

Curriculum Vitae

Thomas J. Ossowski

September 5, 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

University Address: BFA Music Theatre Program
School of Theatre
College of Visual Arts, Theatre, & Dance
540 West Call Street
239 Fine Arts Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1160

E-Mail Address: tossowski@fsu.edu
Web Site: www.tomossowski.com

Professional Preparation

1995-1998 Master of Fine Arts
Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
Major: Directing
Thesis: *Hello, Dolly!*
Thesis Supervisor: Fred Chappell

1978-1981 Bachelor of Arts
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Major: German
Minor: Music

1979-80 University of Regensburg, West Germany

1977-78 Doane College, Crete, Nebraska

Professional Credential

2003-present Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers
Director ID No. 9009564

Professional Experience

- 2006-present Assistant Professor - Music Theatre, School of Theatre, College of Visual Arts, Theatre & Dance, Florida State University. Graduate and Undergraduate Instruction.
- Responsible for the instruction and training of the BFA Music Theatre students. These responsibilities include directing and/or music directing/conducting of two musicals per year, teaching Music Theatre Workshop, History of Music Theatre I & II, and the coaching and mentoring of the music theatre students. Additional duties include teaching Directing I & II, auditioning prospective freshmen Music Theatre students, to jury and assess the Music Theatre students each semester, and to music direct/conduct the holiday guest artist fundraising production.
- 2006-present Producing Artistic Director - Post Playhouse, Crawford, Nebraska.
- Responsible for the artistic development and integrity for the Post Playhouse Summer Performance Season. This work includes: season selection, assembly of the creative team, casting, direction and music direction for a three-show summer stock repertory season.
- 2005-2006 Associate Tenured Professor - Head of BFA Music Theatre Program, School of Theatre Arts, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois.
- Head of the Music Theatre Program Committee
 - Supervisor - Music Theatre staff including four applied voice instructors and three staff accompanists
 - Responsible for the BFA Music Theatre Program which included program and curriculum development, performance juries and prospective freshmen recruitment (including auditions). Other duties included season selection, student advising, coaching of independent student projects, coaching and pre-screening for professional auditions, budget allocations for program and musical productions, and the direction and/or music direction of two musicals per year.
 - Additional responsibilities included the staffing and supervision of the four music theatre voice faculty members and the three staff accompanists.
- 1999-2005 Assistant Professor - Head of BFA Music Theatre Program, School of Theatre Arts, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois.
- Responsibilities listed above under Associate Professor - Head of BFA Music Theatre Program, School of Theatre Arts, Illinois Wesleyan University.

Visiting Professorship

- 1998-1999 Visiting Professor - School of Theatre, Florida State University.
 Responsible for teaching Directing I, Directing II and Voice II.
 Other duties included the musical direction and conducting of two
 musicals and served on The Performance Area Committee and the
 Production and Season Selection Committee.

Membership in Professional Organizations

Music Theatre Educators Alliance International

- member of executive board, (2004 - present).
- member, (2000 - present).

Southeastern Theatre Conference,

- Professional auditions for The Post Playhouse, (2007 - present).
- member, (1999 - present).

TEACHING

Courses Taught

TPP 4923	BFA Music Theatre Workshop - Theatre
MUS 4006	BFA Music Theatre Workshop - Music
MUO 5007	MFA Music Theatre Workshop
THE 5084	Theatre Problems: Music Theory for Theatrical Sound Application
TPP 4310	Directing I
THE 4935	Directing II
THE 4244	Music Theatre History I
THE 5246	Music Theatre History I
THE 4245	Music Theatre History II
THE 5247	Music Theatre History II
TPP 4905	DIS - La Cosa Nostra - Kate Masiak Independent Student Directing Project - <i>True Man</i> - (Spring 2007)
TPP 5906	DIS - Music Theatre Genre - Julie Haverkate - MA Theatre Studies

#	MUTH 383	Music Theatre Scene Study
#	MUTH 420	Music Theatre Workshop
#	THEA 181	Acting II
#	THEA 280	Acting III
#	THEA 381	Auditions - BA
#	THEA 329	Directing I

Teaching activities that occurred prior to employment at FSU.

#THEA 482 BFA Actor's Studio - Auditions
#MUTH 032 Pit Orchestra
#MUTH 480 Independent Projects
#MUS 475 Independent Studies

TPP 4310 Directing I
TPP 4311 Directing II
TPP 3711 Voice 2
TPP 3710 Voice I
TPP 2120 Creative Improv
TPP 3185 Orientation to Acting
TPP 2111 BFA Acting Workshop
TPP 4923 BFA Music Theatre Workshop

Supervision of Faculty and Accompanists

Music Theatre History, 1 Instructor
#Applied Voice, 8 sections with 4 Instructors
#Music Theatre Repertory Class, 4 Instructors
#Music Theatre Coaching, 3 Coaches
#Music Theatre Accompanists, 3 Accompanists

New Course Development

THE 4244 Music Theatre History I
THE 4245 Music Theatre History II
THE 5084 Theatre Problems: Music Theory for Theatrical Sound Application
THE 4935 Directing II
#MUTH 383 Music Theatre Scene Study
#MUTH 420 Music Theatre Workshop
#MUTH 032 Pit Orchestra
#THEA 482 BFA Actor's Studio - Auditions
#THEA 381 Auditions - BA

Guest Artist

Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois
Music Theatre Workshop - *Little Shop of Horrors*, (October 1999)

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL
Visual Concepts
Director/designer collaboration with costume designer Marcia McDonald
Sweeney Todd - (April 2005).

Teaching activities that occurred prior to employment at FSU.

Pippin - (April 2004).
Music Theatre History - *Bob Fosse's Life and Work* - (2006).
School of Music - Vocal Performance - *Acting Your Song* - (2005).
Introduction to Theatre - *Introduction of Music Theatre* - (2004).
Eastern Europe Literature and Culture Class - *Yiddish Culture* - (2003).
Post-production discussion of *Rags*.

Member of Master's Thesis Supervisory Committees

MFA Directing

Allison Frost (April 2009).
Ryan Clark (April 2009).
Jennifer Sassman (April 2009).
Candace Cihocki (April 2010).
Matthew Strickland (April 2010).
Ann Towns (April 2010).
Curtis Young (April 2011).
Pete Smith (April 2011).

MFA Lighting Design

Rebecca Franklin (May 2009).
Richard Chamblin (May 2010).

MFA Theatre Management

Kate Holst (May 2009).

MA Defense Committee

Julie Haverkate (April 2008).

Member of Bachelor's Thesis Supervisory Committee

Krystina Almaguer, BFA Music Theatre (May 2009).
Kate Beahen, BM Music Theatre (May 2009).
Justin Bowen, BM Music Theatre (May 2009).
Michael Fatica, BFA Music Theatre (May 2009).
Julia Harkey, BM Music Theatre (May 2009).
Junior Mendez, BM Music Theatre (May 2009).
Shayla Benoit, BM Music Theatre (May 2008).
Justin Carr, BM Music Theatre (May 2008).
Viveka Chandrasekaran, BM Music Theatre (May 2008).
Leslie Flesner, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).
Emily Franklin, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).
Chelsea Lovett, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).
Nick Scalzo, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).
Sarah Claire Smith, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).
Hardy Weaver, BFA Music Theatre (May 2008).

Susan Gearou, BFA Music Theatre (May 2007).
J.R. Jacobs, BFA Music Theatre (May 2007).
Ryan Lingle, BFA Music Theatre (May 2007).
Nikka Wahl, BM Music Theatre (May 2007).

Honors Degree

Chantel King - Music Theatre Film - Committee Member (2008).
Kristin Rodriguez - Music Theatre Film - Committee Member (2008).
Kate Masiak - *True Man* - Head of Committee (2007).

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Performances

Invited Performances - Professional

Thomas J. Ossowski (Producer/Director/Musical Director/Bassist). (May – August 2009). *Always...Patsy Cline* by Ted Swindley. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers (Professional Director's Union; hereafter SSDC).

Thomas J. Ossowski (Producer/Musical Director/Bassist). (May – August 2009). *Annie Get Your Gun* by Irving Berlin and Peter Stone. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Producer/Director/Bassist). (May – August 2009). *Hello, Dolly!* By Michael Stewart and Jerry Herman. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Producer/Bassist). (July 2009). *The Golden Age of Broadway – A Cabaret*. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Producer/Bassist). (August 2009). *Broadway Today – A Cabaret*. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2008). *Oklahoma!* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2008). *South Pacific* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2008). *Guys & Dolls* by Frank Loesser, Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2007). *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* by Clark Gesner. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2007). *Lucky Stiff* by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (June - August 2007). *Best of Broadway, A Musical Revue* conceptualized, written and arranged by Thomas J. Ossowski. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska: SSDC.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (June - August 2006). *The Fantasticks!* by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Musical Director). (May - August 2005). *Crazy for You* by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin. The Bigfork Musical Theatre, Bigfork, Montana.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director). (May - August 2005). *Chicago* by John Kander and Fred Ebb. The Bigfork Musical Theatre, Bigfork, Montana.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director and Vocal/Instrumental Arranger). (May - August 2005). *Grease* by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. The Bigfork Musical Theatre, Bigfork, Montana.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (June - August 2004). *Greater Tuna* by Joe Sears, Jaston Williams and Ed Howard. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson, Nebraska.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Casting). (April 2003 - New York). *Big Bang* by Jed Feuer and Boyd Graham. Centennial Theatre Festival, Simbury, Connecticut: Actor's Equity Association (Professional Actor's Union, hereafter AEA).

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director). (July 2001). *Little Shop of Horrors* by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman. Centennial Theatre Festival, Simbury, Connecticut: Equity AEA.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director). (May - August 2000). *Fiddler on the Roof* by S. Harnick and J. Bock. The Bigfork Musical Theatre, Bigfork, Montana.

- Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director). (May - August 2000). *Paint Your Wagon* by Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner. The Bigfork Musical Theatre, Bigfork, Montana.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director). (May - June 1999). *Oh, Coward* by Noel Coward. The Dixie Theatre, Apalachicola, Florida: Equity AEA.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (July - August 1999). *Twice Around the Park* by Murray Schisgal. The Dixie Theatre, Apalachicola, Florida: Equity AEA.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Musical Director/Conductor). (May - August 1998). *Children of Eden* by Stephen Schwartz. Seaside Music Theatre, Daytona Beach, Florida: Guest Equity.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Artistic Director). (May - August 1998). *Fiddler on the Roof* by S. Harnick and J. Bock. Seaside Music Theatre, Daytona Beach, Florida: Guest Equity.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Artistic Director). (May - August 1998). *High Spirits* by Hugh Martin and Timothy Gray. Seaside Music Theatre, Daytona Beach, Florida: Guest Equity.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Artistic Director). (May - August 1998). *La Boheme* by Giacomo Puccini. Seaside Music Theatre, Daytona Beach, Florida: Guest Equity.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director/Accompanist). (May - August 1998). *School House Rock*. Seaside Music Theatre, Daytona Beach, Florida: Guest Equity.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Director). (August 1998). *Driving Miss Daisy* by Bruce Beresford. The Dixie Theatre, Apalachicola, Florida: Equity AEA.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Assistant Director/Stage Manager). (May - August 1997). *The Lost Colony*. The Lost Colony, 60th Anniversary Season, Manteo, North Carolina.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (July 1997). *Play On!* By Rick Abbott. The Lost Colony, Manteo, North Carolina.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (1994). *Guys & Dolls* by Frank Loesser. Island Center for the Performing Arts, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (1993). *Grease* by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. Island Center for the Performing Arts, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director and Conductor). (1992). *Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim. Island Center for the Performing Arts, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director and Conductor). (1991). *Oklahoma!* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Island Center for the Performing Arts, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director). (March 1986). *Guys & Dolls* by Frank Loesser. Zug Theatre, Zug, Switzerland.

Educational Performances - Florida State University

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (February 2009). *Hair* by Gerome Ragni, James Rado and Galt MacDermot.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director/Conductor). (December 2008). *South Pacific in Concert* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Starring Davis Gaines and Lynn McNutt.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director/Conductor). (October 2008). *Thoroughly Modern Millie* by Jeanine Tesori, Dick Scanlan, and Richard Morris.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (February 2008). *The Rocky Horror Show* by Richard O'Brien.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director/Conductor). (December 2007). *Man of LaMancha in Concert* by Mitch Leigh, Joe Darion, Dale Wasserman. Starring Davis Gaines & Susan Russell.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director/Conductor). (October 2007). *Into The Woods* by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director/Musical Director). (February 2007). *Sweeney Todd* by Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler.

Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director/Conductor). (October 2006). *Urinetown* by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis.

Educational Performances - Illinois Wesleyan University

Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Musical Director/Conductor). (October 2005). *Urinetown* by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis.

Creative activities that occurred prior to employment at FSU.

- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (March 2005). *Chicago* by John Kander and Fred Ebb.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (October 2004). *The Rocky Horror Show* by Richard O'Brien.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Musical Director). (March 2004). *A New Brain* by William Finn.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Musical Director). (October 2003). *Rags* by Joseph Stein, Charles Strouse, and Stephen Schwartz.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Musical Director and Conductor). (March 2003). *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Musical Director). (October 2002). *42nd Street* by Harry Warren and Al Dubin. Original Orchestrations for I Only Have Eyes for You by Thomas J. Ossowski.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director and Music Director). (March 2002). *Lucky Stiff* by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director, Music Director/Conductor). (October 2001). *Little Shop of Horrors* by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Music Director/Conductor/Orchestra Arrangements). (April 2001). *Cabaret* by John Kander and Fred Ebb.
- Thomas J. Ossowski (Director). (October 2000). *The Marriage of Figaro* by W.A. Mozart, English Version by Edward Dent.

Presentations

Invited Presentations

International Presentations 66%, Regional Presentations 33%.

Thomas J. Ossowski. (2009, March). Panel Presentation. *Straight from ProDiv (Professional Theatre Company Reps): Top Five Factors That Affect Our Casting Choices*. Sponsored by the Southeastern Theatre Conference, Birmingham, Alabama. (regional presentation).

Thomas J. Ossowski. (2009, January). *Tying It All Together: A Course in Acting, Singing and Dance*. Sponsored by the Musical Theatre Educators Alliance - International 2009, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, Virginia. (international presentation).

Thomas J. Ossowski. (2006, April). *Season Selection: Challenges and Opportunities* sponsored by the International Music Theatre Training Symposium, New York, New York. (international presentation).

Contracts and Grants

Contracts and Grants Funded

ARRA Nebraska Arts Jobs. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park Nebraska, Arts Council Stimulus Package Grant. (2009-2010). Total award \$9,915.00.

Peter Kiewit Foundation. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Internship Program. (June - August 2009). Total award \$5,640.

Dawes County Travel Board. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Donation. (2009). Total award \$1,500.

Chadron State College. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park. (2009). In-Kind Donation, Total award \$4,000.

H & R Block. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, In-kind Donation. (2009). Total award \$5,000.

Nebraska Council of the Arts. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Guest Artist Program. (May 2009). Total award \$836.

First National Bank of Chadron. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Donation. (2009). Total award \$1,500.

First National Bank of North Platte. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Donation. (2009). Total award \$1,500.

Nebraska Travel Board. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Grant. (2009). Total award \$1,500.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Internship Program. (June - August 2008). Total award \$2,820.

Cooper Foundation. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park Internship Program. (June - August 2008). Total award \$8,460.

Nebraska Council of the Arts. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park, Guest Artist Program. (June - August 2008). Total award \$2,528.

Florida State University. First Year Assistant Professor Grant. (May - August 2007).
Total award \$16,000.

Nebraska Council of the Arts. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park. (May - August 2007). Total award \$6,540.

H & R Block. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park. (May - August 2007). In-Kind Donation, Total award \$ 5,000.

Pepsi of Alliance. Post Playhouse, Fort Robinson State Park. (May - August 2007).
Total award \$ 1,200.

SERVICE

Florida State University

School of Theatre

Committee Member, Performance Area Committee (2006 - present).
Committee Member, MFA Directing Committee (2006 - present).
Committee Member, Production and Season Selection Committee (2006 - present).
Committee Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee (2007 - 2008).

Music Theatre Program

Committee Member, BFA Music Theatre Prospective Freshmen Auditions Committee (2006 - 2009).
Committee Member, BFA Music Theatre Jury Committee (2006 - 2009).

Additional Service

BFA Music Theatre Professional Audition. Selection and preparation of materials. (2006 - present).
Guest Speaker for Theatre 2000, The American Musical (Spring 2007).

Illinois Wesleyan University

University

Committee Member, Career Center Liaison Committee (2002 - 2006).
Committee Chairperson (2002 - 2005).

Service activities that occurred before employment at FSU.

Committee on Diversity, Committee Convener (2003 - 2004).

School of Theatre Arts

Committee Chairperson, Faculty Search Committee (2005 - 2006).

Music Theatre Program

Committee Chairperson, BFA Music Theatre Program (1999 - 2006).

Committee Chairperson, BFA Music Theatre Prospective Freshmen Auditions
Committee (1999 - 2006).

Additional Service

Committee Chairperson, Illinois Wesleyan University Non-Org - "IWU Diversity
Revisited: People, Ideas & Committees" (2004).

Committee Co-Chairperson, *A New Brain* post show talk-back - Committee of Diversity
(2004).

Director, Celebrating the Ten-Year Anniversary of IWU Women's Studies Program.
Performance with cast from *A New Brain* (2004).

Director, Holiday Faculty and Staff Luncheon.
Selections from *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* by Joe DiPietro and Jimmy
Roberts and various holiday music. (December 2003).

Director, Board of Trustees Presentation from *The Marriage of Figaro* (Fall 2000).

Music Theatre Program Development

Complete Program Curriculum Revision, Illinois Wesleyan University – Fall 2002
Recruiting and Auditioning Prospective Freshmen, Illinois Wesleyan University (1999 –
2005)

Music Theatre Applied Voice and Accompanist Program, Illinois Wesleyan University
(1999 – 2005)

Professional auditions, placement and pre-screening program, Illinois Wesleyan
University (1999 – 2005)

Music Theatre Juries and Advising, Illinois Wesleyan University (1999 – 2005)

The Profession

Service to Professional Associations

Officer, Music Theatre Educator Alliance – Member of the Executive Board (2004-present).

Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, Virginia (January 2009).

New York University, New York, New York (January 2006).

Wright State University - Dayton, Ohio (May 2003).

New York University - New York, New York (January 2002).

The University of the Arts - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (October 2000).

American College Theater Festival - ACTF Performance Adjudication

Shadow Box - Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois (1999).

Company - Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois (2000).

Guys & Dolls - Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois (2000).

The Community

Service to the Community

Tallahassee Theatre Guild

Presentation – Songs & Scene from *Hair* (January 2009).

Presentation – Songs from *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (September 2008).

Presentation – Scenes & Songs from *Man of LaMancha* (November 2007).

Presentation – Scenes & Songs from *Sweeney Todd* (January 2007).

Consultation

West Virginia Wesleyan College, developing a new BFA Music Theatre Program, (1999).