COMMITTED TO THE CRAFT

The hours will be long. The work will be challenging. Your dedication to a life in the arts will be tested. But in the end, you will have the skills, knowledge, and experience you need to get to the next level.

Automatic Scholarships
If you are admitted, you are guaranteed a scholarship, which is renewable all three years.

MFA Program in
DIRECTING

NOW SEEKING
VISIONARIES

ASPIRATIONS ACHIEVED

“Of the many, many lessons I learned during my time in the MFA Directing program, there is one that stands above the rest: the importance of asking ‘Why?’ Why this play? Why now? Why me? In asking why, I am constantly forced to strive for clarity in my pitching, in my playing, and in my storytelling. And it’s that clarity that has afforded me the successes I’ve gained thus far. I truly would not be the director I am today without DePaul.”

– Mikael Burke, Class of 2018

Visit us online for admission requirements, guidelines, FAQs, and to apply.
theatre.depaul.edu | 773.325.7999
THEATRE NEEDS YOU

New challenges bring real change. As a student in our MFA Directing program, you’ll spend three years developing your artistic vision through workshops, scene study, and collaboration. With a focus on practical application and ongoing directing assignments, you’ll put theory and analysis to the test.

WHAT TO EXPECT

YEAR 1: TIME TO DIG IN
Your first year will center around the cerebral aspects of theatre: research and analysis. Your coursework will explore dramatic theory and historical perspective, scene study, and staging.

On the Stage:
- Assistant directing assignment
- Independent directing assignment in our studio series

YEAR 2: EMBRACE THE PROCESS
Collaboration continues in your second year as you merge craft and imagination to create your own unique directorial process and style. You’ll also spend time immersed in Shakespeare and other elevated texts to help you better understand the actor’s process.

On the Stage:
- Directing assignment in Healy Theatre
- Two directing assignments in our studio series

YEAR 3: ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE
Your vision hits the stage. In your third year, you’ll channel all you’ve learned into your thesis project, which will be produced in the Watts Theatre. Meanwhile, you’ll make valuable industry connections through an exciting internship with a nationally recognized theatre company.

On the Stage:
- Thesis project production in Watts Theatre

MENTORED BY PROFESSIONALS

Faculty that know. With professional roots in the Chicago theatre community and beyond, your professors have the knowledge and connections you’ll need to help fuel your post-graduation plans. Our faculty work closely with you to ensure your MFA experience mirrors the excitement and challenges of professional directing.

GUARANTEED EXPERIENCE

What you learn is only meaningful if you apply it. That’s why we give you ample opportunities to turn knowledge into action through impactful professional experience. Our goal is to give you the tools and opportunities you need to create thought-provoking theatre that will change lives. Starting with your own.