

One-Year Conservatory *in* MUSICAL THEATRE



Students in the 1-year Musical Theatre Program performing in Spring Awakening, a New York Film Academy Main Stage production, one of the many performance opportunities for Musical Theatre students.



LOCATION

NEW YORK CITY

Location is subject to change.

For start dates and tuition, please visit nyfa.edu

OVERVIEW

The New York Film Academy's One-Year Musical Theatre Program offers aspiring musical theatre actors a one-of-a-kind opportunity to develop their skills as triple threat performers by studying with a professional faculty from Broadway, movies, and the most respected theatrical venues in the world.

Attracting musical theatre actors from around the world, the New York Film Academy's musical theatre program gives students the opportunity to study their craft in the central hub for launching musical theatre careers—New York City. Students learn and hone their skills in acting, singing, and dancing in world-class facilities that include voice and practice rooms, state-of-the-art dancing studios, and professionally equipped recording and shooting studios.

Split over two semesters, the program is designed to accommodate students with singing and movement abilities on the beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. The first semester lays the foundation for the advanced and more challenging work in the second semester.

Musical theatre actors must be able to effectively interpret scripts and songs while also being well versed in a variety of dance styles. Additionally, they must be able to present themselves professionally in auditions. The challenging curriculum allows students to explore the integral skills required for success in this field, to understand professional ethics, and to prepare themselves for the rigorous physical and emotional demands of a musical theatre career.

Please Note: curriculum and projects are subject to change and may vary depending on location. Students should consult the most recently published campus catalog for the most up to date course information.

“ There's a kid in the middle of nowhere who's sitting there living for Tony performances, singing and flipping along with the Pippins, and Wicked, and Kinkys, Matildas, and Mormon's. So we might reassure that kid, and do something to spur that kid, 'cause I promise you, all of us up here tonight, we were that kid. ”

- Neil Patrick Harris hosting the Tony Awards.

Students enrolling in the musical theatre program work directly with instructors who have starred in numerous Broadway and touring productions, top-rate regional theatre, opera, hit movie musicals, and television shows, and receive real world training on how to achieve success in the industry. It's an educational experience few other musical theatre programs can offer.

New York Film Academy's One-Year Musical Theatre Program is offered exclusively at our New York City Campus.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Students that commit themselves fully to the training and the many performance opportunities and successfully complete the One-Year Musical Theatre Program will have made measurable progress in the following key areas:

- Acting Technique
- Ballet
- Jazz & Theatre Dance
- Song Interpretation
- Scene Study
- Stage & Film Combat
- The Business of Acting
- Musical Theatre Audition Technique
- Pop Rock
- Comedy
- Improvisation
- Text Analysis
- Tap Dance

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MEISNER I

Sanford Meisner's teachings had a seminal impact on the acting craft. Students deeply immerse themselves in the Meisner Technique, which enables them to discover their voice of intuition and to inhabit a role spontaneously, from moment to moment, as well as to build a character arc that is both specific and inspired by the actor's own responses.

PERFORMANCE LAB I

This lab is designed to develop the performance skills and the point-of-view choices that allow for maximum self-expression within the credible range of casting. The focus is to take the interpretation of a song into the spectrum of performance styles.

VOICE AND SPEECH

This class is designed to guide each student to speak with authority, nuance, emotional accuracy, and expression appropriate to the world of the play. Through rigorous voice and speech exercises, students will learn techniques to maximize strength and clarity.

BALLET I

Students will receive beginning level ballet training with concentration on correct form, strength, style, and the establishment of the fundamentals upon which most other dance forms are based.

JAZZ & THEATRE DANCE I

This course offers beginning level jazz dance training, aimed at guiding the dancer/performer to enact exciting and expressive dance combinations for stage and screen.

VOICE STUDIO LAB

Students work on healthy singing technique and learn the physiology of the voice. Fundamental practice includes breath support, diaphragmatic control, natural articulation, and relaxation of the neck, face, and jaw with proper use and alignment of the body. Students receive one half-hour private voice lesson per week.

HISTORY OF MUSICAL THEATRE

It took many years for American musical theatre to acquire its own identity with the greatest revolution in the American musical theatre starting with *Showboat* and progressing through present day musicals such as *Wicked*. Students will learn about the evolution of the musical play and musical comedy as an institution, artistically and commercially.





SONG INTERPRETATION

Students apply the concepts being studied in all acting and vocal production classes to songs with an emphasis on text. It is designed to provide exposure to the script, score and character analysis necessary for successful song interpretation by the actor in musical theatre. Genres studies presented include Operetta, Musical Comedy, Golden Age Musical Drama, Contemporary Pop Opera, Contemporary Musical Theatre, Rock Musicals, and Pop/Rock.

SHOWCASE PRACTICUM I

This lab is designed to workshop small-scale musical scenes, building a repertory of appropriate and effective songs to perform at the end of the semester.

MUSIC THEORY

This course provides an introduction to music fundamentals including note values, identification of cadences and basic phrase structures, scales, intervals, harmony, key, chords, and reading proficiency.

POP ROCK

Students in this class will work on contemporary Pop Rock musical songs. Each student will discover the placement and performance of the pop sound while learning healthy methods to sustain high impact vocals in this growing musical theatre genre.

COMEDY

In this class, students will learn the fundamentals of comic timing, comic interpretation, and making comic choices with a variety of musical genres.

PERFORMANCE LAB II

This lab is designed to develop the performance skills and the point of view choices that allow for maximum self-expression within the credible range of casting. The focus is to take the interpretation of a song through a varied spectrum of advanced approaches.

SCENE STUDY

Working on scenes from published musical scripts, plays, and screenplays, this class allows actors to learn all of the basic concepts of approaching a scene: defining objectives; breaking the scene down into beats; understanding the arc; pursuing your objective; playing actions; and working to overcome obstacles. Once the foundation is in place, longer dramatic or comedic scenes are explored.

IMPROVISATION I

Designed to liberate impulses, maximize creative expression, and sustain playfulness and spontaneity in the performer's work, students will engage in games and situations that build confidence, courage, and a greater capacity to listen and respond with ease.

STAGE AND FILM COMBAT

Students will learn the basics of enacting safe and effective fights for stage and film. These include learning how to deliver and respond to slaps, kicks, punches, chokes, and a variety of grappling techniques, all learned within the context of stage craft and film technique.

VOICE AND SPEECH II

This class is designed to liberate the natural speaking voice and thereby maximize resonance, breath control, and creative expression. Students will learn techniques in a systematic way, helping them to clarify their articulation and to master the essentials of speaking and interpreting standard American English.

AUDITION TECHNIQUE

This course focuses on the study of musical and nonmusical based audition techniques aimed at mastering monologues, cold readings, prepared "sides," and the overall presentation of both the audition itself and all the peripheral elements that contribute to a successful audition.

PRODUCTION DESIGN AND CRAFT

This class covers the study of film and theatre production crafts with special emphasis on three distinct units: makeup, costumes, and sets. Other components such as lighting and sound will also be discussed.

MEISNER II

Building on the work in Meisner I, this class takes the student deeper into the process of personal stakes, loading the given circumstances, and applying the in-class exercises to the situations and demands of contemporary musicals and film.

SHOWCASE PRACTICUM II

Similar to the previous practicum class, this lab is designed to workshop small-scale musical scenes while building a repertory of appropriate and effective songs to perform at the end of the semester.

MUSICAL THEATRE SCENE STUDY

Work in this class begins with the textual analysis and study of a classic scene from a modern American play or musical. Students will experience a variety of approaches to the interpretation and enactment of the scene before moving on to study, rehearse, and perform scenes selected from the musical theatre canon.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

The class will concentrate on the most up-to-date business practices and provide practical guidance and effective preparation for entry into the profession of musical theater performance.

BALLET II

Students will work on an intermediate level of ballet training with a concentration on correct form, strength, style, and the application of fundamentals with more advanced choreographic demands.

JAZZ & THEATRE DANCE II

This course offers intermediate level jazz dance training aimed at guiding the dancer/performer to enact exciting and expressive dance combinations for stage and screen.

TAP I

Students receive beginning level tap dance training focused on the fundamental techniques and rhythms and time steps upon which all future tap dance is built.

BALLROOM

One of the most valuable dance forms for all performers, ballroom dance reinforces partnering, focus, spatial awareness, relationship communication, and it is featured in numerous musical and non-musical productions. Students will learn fundamental dance steps drawn from such styles as waltz, fox trot, swing, salsa, quick-step, tango, and others.