



Dear Theatre Scholarship Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the theatre program at Aurora University. We look forward to meeting you and answering your questions regarding the program and scholarships. To learn more about the program, please visit [aurora.edu/theatre](http://aurora.edu/theatre) or contact us directly using the information at the end of this letter.

Along with this letter you will find some basic information:

- » Commitment requirements of a scholarship recipient
- » Descriptions of suggested first-year courses at AU
- » Audition/Interview information
- » Audition/Interview application

Award amounts depend on the strength of your application both in interest and ability demonstrated in preparation and execution of your interview/audition, written statement and recommendation. Please review the material within this packet, and feel free to contact us with questions that can assist you in making your decision.

Be sure to schedule an audition online at [aurora.edu/theatrescholarship](http://aurora.edu/theatrescholarship). If you have questions, please contact Stacy Parker Joyce in the Theatre Department at **630-844-7594** or email [theatre@aurora.edu](mailto:theatre@aurora.edu).

We look forward to meeting you soon. “Break a leg” throughout the rest of your current studies and as you look forward to an Aurora University education.

Sincerely,

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Associate Professor of Theatre  
Acting/Directing  
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John Curran  
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## Scholarship Commitment

- » Conscientiously participate in at least **TWO** departmental main stage productions within the academic year.
  - » If the scholarship recipient is a performer, s/he must audition for all productions of the theatre department and must accept any role offered. Please note that, while auditioning is required of scholarship recipients, these students are in no way guaranteed a role in any production. All students are considered on an equal basis at auditions.
  - » If the scholarship recipient works as staff or backstage personnel, OR if a performer does not win a role in a production, s/he must work on the production in another capacity, usually in the technical areas, but possibly as stage manager or publicity assistant, depending on the director's and technical director's needs. Students will be asked their preference for these assignments, but if assigned differently, must abide by the faculty's decision.
- » The student must complete, with a grade of B or higher, two theatre courses during the academic year, usually one per semester. Courses suggested for first-year students are Introduction to Theatre, Acting I, Stagecraft I, and Introduction to Musical Theatre Performance. Please see the course descriptions below for further information.
- » Overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained to be considered for continuing scholarship.
- » The student will meet with the theatre faculty each spring to review academic progress and scholarship status.

***Please note:*** It is the student's responsibility to follow through on scholarship commitments. Theatre faculty and advisors will be notified of the student's scholarship commitments and will monitor their progress; however, faculty will not provide continual reminders. The student will be notified once if s/he is in danger of not meeting expectations, with enough time to correct behavior. A student who does not meet his or her commitments while on scholarship will not be awarded a scholarship for the subsequent semester. Failing to meet commitments also endangers the likelihood of receiving scholarship funding in any future years. Repeated lateness or skipping classes, not showing up to rehearsal, not meeting deadlines or turning in assignments will necessitate loss of scholarship.

## **Recommended Courses for First-Year Students**

### **THE1200 Introduction to Theatre** *4 semester hours*

This course is designed to introduce the student to a brief history of theatre and the functions of the playwright, actor, director, producer, critic and designers. The course will help develop an appreciation and understanding of the theatrical experience.

### **THE1300 Introduction to Acting** *4 semester hours*

This course is an introduction to the study and fundamentals of acting. Through exercises in movement, voice, imagination, and game playing, the student actor will develop control over body and movement, learn techniques to reduce performance anxiety and stage fright, sharpen focus and concentration, heighten imagination, and develop skills needed to define and support the life of a character.

### **THE1500 Stagecraft I** *4 semester hours*

This course is an introduction to the terminology and techniques used in technical theatre. The course examines two-dimensional and three-dimensional scenery, the physical theater, stage and scene shop equipment, project organization and process, technical theater graphics, materials, and theatrical construction techniques. Students in this course will be actively involved in AU Theatre Department productions and students will be required to schedule scene shop time outside of class.

### **THE2400 Introduction to Musical Theatre Performance** *4 semester hours*

This course is an introduction to musical theatre scene study, in which acting, singing, and movement skills are blended in the performance of songs and scenes. The course will require students to research musical theatre productions and characters, train in vocal technique and work with a collaborative pianist.

## Theatre Scholarship Audition/Interview

### Audition/Interview Guidelines:

- » **Schedule an audition/interview** online at [aurora.edu/theatrescholarship](http://aurora.edu/theatrescholarship).
  - » If you are a **performer**, you will need to prepare a short piece (one to two minutes) of your choosing; please no improvisations “on the spot.” After your prepared presentation, there will be an informal interview with faculty members.
  - » If your main interest is **technical/production**, we would like you to bring a portfolio of work you have done. Examples of portfolio work include sketches, photographs of work, prompt books, etc. If you do not have a portfolio, we encourage you to bring what you do have available and we will discuss your experiences as part of the interview process. After your prepared presentation, there will be an informal interview with faculty members.
- » **Please bring the following application with you the day of your audition.**
- » **Audition/Interview Information:**
  - » Auditions/interviews last approximately 15 minutes.
  - » Award amounts range from \$500 to \$3,000.
  - » Open to students regardless of major or minor.
  - » Please dress professionally for your audition.
  - » Upon completion of your application and audition/interview, your Admission Counselor will contact you regarding the scholarship.
  - » Scholarship will be awarded pending acceptance to Aurora University.
  - » Auditions/Interviews take place in Stephens Hall, Room 112—Theatre Studio/Black Box Theatre (349 S. Gladstone Ave.) starting at 12:30 p.m. and until 2 p.m.
- » **Auditions/Interviews dates:**
  - » Saturday, November 10, 2018
  - » Saturday January 26, 2019
  - » Saturday, April 13, 2019

**Please make all effort to audition during these days.** However, we understand that with performers and athletes, schedules can be difficult. Individually scheduled auditions are available.

- » Individual auditions can be arranged with advanced notice of three weeks. Contact Stacy Parker Joyce at [theatre@aurora.edu](mailto:theatre@aurora.edu) or 630-844-7954 to schedule your audition.
- » Confirmation of your requested audition date and time will be emailed to you.
- » Upon completion of your application and audition/interview, your Admission Counselor will contact you regarding the scholarship. Please note, that **you must be admitted to Aurora University before your scholarship is revealed to you.**



## Application for Theatre Department Scholarship Consideration

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_  
High School City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any interest in MAJORING in Theatre? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No \_\_\_Undecided  
(You do not need to be a major to receive scholarship funds)

Area(s) of Interest (Check all that apply)

\_\_\_Acting \_\_\_Set/Costume/Lighting/Sound Design \_\_\_Musical Theatre  
\_\_\_Backstage Crew/Tech \_\_\_Directing \_\_\_Playwriting \_\_\_Stage Management

**1A. Please provide a brief resume below (or on a separate page) of your previous theatrical experience:**

<u>PLAY</u>	<u>ACTING ROLE or PRODUCTION ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>VENUE (OR SCHOOL)</u>
Ex: <i>Our Town</i>	Emily Webb	Springtown High School
Ex: <i>Bye Bye Birdie</i>	Costume Crew	Smithville Park District

**1B. Please list any theatre classes you have taken and the name of your instructor:**



- 2. Please write 1-2 paragraphs below explaining why you want to participate in university theatre and how it pertains to your future plans.**



**3. Please provide two references below that we can contact if necessary:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship to Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship to Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that upon completion of my application and audition/interview, an Admission Counselor will contact me regarding the scholarship. I understand I must be admitted to Aurora University in order to learn the results of my scholarship application.

I understand that in order to maintain any scholarship received I need to conscientiously participate in at least two departmental main stage productions within the academic year.

I understand that if I audition for the Aurora University mainstage productions, I must accept any role offered.

I understand that while auditioning is required of performance scholarship recipients, I am not guaranteed a role in any production. I understand that if I am not cast, I am required to accept another assignment backstage or in the front of the house.

I understand that technical/production scholarship recipients are required to apply for technical assignments for two mainstage productions each year. I understand I must accept my position as assigned.

I understand that theatre scholarship students must complete, with a grade of B or higher, two theatre courses during the academic year in order to be considered for continuing scholarship.

I understand an overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained to be considered for continuing scholarship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

**PLEASE BRING THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR AUDITION**

**If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Parker Joyce, Associate Professor of Theatre at [sjoyce@aurora.edu](mailto:sjoyce@aurora.edu)**