

Matt Hawkins
Assistant Professor of the Practice
Head of Musical Theatre

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Areas of Specialization:

History of the American Broadway Musical, Modern performance styles and techniques (musical and non-musical), Period movement and dance styles, Psycho-physical acting in performance, Physical and emotional risk and how it relates to Clowning, Direction and conceptualization of heightened theatrical stage productions (musical and non-musical), Dramaturgical analysis of theatrical texts/plays, Violence and stage combat in performance with a focus on tai-chi and the use of theatrical weaponry, Designing innovative interdisciplinary work for the stage and the classroom, utilizing Shakespeare as a tool for community outreach and education.

Classes:

Musical Theatre History, Musical Theatre Performance Techniques, Musical Theatre Movement/Dance Styles

Matt Hawkins is a Chicago based director, actor, fight choreographer and movement director.

Directing credits include: *Macbeth* (Chicago Public Schools at Chicago Shakespeare); *The Fantasticks* (remount at South Coast Rep), *Hair*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To the Forum*, *Pirates of Penzance* (Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts at Northwestern University); *Cabaret*, *The Tennessee Williams Project*, *365 Days/365 Plays* (The Hypocrites); *CYRANO*, *Hatfield & McCoy* (The House Theatre of Chicago); *Humbaba*, *Lysistrata*, *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, *All That Shines*, *Lady M* (The University of Iowa); *12 Angry Men* (DePaul University); *The Suicide* (Roosevelt University); *Macbeth* (North Central College); *Failure: A Love Story* (Lake Forest College); *The Arsonists*, *Big Love*, *Red Noses*, *Red Noses Remounted* (Strawdog); *Good People*, *Going To A Place Where You Already Are* (Redtwist); *After* (Profiles); *On My Parents' 100th Wedding Anniversary* (Side Project); *Alice*, *Fear* (Neo-Futurists); *Bad Feeling* (American Theater Company- Silver Project); *Selah Songs* (Redmoon);

Movement/Fight Choreography credits include: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Private Lives*, *Othello* (American Players Theater); *Les Miserables*, *West Side Story*, *Billy Elliot*, *Deathtrap* (Drury Lane Oak Brook); *Shakespeare In Love*, *Tug of War*, *Othello* *King Lear*, *Henry V*, *Julius Caesar*, *Cadre*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *Edward II*, *Henry VIII*, *Roadshow*, *Short Shakes A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Short Shakes Romeo and Juliet*, *Short Shakes Macbeth*, *Short Shakes Twelfth Night* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Chicago Public Schools at Chicago Shakespeare); *Peter Pan*, *Trust*, *Fedra*, *Black Diamond*, *Brothers Karamazov*, *Bengal Tiger At The Baghdad Zoo*, *North China Lover* (Lookingglass); *The Mystery of Love and Sex*, *The*

Scene, East Texas Hot Links, The Caretaker, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, Do the Hustle, Hesperia (Writers' Theatre); *Hir, East of Eden, The Night Alive, The Qualms, The Wheel, Belleville, The Motherf**ker With The Hat, Birthday Party, The March, Detroit, Middletown, A Man in Love, Separate Peace* (Steppenwolf); *A View From A Bridge, True West, Grease* (American Theatre Company); *Long Days Journey Into Night, 7 Guitars, Wait Until Dark, The Mystery of Irma Vep* (Court Theatre); *Christmas Story* (Paramount); *October Sky, Spring Awakening* (Marriott); *Dangerous Beauty, Not Wanted on the Voyage* (American Music Theater Project); *Discord* (Northlight); *Byhalia Mississippi, The Octoroon* (Definition); *True West, Desire Under The Elms, Three Penny Opera, Hairy Ape, Oedipus, Frankenstein* (The Hypocrites); *Revel, Peter Pan, Cave With Man, Wizard of Oz, Curse of the Crying Heart, Valentine Victorious, The Hammer Trilogy* (The House); *Three Musketeers, Tale of Two Cities, Soon I Will Be Invincible* (Lifeline); *Motortown, The Hollow Lands* (Steep); *The Last Wife* (Timeline); *Macbeth* (CityLit); *Ballad of the Sad Café* (Signal Ensemble); *Cymbeline* (Strawdog); *Urinetown, The Great Gatsby, Equivocation, Tommy, Peter Pan* (Wirtz Performing Arts at Northwestern University); *Romeo and Juliet, Spring Awakening, Pirates of Penzance, As You Like It, Twelfth Night* (Loyola University); *Romeo and Juliet, Taming of the Shrew, A Midsummer Nights Dream and Parade* (North Central College).

Acting credits include: *Julius Caesar, A Streetcar Named Desire* (Writers' Theatre-the role of Stanley Kowalski, directed by David Cromer); *The Great God Pan* (Next Theater, directed by Kimberly Senior); *The Elephant Deal* at Steppenwolf (500 Clown, directed by Leslie Buxbaum Danzig); *The Merchant of Venice, Romeo and Juliet* (Chicago Shakespeare, directed by Barbara Gaines); *Henry IV Parts I and II* at the Royal Shakespeare Company in England (Chicago Shakespeare Tour); *Hunchback* (Redmoon); *Guys and Dolls, South Pacific, The Seagull* (Dallas Theatre Center); *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Dallas Children's Theatre).

Matt is an Assistant Professor of the Practice for the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre for the University of Notre Dame, where he serves as the Head of the Musical Theatre and teaches Musical Theatre History, Music Theatre Techniques and Musical Theatre Movement/Styles. Before coming to Notre Dame he served on faculty at Northwestern University teaching Musical Theatre Techniques, Musical Theatre History, Movement Theory, Career Preparation and Stage Combat. He acted as the director of the Chicago Showcase for Northwestern's graduating seniors. He also served as an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University Chicago, teaching Movement Theory, Clown and Stage Combat. He has been on faculty at the Conservatory at Act One Studios, has taught at the University of Chicago, Roosevelt University, the University of Iowa and was a Guest Artist in Residency for the American Music Theatre Project at Northwestern. He is a Founding Member of The House Theatre of Chicago, an Artistic Associate and Resident Director with Strawdog Theatre, and has been an Artistic Associate with 500 Clown. He has worked with The Kennedy Center, Stratford Shakespeare Festival, The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Chicago Children's Theatre, Old Town School of Folk Music and his TV/Film Credits include *Happily After* (Glass City Films); and *Chicago Fire* (NBC). He was a Eugene O'Neill national director fellowship finalist and has served as the director for the Chicago Public School's annual production at Chicago Shakespeare

Theatre, which was the recipient of the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, presented by Michelle Obama in 2014. He has been nominated for thirteen Jeff Awards and has been awarded five, including three for Best Fight Choreography, one for Best Director of a Musical and Best Production of a Musical. He was named one of the top five “Most Prolific Artists Of The Decade” by Time Out Chicago and his production of *Red Noses* at Strawdog Theatre was named one of the Top Ten Shows of 2009 by Time Out Chicago. While completing his B.F.A. in acting from Southern Methodist University, he was the recipient of the Greer Garson Award, the Bob Hope Scholarship and the Dallas Critics’ Forum Award for Best Actor for his portrayal of Linus in *You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown*. He also holds an M.F.A. in directing from The University of Iowa, where he was an Iowa Arts Directing Fellow and the recipient of the IRAM Award for outstanding contribution to Iowa’s New Play Festival.

This upcoming year he will direct and choreograph *Spring Awakening* (Notre Dame); and also direct *Walk A Mile* (Erasing The Distance); *Hatfield & McCoy* (The House Theatre of Chicago); and choreograph violence for *Taming Of The Shrew, Macbeth* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Newsies* (Marriott Theatre); *Shakespeare in Love* (Asolo Rep). Matt is married to actor/director/documentarian Stacy Stoltz.