Thank you for your interest in the theatre program at Aurora University!

Theatre is a deeply collaborative art form, bringing together actors, designers, and technicians to create a unified vision. At Aurora University, we offer scholarships for students excelling in these areas of expertise.

Scholarship Eligibility:

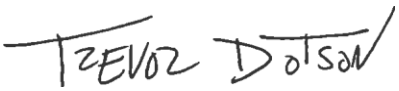
- Full-time student status at Aurora University
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0

Included in this Audition Packet:

- Commitment requirements for scholarship recipients
- Audition/interview information
- Application forms

Your scholarship award will depend on your preparation and performance during the audition/interview, the quality of your written statement, and the strength of your recommendations. Award amounts range from $500 to $5,000. We look forward to meeting you and wish you the best of luck in your studies. “Break a leg” as you prepare for the next step in your AU journey!

Best,



Trevor Dotson, MFA
Assistant Professor of Theatre
Chair and Technical Director of Theatre
630-844-7594
tdotson@aurora.edu

Theatre Scholarship Commitment

2027-2028 Academic Year

In granting you a scholarship in theatre, the AU theatre faculty has placed their confidence in your dedication to the department. Your scholarship award can be maintained by meeting the following criteria:

Participation in Main Stage Productions

Scholarship recipients are required to actively participate in at least two departmental main stage productions during the academic year.

- If you are a performer, you must audition for all theatre department productions and accept any role offered to you. While auditioning is mandatory, please be advised that casting is not guaranteed, as all roles are awarded based on merit and the artistic vision of the director. In the event you are not cast, your participation is still essential.
- If you are not cast in a production or if you are primarily a technical theatre member, you are expected to contribute in other capacities. This may include working on technical crews (set construction, lighting, sound, costumes, etc.), serving as a stage manager, or assisting with publicity and promotions, depending on the department's needs for each production. While we will consider your preferences for assignments, final decisions will be made by the faculty in accordance with production requirements, and your full cooperation is expected.

Academic Requirements

You must complete a total of 16 credits (four classes) of theatre courses, achieving a grade of B or higher in each. First-year students are typically encouraged to enroll in foundational courses such as Introduction to Acting, Introduction to Theatre, or Stagecraft I. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher must be maintained to remain eligible for the scholarship.

Students will be evaluated by the theatre faculty each semester to review academic progress and scholarship status based upon the above criteria. It is the student's responsibility to fulfill all scholarship obligations and maintain open communication with the faculty regarding their commitments. The student will be notified if they are in danger of not meeting scholarship commitments, with enough time to correct behavior. A student who does not remedy the deficiencies will not be awarded the scholarship for subsequent semesters.

We look forward to your continued contributions to the Aurora University theatre department and your growth as both an artist and a scholar.

Theatre Scholarship Audition Submission

All auditions and portfolio reviews are completed virtually through a video or digital submission. After reviewing your materials, faculty will contact you to schedule a follow-up interview.

- Theatre scholarships are open to any student studying at Aurora University, whether or not you plan to declare a theatre minor.
- Awards are available to both new and transfer students.

Scholarships are awarded based on our assessment of how well you would contribute to the theatre program as a well-rounded student of theatre. We value what you bring to the stage, to the shop, and to the community we build together.

- Award amounts range from $500 to $5,000.
- Open to all students regardless of major or minor.
- Performers, designers, and technicians can all apply.

Performance Applicants

Please submit the following:

- Two contrasting monologues. Your monologues should differ in tone, style, or character (for example, one comedic and one dramatic). Together they should not exceed three minutes.
- One song, 32 bars. Sing a 32-bar selection of your choice. A backing track is required, and a cappella submissions cannot be accepted.

Please record yourself clearly in a well-lit space with audio we can hear easily. Begin by stating your name and the pieces you are performing.

Technical Theatre and Design Applicants

Please submit a portfolio of work you have completed. Portfolios may include:

- Sketches, renderings, or drafting.
- Photographs of completed work or work in progress.
- Prompt books, paperwork, or production documentation.

If you don't have a formal portfolio, that's OK. We encourage you to submit whatever work you have available. We're interested in seeing how you think and what you've done.

Letter of Recommendation

All applicants must include a letter of recommendation from one person who knows you as a theatre artist. They should comment on character, demonstrated work ethic, team participation, and ability of the applicant.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Trevor Dotson, assistant professor of theatre/chair and technical director of theatre, at tdotson@aurora.edu.