Performing Arts Department

Portrait of the Minors
A minor degree program within the Performing Arts Department at Thiel College encompasses basic knowledge of the elements of music, individual private lessons and ensemble performance for minors in music, and the basic principles and mechanics of acting, directing and design for minors in theater. The curriculum is based on a set of core foundation courses in theory, history and demonstrated proficiency in individual skills needed for musical and theatrical performance. You will build upon this foundation both with coursework and participation in musical ensembles and/or theatrical productions. This knowledge and experience will broaden you personally and enhance your portfolio for application to graduate studies or employment in a wide range of fields in your major or related to the performing arts.

Curriculum Highlights
The Performing Arts Department offers four minors—music, theater, church music and performing arts (combining theater and music). Sequential music theory and basic acting courses are generally completed during the student’s first two years of study. Participation in musical ensembles and theater productions is common throughout a student’s college career, allowing for an intensive, challenging and creative environment in which to flourish.

Special Features
By studying music or theater at Thiel College, you will be able to:
• Receive personal attention and hands-on experience through small class sizes.
• Receive private coaching and instruction in acting, voice, piano, guitar and all instruments.
• Perform in musical ensembles and theatrical productions beginning in the first year.
• Enjoy exceptional performing facilities—William A. Robinson Theater, the David Johnson Memorial Chapel and the William A. Passavant Memorial Center.
• Experience thrilling Tomcat Marching Pride band performances, annual Thiel Choir tours, Concert Band tours and international tours with the Thiel Choir every four years.
• Study with accomplished, personable professors skilled in their disciplines.

Career and Graduate School Outlook
A liberal arts education that includes experience in the performing arts has a proven ability to enhance marketability in the workplace and enable students to participate in community choral and theatrical organizations.

Contact Information
Dr. Michael Bray, Professor of Music and Department Chair • mbray@thiel.edu • 724-589-2149
800-24-THIEL • 724-589-2345 • admissions@thiel.edu
75 College Ave., Greenville, PA 16125
By the end of my first semester at Thiel I felt a personal connection and commitment not only to my education, but to the Thiel community. The friendships I formed through participating in marching band helped me adjust to college life and eventually proved to be lifelong relationships. As a member of the Dietrich Honors Institute, I was greatly challenged in my academic endeavors. My greatest challenge came in my freshman year when I took Honors Oral and Written Expression I and II. Although the class stretched my abilities to the limits, I walked out of that classroom with much more than just improved language skills. Thiel gives you the opportunity to make your college experience whatever you want it to be.”

Joy Tubero ’14
Independence, Ohio
Major: Business Administration/Mortuary Science
Clubs and Organizations: Concert band, Marching Band, Dietrich Honors Institute, Lambda Sigma (sophomore service honorary), Pi Nu Epsilon (music honorary), Les Lauriers (senior service honorary, Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority)

“I loved being a part of the Thiel Choir and Thiel Players. I have been singing since I was young and was really looking forward to continuing doing so with a wonderfully talented and diverse choir. Theater became a love of mine because of Dr. Robinson’s infectious love for it. Every year I looked forward to auditions and performances. Dr. Bray and Dr. Robinson were very influential in my life and my professional career. While I am not singing or acting professionally, being taught by those two outstanding men has helped me be more open to meeting new people, trying new experiences, and generally just loving life and living it to the fullest. Their love, compassion, and caring for their students makes them stand out to me above all the other professors I had.”

Amy Boxer ’15
Erie, Pa
Major: Psychology
Minors: Religion and Music
Clubs and Organizations: The Thiel Choir, Chamber Singers, Thiel Players, Alpha Psi Omega (theater honorary), Pi Nu Epsilon (music honorary), Women’s Lacrosse

“Singing in the choir is a way to escape the stress of the world and participate in something I love to do. It is a great way to make friends who have an instant bond with you through music. Performing on the stage gives a person the freedom to be something they are not. It is a way of expressing your emotions in a healthy way. Being a part of the theater has helped me grow not only as a performer but as a human being. The performing arts help you build confidence in working with others as well as sharing your talents in order to make a difference in someone else’s life.”

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