing four UGA Theatre productions and performing in another. He is one of the regular instructors of THEA 3500, a required course in the Certificate program.

## MUSIC FACULTY

Frederick Burchinal, Wyatt and Margaret Anderson Professor in the Arts, Director of Opera, Master of Music (The Juilliard School), 22-year career with the Metropolitan Opera. Specialty: Vocal Performance. In the past five years, Professor Burchinal has produced and prepared ten operas for UGA, including *Don Giovanni*, *Magic Flute*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Don Pasquale*, *L'elisir d'amore*, etc. He will teach MUSI 1810, 1820, and 2810 to Music majors with a voice emphasis. No adjustment to current assignment will be required.

Gregory Broughton, Associate Professor, Doctor of Musical Arts (University of Michigan). Specialty: Vocal Performance. Dr. Broughton is conductor of UGA African-American Choral Ensemble, and frequently appears as a soloist in regional performances. He will teach MUSI 1810, 1820, and 2810 to Music majors in the certificate program. No adjustment to his current assignment will be required.

Elizabeth Knight, Lecturer, Doctor of Musical Arts (University of North Texas). Specialty Vocal Performance. Appearances with Kinnara Ensemble, two CDs released, recitals and performances at UGA, Duke, Carmel Bach Festival, Winston-Salem Symphony. She will teach MUSI 1810, 1820, and 2810 to Music majors with a voice emphasis. No adjustment to her current assignment will be required.

Stephanie Tingler, Associate Professor, Doctor of Musical Arts (The Ohio State University). Specialty: Vocal Performance. In the past five years, Dr. Tingler performed at UGA, Auburn, UNC Chapel Hill, and

appeared in *The Fantastics*. She will teach MUSI 1810, 1820, and 2810 to Music majors with a voice emphasis. No adjustment to current assignment will be required.

## DANCE FACULTY

Lisa Fusillo, Professor, Ph.D.(Texas Woman's University). Specialty: Ballet, Dance History, Dance in Musical Theatre. Dr. Fusillo has over twenty years of experience in choreography for musicals in professional regional theatre and university theatre, and is a scholar of American Musical Theatre (with publications including *The Cambridge Guide to American Theatre*). In the past five years, she has choreographed 11 productions for the UGA Theatre and the UGA Opera Ensemble (in addition to choreographing numerous dance pieces in the Department of Dance), and given 26 scholarly presentations throughout the world, including in London, Florence, Italy, Athens (Greece), Ireland, Copenhagen, Vancouver, Dresden, Paris, Angers, Prague, St. Petersburg, Russia, Mexico, Budapest, Oxford (England). She will serve as the dance advisor for musical theatre certification students, and will also teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying ballet. No adjustment is required in her current assignments.

Joan Bultram, Associate Professor, MFA (Texas Christian University). Specialty: Ballet. As the director and founder of the UGA Ballet Ensemble, Buttram reconstructs classical ballets, creates contemporary ballets and produces concert opportunities for the Ensemble. She performed as a soloist and principal dancer with Dayton Ballet Company, Ballet Metropolitan, Lexington Ballet Company, the Bristol Ballet Company, and Ballet Concerto Ballet. She will teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying ballet.

Elizabeth Osborn-Kibbe, Lecturer, MFA (College at Brockport SUNY). Specialty: Postmodern Dance and Dance History She has toured extensively throughout North America as both a performer and IATSE union stagehand with Vee Corporation, producers of Sesame Street Live, and has performed with Mariah Maloney Dance and Park Avenue Dance Company. She will teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying tap or contemporary dance.

Rustin Van Katwyk, Lecturer, MFA (Hollins University). Specialty: Tap and Folk Dance. Mr. Van Katwyk has collaborated with international companies such as the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble and the Slovak State Traditional Dance Company. He will teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying tap or folk dance.

Barbara Powers, Lecturer, MFA (University of Washington). Specialty: Wellness for Dancers. She has performed with the Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company and the Alwin Nikolais Dance Theatre, where she toured Italy, France, and the continental U.S. She has also toured Mexico with Li-Chaio Ping Dance, performed with The Radio City Christmas Spectacular as a Rockette; with The Catey Ott Dance Collective; and, at Jacob's Pillow, The Joyce Soho and Skidmore College with Skybetter and Associates. She will teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying jazz or ballet.

Rebecca Gose, Associate Professor, MFA (University of Washington). Specialties: Contemporary dance, Dance Education. One of her more recent projects in partnership with researcher Amit Abraham, involves investigating the effects of dance imagery (the Franklin Method) on dance performance. She will teach students in the certificate program who elect to fulfil their dance requirement by studying contemporary dance.

C. *Where it is deemed necessary to add faculty in order to fully develop the program give the desired qualifications of the persons to be added:*

Franklin College has approved a new hire, Lecturer in Music Theatre Vocal Instruction, to meet the needs of students in the Musical Theatre Certificate program. This faculty member must have the following qualifications:

- A Doctor of Musical Arts in vocal performance (or the equivalent)
- Extensive experience with musical theatre—as performer, director, vocal coach, and similar areas
- Teaching experience and demonstrated success of students
- Willingness to work closely with a team of faculty within the music theatre certificate program.

**6. Library, computer, and other instructional resources must be sufficient to adequately support the program.**

*A. Available library resources for this program.*

The UGA Library has a large collection of musical theatre scores that are fully adequate to support this program. The library would be encouraged to continue acquiring musical theatre texts and scores to further support the program.

*B. Computer equipment, instructional equipment, laboratory equipment, research support resources, etc. available to support this program.*

Currently, there is sufficient computer and instructional equipment available to support the program. Although there are practice rooms available in the School of Music, the Department of Theatre and Film Studies does not have a designated room with a piano for class work. Portable keyboards are available for use in multiple classes.

**7. Physical facilities necessary to fully implement the program**

Each of the departments involved in the program have the necessary classroom, lab, and office space needed to support it. As it currently does, the Department of Dance would be utilizing its dance studios, the School of Music its classrooms and studios, and the Department of Theatre and Film Studies its rehearsal halls, studios, and classrooms.

**8. The expense to the institution required to fully implement the program.**

*C. Funding required to initiate the program and subsequent annual additions required to fully implement the program.*

As noted above, providing effective vocal instruction to students in the Musical Theatre Performance Certificate Program will require an additional instructor dedicated to that purpose in the School of Music. Franklin College has authorized a Limited Term Lecturer for Musical Theatre Vocal Instruction at a salary of \$56,000. No additional resources are required or requested for the implementation of this certificate program. As enrollments increase, additional revenue derived from increased credit hour production can be used to support the expansion of the program to meet growing enrollments.

*D. Student support (fellowships, assistantships, scholarships, etc.) available for this program.*

All three units participating in this certificate program — the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, the School of Music, and the Department of Dance — have scholarships available for incoming first-year undergraduate students. These provide financial assistance for a student's entire four years.

Teaching assistantships in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies would provide the possibility for graduate students with a strong background in musical theatre to teach the Musical Theatre Performance Styles course.

**9. Commitments of financial support needed to initiate and fully develop the program.**

*A. Sources of additional funds needed to support the program.*

As indicated above, Franklin College has allocated \$56,000 annually for a Lecturer position in Musical Theatre Voice Performance. No other additional funding is required or requested.

*B. Long-range plans for additional or expanded facilities necessary to support an effective program.*

No additional financial support is required or requested. Projected increases in credit hour production, however, will likely result in significant new revenue for the university.

**10. Provisions for appropriate administration of the program within the institution and for the admission to and retention of students in the program in keeping with accepted practice.**

The program will be administered through the Department of Theatre and Film Studies in close collaboration with the Hugh Hodgson School of Music and the Department of Dance. Professor George Contini, a specialist in Musical Theatre Performance in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, will serve as the initial program director. The program director will be responsible for logistics, scheduling, communication between areas, and curriculum development. On matters of policy, planning, and resource requirements, the director will consult with a Steering Committee comprised of the Head of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies (or a designate), the Head of the Department of Dance (or a designate), the Director of the School of Music (or a designate), along with additional senior faculty in the three units with relevant expertise.

Students will audition for the program for a panel comprised of one representative from each area of Dance, Music, and Theatre. The audition will consist of one short monologue, and two contrasting 32 bar songs from the Broadway Musical repertoire. They will also prepare a statement of purpose and submit headshot and resume. Once accepted into the program a student will work with their academic advisor to make certain they are meeting all requirements. We anticipate that demand for the program will be very high and the number of slots will be severely limited, and to ensure that the program can accommodate the most dedicated and qualified students, students who fail to maintain a grade point average of at least 3.0 for two consecutive semesters will be removed from the Certificate program.



UNIVERSITY OF  
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## Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

*Department of Theatre and Film Studies*

February 2, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Theatre and Film Studies strongly supports the creation of an undergraduate certificate program in Musical Theatre Performance. For many years, our students have been clamoring for more opportunities to study musical theatre.

The courses covering aspects of musical theatre performance and history we have offered in our department are consistently in high demand. Given the inherently interdisciplinary nature of musical theatre, however, the Department of Theatre and Film Studies cannot provide comprehensive musical theatre training by itself. Rigorous, systematic training in musical theatre requires a close collaboration between experts in Theatre, Music, and Dance.

The proposed Musical Theatre Certificate program offers an effective way to draw on the university's considerable resources in all the component areas that make up musical theatre to fill a yawning gap in our curriculum. Our students are already tremendously excited at the prospect of this program, and we foresee the program as having a significant impact on our ability to recruit the best undergraduate theatre students moving forward.

The Department of Theatre and Film Studies looks forward to working closely with the Hugh Hodgson School of Music and the Department of Dance to make this Certificate Program in Musical Theatre Performance a success.

Sincerely,

David Z. Saltz, Ph.D  
*Head, Department of Theatre and Film Studies*



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Franklin College of Arts & Sciences  
*Hugh Hodgson School of Music*

29 January 2019

Certificate Approval Committees  
University of Georgia

Re.: Proposal for a UGA Certificate in Musical Theatre

Dear Administrators and Members of the Committee:

For several years, members of the faculties of the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, and the Department of Dance have met to discuss the possibility of opening a program in musical theatre. Student interest in this area is extraordinary, the faculty is supportive, and we have the facilities and resources to now move forward with such a plan in a meaningful way. Each of the academic units involved is deeply supportive of this direction.

A curriculum in musical theatre is a complex endeavor, at every school that includes it. Musical theatre demands thorough and careful collaboration and planning by the departments involved. Though our proposal does not yet take the form of an undergraduate degree program, the graduates holding this certificate must nevertheless be proficient singers and demonstrate musicianship, possess theatre and acting skills, understand basic production elements, have some formal training in dance, possess a sense of repertoire, and be engaged in actual stage productions. We are excited and enthused by the possibilities this program will bring to our departments and school; it will enrich our offerings in a meaningful way and will attract talented students to the university.

This certificate program has the strong and enthusiastic support of the faculty and administration of the Hugh Hodgson School of Music. We look forward to contributing in whatever ways we are able to its success.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Monson  
Professor and Director  
Hugh Hodgson School of Music



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**Franklin College of Arts and Sciences**  
*Department of Dance*

The Department of Dance fully supports the "Musical Theatre Certificate" Program in conjunction with the department of Theatre, Dance, and Music. We will actively participate in this new program through class support and any other endeavors deemed necessary for student success.

Sincerely,

Skip Taylor, Ph.D

Department Head, Department of Dance

Associate Professor of Music