

STATE UNIVERSITIES OF FLORIDA
Limited Access Program Request
Reference: 6C-6.001 Admissions, FAC

University: Florida International University
Degree(s) offered: Bachelor of Arts in Theatre
Program: Theatre
Six digit CIP code: 50.0501

1. Will the entire program be limited access or only a specific track?

The entire program will be limited access.

2. If only a track is limited access, please specify the name of the track

N/A

3. How many students will the program plan to accommodate?

Academic Year Total: 70

4. When do you propose to initiate limited access?

Immediately upon approval by the Board of Governors.

5. What is the justification for limiting access?

A theatre degree program has been in place at Florida International University since the university was founded. Over the years it has evolved from a very small general BFA program to a comprehensive BA in theatre and individual BFA in theatre in either performance or design. From its inception the program has always required an audition for placement because theatre is a talent based discipline

The nature of much of the instructional material in the study of theatre is such that it requires a small class environment. The performance classes must be of a size that allows regular performance and feedback opportunities. Strong mentor relationships between faculty and student are a key component of the performance side of the program. Such mentoring cannot take place in large, traditional classroom structures. Much of the work is of a highly subjective and personal nature, requiring the faculty to adjust to individual development patterns.

The design and production side of the program also requires special considerations. Students must have adequate space and time in which to pursue their work. The number of students in the production and the design classes must be limited to the number that the faculty can reasonably support. Just as in the performance classes, the design students also require a great deal of one-on-one work for proper development. There is also the matter of safety. In certain of the technical theatre classes students are required to handle power tools and hand tools that have the potential to cause injury if their use is not adequately supervised. In these kinds of situations it is essential that class size is small enough to insure that all safety measures are being followed.

In addition to these potential talent restrictions the program is limited in terms of space and in terms of recommended class size per the NAST's (National Association of Schools of Theatre) guidelines. The FIU BA in Theatre is NAST accredited. It is very important for the quality of the program that this accreditation be maintained.

6. By what means will access be limited? Please provide a description of the program's admissions requirements and procedures, and indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for Florida community college Associate of Arts degree graduates in the competition for available space in the program.

LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAM ADMISSION:

We are requesting a limit of 70 students. Students denied admission into the program will not be able to enroll in the specialized courses in the program, such as the performance classes or the design and design-related courses. Florida Community College students would have equal access to the limited access program as any other student applying to the program.

BA in Theatre

Presently, BA candidates are required to audition with one monologue and submit one letter of recommendation and a resume. We also recommend that they attend one of our workshops, during which we can make a more informed assessment of students' capabilities. Not all students who apply are accepted into the BA.

7. Present the current race and gender profiles of the students in the program. Discuss the impact of the proposed action on the race and gender profiles. Cite sources used for discussion. What strategies, should they be necessary, will be used to promote diversity in the program.

The theatre embraces and welcomes a diverse pool of qualified applicants. The program has presented to local area high schools and has invited schools to visit our facilities to view our productions, meet faculty and students and tour our facilities. The majority of our applicants come from area high schools and Florida Community Colleges which have culturally diverse populations. Please refer to Appendix A for a breakdown of the student population.

8. Are the graduates of the program in high demand? If so, and if the program is to be limited due to lack of adequate resources, provide a justification for limiting access to the program rather than reallocating resources from programs with a low marked demand.

Not all students who graduate with a degree in theatre go on to pursue a career specifically in theatre, but those who chose to do so do very well. Many go into teaching; many remain in the area and perform on our local theatre stages, providing a major contribution to the cultural enrichment of the region. Or, as is the case with many of our performance majors, our seniors audition for graduate programs to continue their studies. Our design majors, in particular, are sought after by graduate programs if they chose to continue their education, which we recommend for our students because of the nature of the entertainment field. Many of design students begin working locally in the field even before they graduate. As a part of the design degree requirements, students do internships with professional theatre companies around the country which have led to job offers. Part of the mission of our program is to properly prepare our students to go on to graduate school, in part because many of the most valuable connections for gaining future employment come from associations made there. The entertainment industry is a vast field with a broad spectrum of opportunities for successful careers. Our degree programs are designed to ensure that our graduates have the best training possible to be well-positioned for success. In a world

over-run with technological advances we need talented people in the arts more than ever to ensure that the creative spirit is not lost in the crush.

Request Initiated by: Michael Curran
Vice Provost

EEO Officer's Signature: Jenaura Warden OBO SJM
EEO Office

Provost Signature: [Signature]
Provost

Send the completed form to: Dr. Dorothy J. Minear
Vice Chancellor, Strategic Initiatives
Board of Governors
State University System of Florida
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614
Tallahassee, Florida 31399-1950

Limited Access Form Update 4/08

Appendix A: Ethnic Breakdown FIU Theatre Students

CIP 50.0501 Dramatic Arts (Theatre)	
UNDERGRADUATE HEADCOUNT BY GENDER AND ETHNICITY	
(Excluding Non-Resident Aliens)	
STDT_LVL	(Multiple Items)
CIP_DESCR	Dramatic Arts
STU_PROGRAM_CAT	500501

UNIVERSITY WIDE			ETHNICITY				Grand Total
TERM_DESC	ACAD_PLAN2	GENDER	African American	Asian	Hispanic	White	
Fall 2009	Bachelor of Arts	FEMALE	2		22	5	29
		MALE	4	1	19	2	26
Fall 2009 Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Total			6	1	41	7	55

**STATE UNIVERSITIES OF FLORIDA
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N/A

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Academic Year Total: 60

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Immediately upon approval by the Board of Governors.

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The nature of much of the instructional material in the study of theatre is such that it requires a small class environment. The performance classes must be of a size that allows regular performance and feedback opportunities. Strong mentor relationships between faculty and student are a key component of the performance side of the program. Such mentoring cannot take place in large, traditional classroom structures. Much of the work is of a highly subjective and personal nature, requiring the faculty to adjust to individual development patterns.

The design and production side of the program also requires special considerations. Students must have adequate space and time in which to pursue their work. The number of students in the production and the design classes must be limited to the number that the faculty can reasonably support. Just as in the performance classes, the design students also require a great deal of one-on-one work for proper development. There is also the matter of safety. In certain of the technical theatre classes students are required to handle power tools and hand tools that have the potential to cause injury if their use is not adequately supervised. In these kinds of situations it is essential that class size is small enough to insure that all safety measures are being followed.

In addition to these potential talent restrictions the program is limited in terms of space and in terms of recommended class size per the NAST's (National Association of Schools of Theatre) guidelines. The FIU BFA in Theatre program is NAST accredited. It is very important for the quality of the program that this accreditation be maintained.

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BFA in Theatre

Candidates for the BFA in performance are required to perform two contrasting monologues and submit three letters of recommendation and a resume. BFA candidates in design are required to present a portfolio of their work, submit one letter of recommendation, a resume, and participate in an extensive interview with members of the theatre design faculty. Not all candidates for the BFA are accepted.

The performance, design and technical classes are limited in size because they are based on the studio model of instruction as well as on space restrictions. Students follow a sequential course of study to successfully graduate from the program. In-class critiques are an essential part of all of the specialized courses. In addition to the in-class work, the department produces a regular theatre season of productions which serves as the practical hands-on laboratory for what is learned in the class room.

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Request Initiated by: Michael McCoy
Vice Provost

EEO Officer's Signature: Jonaura Warden OBO SJM
EEO Office

Provost Signature: [Signature]
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Send the completed form to: Dr. Dorothy J. Minear
Interim Vice Chancellor, Strategic Initiatives
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UNIVERSITY WIDE			ETHNICITY				Grand Total
TERM_DESC	ACAD_PLAN2	GENDER	African American	Asian	Hispanic	White	
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	FEMALE	2	1	23	5	31
		MALE	2		16	2	20
Fall 2009 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Total			4	1	39	7	51