**Department of Theatre Mission, Goals, and Student Learning Outcomes:**

The Department of Theatre offers students the knowledge, skills, and critical perspectives necessary for building a strong foundation for a lifelong engagement with their art and their world.

Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre, Kean University's Department of Theatre mirrors the university's mission to provide a core educational foundation based on the liberal arts. The Department offers BA and BFA degree programs, constructed to make and teach theatre that celebrates the human condition and spirit. Our performance series provides quality, applied experiences that service the university and the surrounding community. During four years at Kean, students have the opportunity to explore and develop their potential as actors, educators, directors, stage managers, designers, technicians, administrators, and playwrights, and to develop the skills to pursue work in professional theatre and graduate school, or apply skills to a variety of professions both inside and outside the theatre. To this end, all theatre majors pursue coursework not only in theatre but also in the social and natural sciences, literature, technology, communications, and other areas of human experience. The study of theatre at Kean is enhanced by a partnership with Premiere Stages, an AEA company in residence, and proximity to New York, allowing for frequent guest artists.

In support of the above statements, we have developed specific student learning outcomes for the Department, attainable via coursework, mentorship, and participation in the theatre production series:

- **SLO 1:** Identify and articulate humanistic values and cultural diversity found in the study of theatre, represented by knowledge of the history, socio-cultural traditions, and literary richness. [KU1, KU2, KU4, GEK3, GEK4, GES3, GES4, GES5, GEV4]

- **SLO 2:** Demonstrate oral, written, and graphic communication skills as appropriate to theatre [KU1, KU4, GEK1, GEK3, GEK4, GES1, GES3, GES4, GES5]

- **SLO 3:** Exhibit analytical, critical, creative thinking/ability and supportive research techniques [KU1, KU4, GEK1, GEK3, GEK4, GES1, GES3, GES4, GES5]

- **SLO 4:** Synthesize theatrical elements in class projects, production, and performance [KU1, KU2, KU3, KU4, GEK1, GEK4, GES1, GES2, GES3, GES4, GES5, GEV1]

- **SLO 5:** Demonstrate competence in the major area of theatrical specialization by producing theatrical work [KU 1, 2, 3, 4, K4, GES1, GES2, GES3, GES4, GES5, GEV1, GEV4, GEV5]

- **SLO 6:** Articulate a coherent set of artistic/intellectual goals [KU 1, 2, 3, 4, K4, GES1, GES2, GES3, SGE4, GESS, GEV1, GEV4, GEV5]

Linked to the academic core of the department is the applied production program of fully mounted theatre performances, which serve as an indispensable laboratory for both the core liberal studies and the intensive professional studies of our major curriculum.
The production program is based on five primary goals:

1. Create for theatre students a pre-professional laboratory, in which to test and experiment with the practical and theoretical artistic skills and precepts that emanate from the academic curriculum under the guidance of professional faculty and visiting artists.

2. Enhance the cultural life of the university community through the presentation of the best theatre possible – in particular, a season of theatre balanced between that which is not readily available in the commercial sphere with those productions that are likely to have box office appeal – to audiences of all ages, but serving, primarily, the adult theategoer (i.e. students and the community).

3. Provide theatre majors, during the course of four-year rolling cycles, with as wide a range as possible of dramatic literature from various cultures and periods, including the presentation of new scripts, presented in a variety of theatrical modes.

4. Introduce students to the profession by co-producing work with the Kean’s resident professional production group, Premiere Stages, providing students access to and interaction with AEA professionals.

5. Provide the appropriate production opportunities and facilities for the creative process.

The Theatre Season shall be divided into three categories: Main Stage, Second Stage, and Workshop, supplemented by Premiere Stages, the resident professional company on campus.

**Main Stage Season:**

1. Shall consist of four completely realized productions annually;
2. May include an annual tour;
3. Shall be designed and directed by faculty members, qualified undergraduate students, or guest artists;
4. Shall be partially supported by income generated through patron and box office revenue;
5. Shall be determined, with the production staff assigned, in the preceding academic year.

**Second Stage Season:**

1. Shall consist of one production per semester, providing the scheduling is possible and qualified applications are presented;
2. Shall be partially or minimally-mounted in a venue appropriate to the scope and scale of the production;
3. Shall be designed and directed by qualified undergraduate students;
4. Shall be supported by moderate production budgets negotiated by the theatre council as producer;
5. Applications must be approved by the Department of Theatre faculty three months prior to auditions, or earlier.

**Workshop Season**

1. Shall consist of an undesignated number of productions and/or presentations annually;
2. Shall be essentially non-mounted productions (i.e. stock/unit pieces pulled but not modified, costumes pulled and minimally modified, and minimal lighting) presented in black box, classroom, or appropriate workshop venue;
3. Shall be directed or coordinated by qualified faculty, staff, visiting artists, or undergraduate students;
4. Shall be produced with budgets limited to applicable royalties and/or fees;
5. Shall represent the realization of specific training objectives of the students involved in the productions and/or presentations.