

Opera Stage Directing

Prerequisites:

An undergraduate degree with a major in Applied Voice Performance. The prerequisites that apply to the MM in Voice Performance will apply to the Master of Music in Opera (Stage Directing). Only candidates with significant performing, directing and/or theater experience will be considered for the Stage Directing track. The voice and opera faculty will recommend to the Admissions Committee their nomination(s) for the Opera Stage Directing majors, from the most qualified applicants.

Purpose: The Master of Music in Opera (Stage Directing) is a two-year program designed for the student seeking specialized training in opera stage directing. This program is designed to be very selective with a narrow focus tailored to those students who have an exceptional potential and talent as a lyric theater stage director. Candidates auditioning for the Master of Music in Opera (Stage Directing) must demonstrate talent that makes a professional career as a stage director upon completion of the degree likely. Since the market for such careers is limited, it is the intent of the school and its faculty to have a small number of degree candidates in residency at any one time. In general, only one student will be admitted annually. Admission and application requirements (consistent with school policy) and a high audition standard will ensure that those accepted into the program will have the greatest possibility of finding success in the professional world of stage directing. The program will be tailored to the individual needs of each student, but will concentrate on the practical application of directing techniques with singers.

Audition Requirements:

Applicants who have been accepted for a live audition must prepare the following:

1. Three vocal selections in three languages (two from stage works).
 2. Direct students in an opera scene. The staging will last for approximately one hour and the scene will be selected by the Dramatic Director and Music Director. Singers in the scene will be prepared and selected from the Eastman School.
 3. Interview with the Dramatic Director and Music Director of the opera department.
-