



*New York Film Academy student performing a solo in Chess, another recent Film Academy Main Stage production.*

A photograph of a stage performance. In the foreground, two people are seated at a piano, illuminated by red light. In the background, a person in a dark, short-sleeved dress and black tights is walking across the stage, illuminated by blue light. The background features a large, abstract, white geometric pattern on a dark wall.

# Two-Year Conservatory *in* MUSICAL THEATRE AND FILM

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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY**

*Location is subject to change.*

*For start dates and tuition, please visit [nyfa.edu](http://nyfa.edu)*

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## OVERVIEW

A musical theatre program like no other, the New York Film Academy's Two-Year Musical Theatre Program blends our Musical Theatre and Filmmaking curriculum so that students who have an interest in both fields are able to explore each in depth with a focus on movie musicals.

The New York Film Academy's renowned filmmaking courses introduce students to the essentials of film theory and practices. Through the Academy's philosophy of learning by doing, students receive hands-on experience in all aspects of performing on film, preparing them to enter into the field of musical movie making.

By undergoing a thorough course of study over the course of four semesters, students learn to discover their authentic selves while developing their instrument to complete the kind of technical, emotional, and physical work that film acting requires. The program ends with students performing in a short musical film production and/or live stage presentation under the guidance of our expert faculty.

Filmmaking demands the integration of many kinds of knowledge. It is that integration of knowledge that distinguishes the New York Film Academy from many other musical theatre programs.

The program is designed for individuals who have completed the first year of the Musical Theatre Conservatory Program. Applicants interested in joining the second year of training may apply if they have equivalent musical theatre experience and have a demonstrated passion for and interest in acting for the screen.

Students participate in a broad array of core classes that introduce them to finding the actor within, while simultaneously training their instrument to do the kind of technical, emotional, and physical work necessary for film acting.

During the second semester, all students perform in a short musical film production and/or live stage presentation in collaboration with Broadway-level instructors that culminates in a showcase of their work for family, friends, classmates, and industry contacts.

The faculty at the musical theatre school at the New York Film Academy is comprised of accomplished musical theatre performers, directors, and actors who have appeared on Broadway, touring productions, and television. All instructors possess a set of skills specific to certain disciplines that together enable them to help students develop their full range of talents.

In addition to immersing students in the essentials of musical theatre, our faculty also focuses on preparing students for life after the Academy. Students graduating from the musical theatre program will be prepared to embark on a career as an Actor, Singer, Musician, Dancer, Choreographer, Director, Songwriter, Playwright, Fine Arts Teacher, and much more.

Along with this unparalleled training, the Academy offers the chance to be seen by other professionals in the business (agents, casting directors, choreographers, composers, directors, producers) in the number one musical theatre market in the world: New York City.

There are two mainstage productions each year, along with both a Summer and Winter New Reading Series, and multiple master classes each semester. Students who join the Film Academy for the Two-Year Musical Theatre Program will graduate with numerous on-camera clips, a voiceover reel, and extensive on-screen and on-stage experience.

The Two-Year Musical Theatre Program at the New York Film Academy is offered exclusively at our New York City location, providing unparalleled exposure to the musical theatre industry.

*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.*

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Building upon the strengths of the One Year Program, the Second Year offers an unprecedented integration of musical theatre training and film acting technique.

- Acting Technique
- Ballet
- Jazz & Theatre Dance
- Improvisation
- Tap Dance
- Stage & Film Combat
- Character Study
- Movement
- Acting for Film
- Pop Rock
- Shakespeare
- Musicals on Film
- Hip Hop Dance
- The Director's Perspective
- On-Camera Audition Technique
- The Business of Acting
- Voice Over Technique

## GRADUATION PACKAGE

All students completing the second year will leave with a professionally produced voice over demo and two of their best songs professionally shot and ready to be used for video submissions

**Students who successfully complete the Second Year curriculum will have made advanced progress in the same key areas of the first year with the added value of experience toward mastery of Television, Film, and Voice Over acting.**

### POP ROCK II

This course provides advanced work on contemporary Pop Rock musical songs. Students will deepen their knowledge and experience of the pop sound, expanding their repertoire while maintaining healthy methods to sustain high impact vocals.

### PERFORMANCE LAB III

This lab is designed to develop advanced performance skills and the point-of-view choices that allow for maximum self-expression within an expanded range of casting. Songs are coached and methods of infusing personal stakes and creative choices are introduced.

### VOICE AND SPEECH III

This class continues the work to liberate the natural speaking voice. Students will be introduced to the process of dialect acquisition and the essentials of voiceover work. Students continue to advance their understanding and applied mastery of quality speech for stage and screen.

### MEISNER III

Building on the work in previous acting classes, this class takes the student deeper into the process and establishes a concentration on character development. Exercises are aimed at applying the tools and techniques within a transformed point of view, physical and vocal traits, and high stakes situations.

### BALLET III

Students will be guided beyond the intermediate level of ballet training toward more advanced mastery of the fundamentals and more advanced choreographic demands.

**JAZZ & THEATRE DANCE III**

This course provides an advanced level of Jazz dance training with a particular focus on Jazz dance for film. Students work on specific sequences of choreography that are then filmed in several locations, learning and adapting to the specific demands of re-takes, click tracks, and cinematic storytelling.

**TAP II**

This class offers an intermediate to advanced level of tap dance focused on applying the fundamental techniques, rhythms, and time steps to more advanced choreographic phrasing.

**MODERN DANCE I**

This is a beginning to intermediate level course of modern dance focused on applying the fundamental techniques of contact and release, fall and recovery, floor work, and improvisation. Modern dance incorporates humor and emotional rhythms that invite personal expression and individual style.

**MOVEMENT**

This class incorporates a variety of movement disciplines and builds upon the increased strength, flexibility, and physical awareness those forms encourage and prepares students to launch into the physical demands of comic invention, comic characterization, and the numerous applications within the musical theatre world.

**ACTING FOR FILM I**

Students learn the basics of film acting: calibrating performances based upon shot size and angle, hitting marks, emotional and physical continuity, and strength and imagination in acting choices. The course intensifies as students are assigned scenes from produced films or, in collaboration with their instructors, develop original short films. These films are then professionally shot with a crew and edited together. In addition, students learn to perform a number of film crew positions, to broaden their knowledge of the duties of everyone on a professional film set.

**ACTING FOR TELEVISION**

Students learn the basics of television acting, calibrating performances for three-camera technique and learning the basic language and expectations of the television studio. Students will study acting for commercials, situation comedies, and series dramas, learning about camera blocking, shot choices, and microphone techniques.

**MOVIE MUSICAL PROJECT I**

This course initiates the process of creating an original half hour movie musical. Early classes concentrate on the study of the form and content of several movie musical genres. Based on ideas generated from group discussion, students and the teacher consider story lines. As the process unfolds, a first draft of a script is developed. Students visit a professional studio to learn how to lay down tracks and use the studio time to its fullest. An artistic team is assembled, including a professional composer, and the practical considerations of a shooting schedule is established.

**ADVANCED ACTING FOR MUSICALS**

This class is designed to apply all previous acting training to the scenes, monologues, and songs of the musical theatre and film genre. The fundamentals of quality acting are reinforced and students are invited to open more fully to their authentic gifts using material well suited to their temperament and persona.

**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION  
(THE BUSINESS OF ACTING)**

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

**ON-CAMERA AUDITION TECHNIQUES**

Auditioning is a special skill requiring specific techniques. Actors again learn and practice the essentials of a good audition and focus on the set of skills required to handle "sides" for film and television. The goal is to help actors make quick, specific, action-oriented choices and to develop strong listening skills and flexibility in taking direction.

**ADVANCED MUSICAL THEATRE AUDITION  
TECHNIQUE**

This performance workshop provides students with the techniques and skills necessary to navigate professional musical theatre audition settings at the Broadway level. Posture, side preparation, musical arrangements, and a complete discussion of the current casting requirements are discussed. This course often includes industry guests for structured dialogue and feedback.

**MOVIE MUSICAL PROJECT II**

In addition to hundreds of student films that are cast completely in house, the Film Academy's cutting-edge Two-Year Musical Theatre Program offers students the opportunity to choose, create, and complete an original movie musical project. This movie musical will be approved by the Department Chair and faculty, and will be produced in tandem with other classmates, departments, and industry professionals. The final movie musical project utilizes all of the musical theatre and film training for a final showcase presentation.

**ACTING FOR FILM II**

Students learn more advanced levels of film acting. All of the basics are reviewed, including calibrating performances based upon shot size and angle, hitting marks, emotional and physical continuity, and strength and imagination in acting choices. In this semester, students are working on assigned scenes, preparing for and executing a final short film. These films are shot in a manner that reflects professional practice. In addition, students learn to perform a number of film crew positions in order to broaden their knowledge of the duties on a professional film set.

**THE DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE**

While every director will have his or her unique vision and way of working, there are a number of expectations and professional standards directors from the world of musicals all have in common. This class teaches the most up to date rehearsal procedures and provides all the pertinent information a performer needs to comfortably interact and collaborate with a wide range of directorial personalities and approaches.

**BALLET IV**

Students will be guided beyond the intermediate level of ballet training toward more advanced mastery of the fundamentals and more advanced choreographic demands.

**JAZZ & THEATRE DANCE IV**

This course provides advanced level of jazz dance training with a particular focus on jazz dance for film. Students work on specific sequences of choreography that are then filmed in several locations, learning and adapting to the specific demands of re-takes, click tracks, and cinematic storytelling.

**HIP HOP DANCE**

Musical theatre has increasingly incorporated the dance style and movement vocabulary of hip hop, using breaking, pop and locking, and numerous free style and dance derivatives evolved from the specialties of various choreographers. This class teaches students foundational moves and specialty work that provides solid introductory preparation.

**TAP III**

This course offers an advanced level of tap dance focused on applying the fundamental techniques, rhythms and time steps to more advanced choreography.

