

Special Talent Review for Theatre and Dance

Submitting a special talent for review at Binghamton University is an opportunity for your talents to be actively considered in your admissions process. It is a chance to showcase your talents; **it does not affect your intended major**. However, the portfolio is intended for students who desire to pursue this interest in some way at Binghamton University.

All required materials must be received by **January 15th**. If you apply via Early Action, you will be reviewed academically first; if deferred, your file will be reviewed for Special Talent during the Regular Admission period.

If your portfolio is not received by the deadline your application will be reviewed **without** consideration for the special talent program.

General Requirements for all Theatre/Dance Special Talent Applicants:

- Personal statement detailing why you are interested in exploring theater/dance at the University level and summarizing your theater/dance experience and training.
- Resume. A photo is not necessary.
- Two letters of recommendation should contain comments on your performing abilities, your performing experience, your talent and potential for growth, your work habits/commitment/discipline in the field or elsewhere. Please share these suggestions with your recommender before they compose your letter. One letter must be from someone who knows your theater/dance work well (i.e., drama or dance teacher); the other letter may be from anyone who can attest to your success and strengths.
- Auditions must be submitted in digital format. Either through email or via a thumb drive. Design review materials may be submitted as digital copies or physical copies (do not send originals).

There are two ways to submit your materials for review:

Email special talent review at sptalent@binghamton.edu with the subject line **Special Talent Review Theatre/Dance: Full Legal Name**

or

Submit all materials, in one mailing, to:

Special Talent Review – THEATRE/DANCE
C/O Barbara Wolfe
Theatre PO Box 6000
Binghamton, NY 13902-6000

NOTE: Failure to complete ALL the submission guidelines as outlined above will result in eliminate you from consideration. If you have previously sent a sample of your work to a department other than the one listed above or missing required information, please resubmit your portfolio with requirements listed above. If you are admitted under this program, you are not required to major in theatre/dance, although we encourage students to consider the many academic courses and opportunities available to students with artistic talents and interest.

Portfolio Requirements for Special Talent Review

Performance reviews are offered in acting, dance, stage design/technical design, and playwriting.

Requirements are as follows:

Acting Performance:

- Two monologue submissions no longer than 2 minutes each from plays different in style, mood and character. Select material that does not require extremes of age, dialect, infirmity, etc.*
- One recorded submission of a song with a strong melodic line not dependent on accompaniment. The song should come from the standard American musical theater repertoire and not specialized pop or art styles. You must sing with accompaniment. Please be sure the accompaniment does not overpower the voice.*
- Resume and letters of recommendation listed above.

**All filmed submissions should be recorded as 3/4 body shots.*

Dance Performance:

- A video of you doing Ballet Barre and Center Floor Combinations AND/OR Modern Warm Up and Center Floor Combinations AND/OR Ethnic Dance warm-up (5 minutes or less and **not** a performance)
- Resume and letters of recommendation listed above.

AND one of the following:

- A video of you doing a Jazz, Ballet or Modern Combination including; leaps, turns, pirouettes, battements, leg extensions. (2 minutes or less and not a performance)
OR -
- A video of you performing of a style of dance not included (not Jazz, Tap, Modern, or Ballet) including any ethnic or cultural dance. (3 minutes or less)
OR -
- If you are a choreographer, you can submit a sample of your choreography instead.

Optional: You may also submit, in addition, a recording no longer than three (3) minutes of a dance piece, in which you performed, in performance, demonstrating your talent, training and strengths. It can include an excerpt or excerpts from videos of productions you have been in. Make sure it is clear which one is you.

Please note that this program is an opportunity to display the talents that make you different from the average applicant. Make sure your submission demonstrates your talent, not just training.

Stage Design/Technical Design:

- Please send a portfolio of your experience doing stage work and/or stage design drawings (scenery, costume, lighting, scene painting etc.) The portfolio should offer a graphic (photographic or sketch) record of your design or construction projects. The portfolio should be submitted in digital form. (The form of the

portfolio is flexible, but make sure it is designed to show you at your best.) If you are unable to provide a portfolio, supply information about design/technical crews and other work in which you have participated.

Playwriting

- Submit examples of your plays, short stories, poems, etc.
- Resume and letters of recommendation listed above.

**Special Talent Review
for Theatre and Dance**

Please complete this form and return it, along with your personal statement, résumé, two letters of recommendation, and talent submission by **January 15th**.

NAME: _____
Last First Middle B-Number (*required*)

BIRTH DATE: _____ CURRENT SCHOOL: _____
mm/dd/yyyy

ADDRESS: _____
Number & Street Apt. #

City/Town State/Province ZIP/Postal code Country

EMAIL: _____

INTENDED MAJOR: _____

AREA(S) OF INTEREST: Please identify the area that you wish to have considered as part of your application. If you perform in more than one area, indicate which is your primary specialization.

- Acting
- Dance
- Stage/Technical Design
- Playwriting:

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Request for Recommendation

To the Applicant: Please complete the top section of this form and give it to a person who can comment on your talent, experience, abilities, work habits, discipline, etc.

If submitting electronically, the letter of recommendation and form must be sent directly from your recommenders.

If submitting via mail, your recommender should seal the letter in an envelope with your name on the outside, seal it, sign across the seal, and return it to you **in time for you to meet the January 15 deadline**. The sealed envelope should be included with your other materials.

NAME: _____ B-
Last First Middle Jr., etc. B-Number (*required*)

BIRTH DATE: _____ EMAIL: _____
mm/dd/yyyy

To the Recommender: Thank you for agreeing to write in support of your student's application to Binghamton University. This recommendation will be reviewed by Theatre and Dance Department faculty as part of the applicant's Special Talent Review.

In a separate document please discuss: your work with the applicant, describing major repertoire studied, strengths and weaknesses in technique and expression, ability to respond to a teacher's advice, and growth as an artist over time. Try to note specific strengths and accomplishments that might *not* appear on the student's résumé. Also, please evaluate the student's potential for success at the university and professional levels.

NAME: _____ TITLE/POSITION: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____