

New BFA Benchmarks

Let's build your book/portfolio... as we go!

What and Why?

- To be competitive in the modern entertainment industry it is expected that you are able to audition/interview/present at any given time with a variety of material.
- This requires having an up to date book/portfolio/resume/head and/or body shot that you can work from (which is also a major part of Careers class...)
- To that end, starting in one year (Fall 2023) all BFA students will be required to present their book/portfolio/resume during their BFA review.

So... Let's Say I Don't...

- First of all... DON'T DO THAT! Don't be that person.
- But! What happens?
- If you do not meet the benchmarks as described, you will be placed on probation from the BFA program. If you do not meet the benchmarks two semester reviews in a row, you will be removed from the BFA program.



Oh, And One Other Thing...

- Failure to attend your review, or to not notify us with a **good** reason ahead of time, will result in an IMMEDIATE probationary period from the BFA program.



Requirements: ALL CONCENTRATIONS

- ALL Material Should Be:
 - Assembled in a binder or portfolio and audition/interview ready.
- This means: NEAT, ORGANIZED, PRESENTABLE.
 - 16 and 32 bar cuts CLEARLY MARKED for music
- We will be looking through your materials so they should be easy to navigate.

Year by Year: Acting

- Year One

2 Monos – 1 Contemp Comedic
1 Contemp Dramatic

- Year Two

6 Monos – 2 Contemp Comedic
2 Contemp Dramatic
1 Pre-Modern
1 Kid Friendly

- Year Three

10 Monos –

3 Contemp Comedic
3 Contemp Dramatic
1 Kid Friendly Comedic
1 Kid Friendly Dramatic
1 Pre-Modern Comedic
1 Pre-Modern Dramatic

(If you sing) 4 Songs of Varying Styles and tempos
(Including –Golden Age MT, Pop, Rock, Modern
MT, Jazz, R&B, Country, etc)

Year by Year: Acting

- Year Four (15 Monologues Total)
 - 10 Contemporary Monos – 5 Comedic, 5 Dramatic ,
 - 2 or 3 Kid Friendly (1 or 2 Comedic, 1 or 2 Dramatic)
 - 2 or 3 Pre-Modern or Styles (1 or 2 Comedic, 1 or 2 Dramatic)
- (If you Sing:)
 - 8 Songs of Varying Styles and tempos (Including –Golden Age MT, Pop, Rock, Modern MT, Jazz, R&B, Country, etc)

Requirements: Acting

- In Addition (this is all cumulative):
- By 2nd year you should have done one professional audition.
- By 3rd year you should have done at minimum 4 professional auditions or booked 2.
- By 4th year a minimum of 6 professional auditions or booked 3.
- You should also have an evolving resume each year.
- You should be collecting self-tape recordings and recordings from shows for reel material (to be assembled as you go). These should be assembled by the 4th year (1-1.30 Min. Reel).

Requirements: Dance – Goals and Aims

- Technique
 - Applies principles of anatomy and kinesiology to initiate movement. Awareness of somatic practices
 - Deepens involvement with dance technique based on principles of anatomy and kinesiology
 - Refines movements that require muscle strength
- Choreography
 - When available, uses technology with choreography
 - Develops and manipulates material to meet criteria for specific dance forms

Requirements: Dance - Goals and Aims

- Performance
 - Refines ability to perform, increases performance vocabulary to include projection, musicality, somatic awareness, breath support and timing
- Dance knowledge, vocabulary, history, current trends
 - Uses dance vocabulary in the context of dance technique and in dance writing
 - Able to discuss decolonizing dance history, current dance trends and their historical roots

Year by Year - Dance

Year One

- Student will create a dance resume formatted in the style of a professional dance resume
 - Resume may still include high school productions
- Student will be enrolled in at least one dance technique course
- Student will audition for fall and spring dance concerts

Year Two

- Current dance resume formatted in the style of a professional dance resume
 - Should have professional head shot and full body, dance pose.
 - No high school productions listed
- Student will be enrolled in at least two dance technique courses
- Student will have performance experience in a dance concert or musical
- Student will apply and/or attend/present at one professional conference

Year by Year - Dance

Year Three

- Current Dance resume should be formatted in the style of a professional dance resume
 - Should have professional head shot and full body, dance pose.
- Student will be enrolled in two-three dance technique courses
- Attendance to two professional conferences (cumulative)

Year Four

- Current Dance resume should be formatted in the style of a professional dance resume
 - Should have updated professional head shot and full body, dance pose.
- Student will have performed in at least three departmental dance productions
- Student will be enrolled in at least one dance technique course
- Attendance to three professional conferences (cumulative)
- Presents fully completed Capstone

Year by Year - Dance

By your 4th year, you should assemble a reel where you perform at least three different genres of dance, full out, full body on screen. Choose the genres in which you are most proficient. Total reel time 3-4 minutes. Do not use choreography that is not your own unless explicit permission is given.

- Ballet - petit allegro or grand allegro - 30-40 seconds
- Modern - include floor work, and hand supported movements - 30-40 seconds
- Hip-Hop/Break Dancing - basic movements - top rock, six step. Styles such as popping/locking, funk, vogue, tutting, Memphis jook etc. 30-40 seconds
- jazz – show ability in rhythmic skill using isolations. 30-40 seconds

Year by Year - Dance

(CONT.)

- tap - include at least two time step variations, pull backs, rolling shuffles, 6-12 count rifs, cramp rolls, maxi ford, paradiddle variations (no music)
- Contemporary -
- Additional skills - tumbling, acro, silks, pole, pointe (could be included in ballet jazz or modern.)
- Be sure to demonstrate performance quality, when appropriate, include pirouettes, leaps and demonstrate flexibility.

Year by Year - Design

Year One

- Technical Resume
 - Resume should be formatted in the style of a technical resume, to include contact information, production work, education, skills and training, and information for three references
- Student will serve on crew for one APSU departmental production
- Student will attend portfolio workshop in order to prepare for portfolio creation over the next four years

Year by Year - Design

Year 2:

- Technical Resume
 - Resume should be formatted in the style of a technical resume
 - Resume should incorporate all notes from the previous year's review
 - Resume may still include high school productions at this point
- Student will have served on crew for three APSU departmental productions, begin to hone a focus on a specific area

Year by Year - Design

(CONT)

- Student will present a Binder Portfolio to include all APSU production work and design/tech course work
 - Binder must be black, or other dark color
 - Binder must utilize page protectors, production labels, production photos, production paperwork, and process and completion photos for production and class projects
 - Limited high school material may be included at this point

Year by Year - Design

Year 3:

- Technical Resume
 - Resume should be formatted in the style of a technical resume
 - Resume should incorporate all notes from the previous year's review
 - Resume should no longer include high school production work
- Student will have served on crew for minimum five APSU departmental productions
 - At least one of these roles must be a managerial position (Props Master, Paint Charge, Wardrobe Supervisor, Stage Manager, Master Electrician, etc.)
- Student will have attended a minimum of either one SETC or USITT conference.

Year by Year – Design

Year 3 (Cont.)

- Student will have employment with one professional company OR proof of interview/application for three professional companies in an attempt to secure professional work
- Student will present an Art Portfolio to include all APSU production work and relevant design/tech course work for the student's area of focus
 - Art Portfolio must be utilized
 - Portfolio should incorporate all notes from the previous year's review
 - Portfolio to include production labels, production photos, production paperwork, and process and completion photos for production and class projects
 - Student will be evaluated on content, organization, and overall presentation of the portfolio.
 - No high school material should be included at this point

Year by Year - Design

Year 4:

- Technical Resume
 - Resume should be formatted in the style of a technical resume
 - Resume should incorporate all notes from the previous year's review
- Student will have Assistant Designed for at least one APSU departmental production (or focus equivalent)
- Student will have attended a minimum of two SETC or USITT conferences
- Student will have employment with two professional companies OR proof of interview/application for six professional companies in an attempt to secure professional work

Year by Year - Design

Year Four (Cont.)

- Student will present an Art Portfolio to include all APSU production work and relevant design/tech course work for the student's area of focus.
 - Art Portfolio must be utilized
 - Portfolio should incorporate all notes from the previous year's review
 - Portfolio to include production labels, production photos, production paperwork, and process and completion photos for production and class projects
 - Student will be evaluated on content, organization, and overall presentation of the portfolio.
- Student will present one show binder, preferably for a production that they have designed or managed
 - Show Binder to include all relevant paperwork for discipline
 - All material in the Show Binder should be in page protectors
 - Show Binder should utilize labeled dividers for material

Requirements – Design Binders

Lighting Design Show Binder Inclusions:

- Concept Statement
- Research Imagery
- Light Plot
- Channel Hookup and Instrument Schedule
- Cue List
- Any material provided by Scenic Design and/or Costume Designer such as Elevations, Renderings, and Model (photos)

Stage Management Show Binder Inclusions:

- Audition Form (Blank)
- Production Calendar
- Rehearsal Calendar
- Rehearsal Report (3 examples)
- Production Meeting Agenda (one example)
- Production Meeting Report (3 examples)
- Props List
- Props Tracking Sheet
- Costume Tracking Sheet
- Blocking Notation – 1 scene
- Calling Script – 1 scene
- Tech Schedule
- Contact Sheet (final version)
- Shift Schedules
- Pre-show and Post-Show Checklists

Requirements – Design Binders

Scenic Design Show Binder

- Concept statement
- Research examples
- Preliminary sketches and ground plans
- Final ground plan
- Front elevation(s)
- Finished model or perspective rendering
- Construction drawings (pencil and/or CAD)

Costume/Makeup Design

- This requirement will be set with Leni depending on the specific focus of the individual

Year by Year: Music Theatre

- Year One

5 Songs (not to exceed 7) – 1 Disney, 1
Sondheim/Acting Difficult, 1 Pop, 1
Rock, 1 Classic MT (Traditional)

2 Contemp. Monologues – 1 Comedic
1 Dramatic

- Year Two

8 Songs (not to exceed 10) – 2 Classic MT, 2
Contemporary, 2 Pop/Rock, 1 Sondheim/Acting
Difficult, 1 Jazz

4 Monos – 1 Comedic
1 Dramatic
1 Pre-Modern
1 Kid Friendly

Year by Year: Music Theatre

- Year Three

12 Songs (not to exceed 14) – 3 Classic MT, 3 Contemporary, 3 Pop/Rock. At least one of the following:

Sondheim/Acting Difficult, Jazz

5 Monos – 1 Contemp Comedic,
1 Contemp Dramatic,
1 Pre-Modern Comedic,
1 Pre-Modern Dramatic,
1 Kid Freindly

- Year Four

19 Songs (not to exceed 25) 4 Classic MT, 4 Contemporary, 4 Pop/Rock. At least two of the following: Sondheim/Acting Difficult, Jazz.

6 Monos – 1 or 2 Contemp Comedic,
1 or 2 Contemp Dramatic,
1 or 2 Pre-Modern Comedic,
1 or 2 Pre-Modern Dramatic,
1 or 2 Kid Freindly

Requirements: Music Theatre

- In Addition (this is all cumulative):
- By 2nd year you should have done one professional audition.
- By 3rd year you should have done at minimum 4 professional auditions or booked 2.
- By 4th year a minimum of 6 professional auditions or booked 3.
- You should also have an evolving resume each year.
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A Word on Reels...

A quick word on reels for Acting/Dance/MT

Make sure that all of the individual pieces on your full reel live independently in a file on your computer and on your website. That way if you need to send in a specific thing for an audition, you do not need to edit it out or re-record... it already exists and you can be the first to get that audition in. Remember... deadlines are for suckers.

Questions? Thoughts? Quements? General
Anger?

