

The background is a stylized theater stage. It features a light yellow wall with a white cloud hanging from the top. On either side, there are golden pillars with three spotlights each, pointing towards the center. At the bottom, there are seven red theater seats. The title is written in a large, black, cursive font.

Curtain Call: Creating a Season of Possibilities

Hannah Formella Zdroik
High School Theatre

Student Learning Outcomes

- I can identify the considerations that influence a theatre season and develop knowledge for the importance of a well-
- I can create a theatrical season based on the consideration of demographics, relevance, budget, and guidelines and unite these aspects with an overarching theme.
- I can verbalize rationales for selecting a theatre season and analyze the relationship between the intentionality behind theatre season decisions and choices selected.
- I can identify the purpose of a theatre season and use this knowledge to further my appreciation for theatrical works that are selected going forward.

The background of the slide is a stylized theater stage. At the top, there are two gold pillars on either side, each with three spotlights pointing towards the center. The word "Introduction" is written in a large, black, cursive font, partially obscured by a white cloud-like shape. Below the title, the word "Discussion:" is written in a simple black font. Underneath that, there are two bullet points. At the bottom of the slide, there is a row of seven red theater seats, viewed from behind, with a small white oval on the floor in front of them.

Introduction

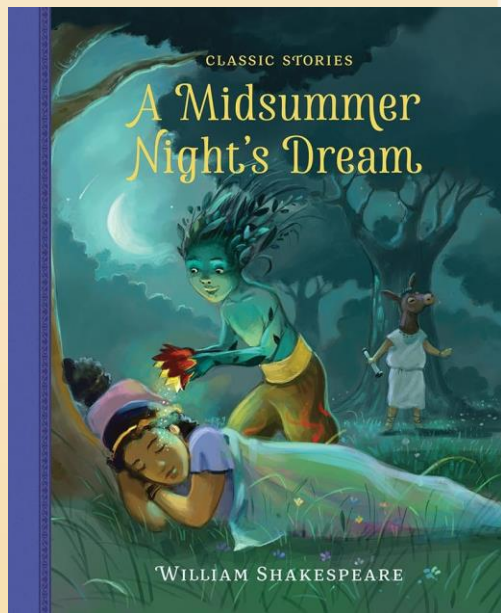
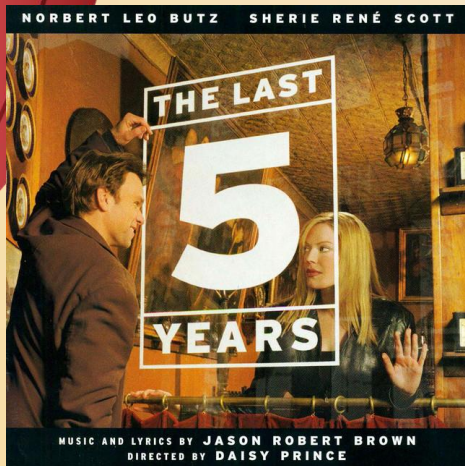
Discussion:

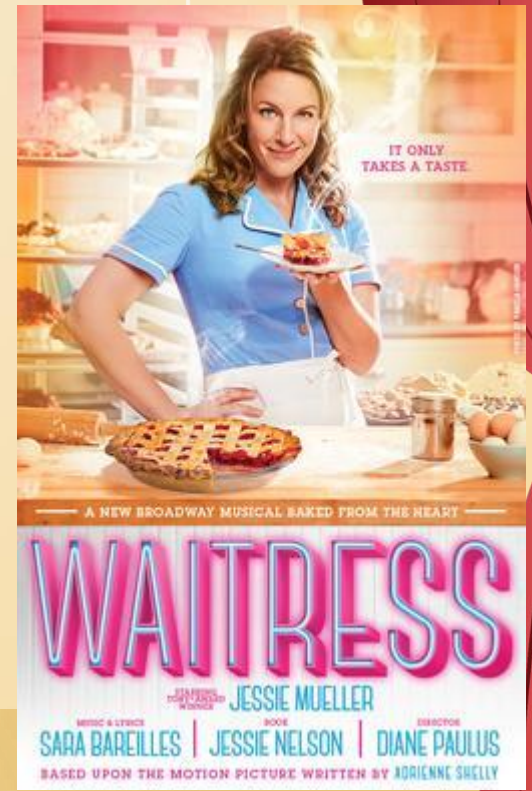
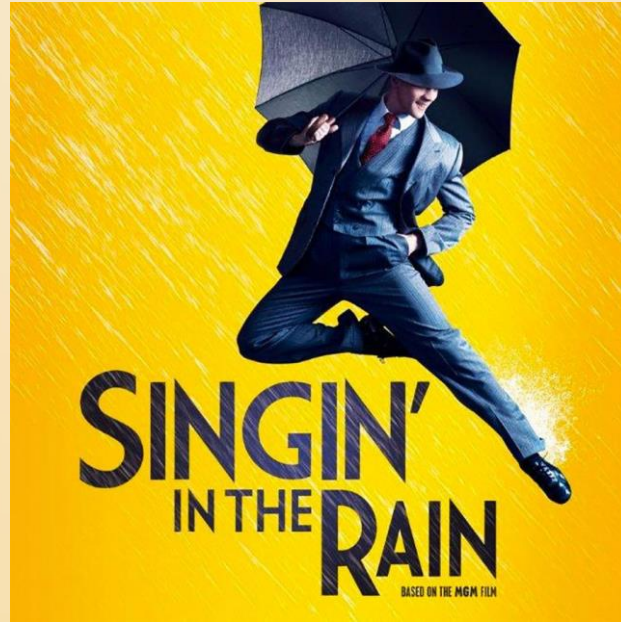
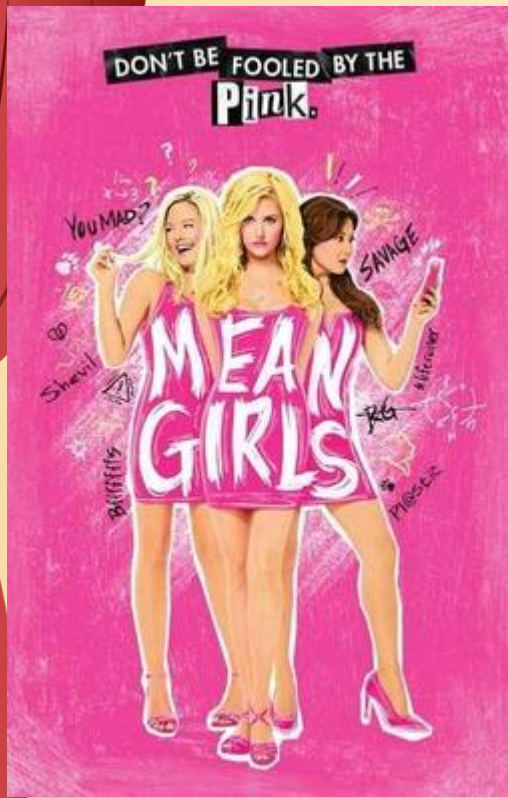
- What is a theatre season?
- Where have you seen them advertised?

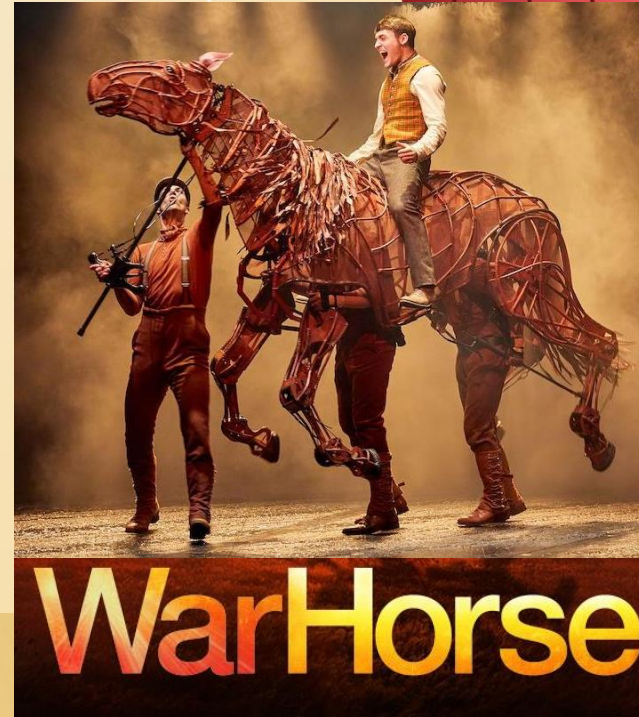
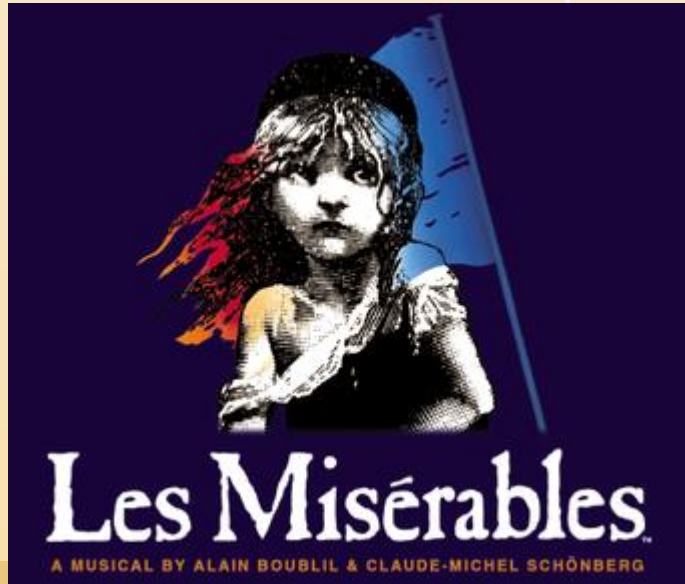
Activity 01

Guess the Theme









Discussion:

- What may influence a theatre season?
- What is the purpose of a theatre season, or a theatre season theme?
- If you were a producer, what season picks would you choose?



Vocabulary/Input

Demographic	the statistical characteristics of human populations (such as age or income) used especially to identify certain markets.
Budget	a quantity involved in, available for, or assignable to a particular situation.
Theatre Season	A period of time in which a series of theatrical works are chosen and produced.
Sensory Friendly Theatre	Designed for both the production and audience experience in mind to create an inclusive and welcoming theatre experience for those who may have sensory sensitivities.
Children's Theatre	A form of theatre that is targeted for younger audiences and frequently young actors. Storytelling for the developing mind.
Review Terms	
Non-Profit Theatre	A theatre company centered towards a mission of accomplishing artistic goals; could be related to the love of arts, education, charity, etc.
Commercial Theatre	A theatre company based on the foundation of business and building revenue; the aim is to make a profit.
Producer	A person who manages all aspects of a production.

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Activity 2
Theatre Season
Concept Map

Spoon River Anthology



By Edgar Lee Masters
Adapted by Charles Aldman

September
21-24, 2023

WAUSAU, STEVENS POINT,
MARSHFIELD

SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY

A STAGED READING

Directed by Jim O'Connell Spoon River Anthology, by Edgar Lee Masters, is a collection of short free verse poems that collectively narrates the epitaphs of the residents of the fictional Spoon River, Illinois. They are spoken from beyond the grave by former residents of the dreary, confining small town.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

The Moors



By Jen Silverman

October 13-15
and 19-21, 2023

STUDIO THEATRE

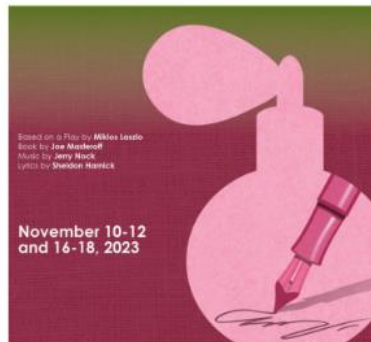
THE MOORS

Directed by Laurie Schmeling and Sarah E. Ross Two sisters and a dog live out their lives on the bleak English moors, dreaming of love and power. The arrival of a hapless governess and a moor-hen set all three on a strange and dangerous path. The Moors is a dark comedy about love, desperation, and visibility.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

She Loves Me



Based on a Play by Mária Lenzi
Book by Joe Mankoff
Music by Jerry Mack
Lyrics by Sheldon Harlick

November 10-12
and 16-18, 2023

JENKINS THEATRE

SHE LOVES ME

Directed by Mark Hanson In this scented case of mistaken identity and letter writing, two feuding perfume clerks have no idea that they are in love. Set in a 1930s European perfumery, we meet shop clerks, Amalia and Georg, who, more often than not, don't see eye to eye. After both respond to a "lonely hearts advertisement" in the newspaper, they now live for the love letters that they admirers remains unknown. Join Amalia and Georg to discover the identity of their true loves... and all the twists and turns along the way!

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Afterimages 2023



December 7-10, 2023

Featuring
Student Choreography

JENKINS THEATRE

AFTERIMAGES 2023

Afterimages is an exciting and unique experience in the Department of Theatre and Dance. It features original choreography by dance majors and minors who are eager to experiment with their artistry and uses dance to explore their relationship to the world around them. This shared artistic experience focuses on student involvement and allows for collaboration and contribution from all aspects of our department. The choreographers, dancers, designers, and technicians are all UWSP Theatre and Dance students!

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Eurydice

By Sarah Ruhl

A Staged Reading

February
8-11, 2024



WAUSAU, STEVENS POINT,
MARSHFIELD

EURYDICE

A STAGED READING

Directed by Greg Prager "Eurydice" reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus and Eurydice not through Orpheus's infamous pilgrimage to retrieve his bride, but through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice must journey to the underworld, where she reunites with her father and struggles to remember her lost love. With contemporary characters, plot twists, and a script written to be a playground for designers, the play is a fresh look at a timeless love story.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Kodachrome

By Adam Ljwmskwa

March 1-3
and 7-9, 2024



STUDIO THEATRE

KODACHROME

Directed by Tyler Marchant Welcome to Colchester, a small town where everybody knows each other and the pace of life allows the pursuit of love to take up as much space as it needs. Our tour guide is Suzanne, the town photographer, who lets us peek into her neighbors' lives to catch glimpses of romance in all its stages of development. A play about love, nostalgia, the seasons and how we learn to say goodbye.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Bright Star

Music, Book & Story by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell

April 12-14
and 18-20, 2024



JENKINS THEATRE

BRIGHT STAR

Inspired by a true story, BRIGHT STAR tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s. When literary editor Alice Murphy meets a young soldier just home from World War II, he awakens her longing for the child she once lost. Haunted by their unique connection, Alice sets out on a journey to understand her past—and what she finds has the power to transform both of their lives. An uplifting theatrical journey that holds you tightly in its grasp, BRIGHT STAR is as refreshingly genuine as it is daringly hopeful.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Danstage 2024

May 3-5, 2024

Head work by Michael Estanich,
Jeannie Hill, Sarah Olson,
and Guest Artist



STUDIO THEATRE

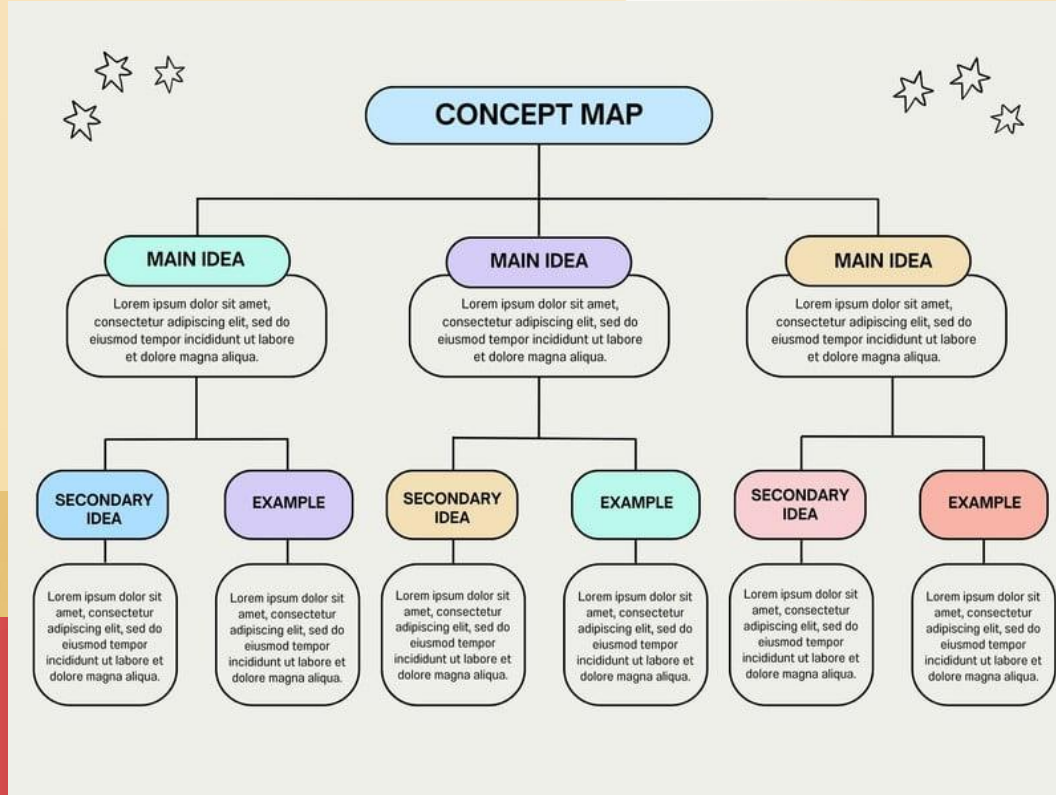
DANSTAGE 2024

An exciting evening of new works created by UWSP Dance Program faculty Michael Estanich, Jeannie Hill, Sarah Olson, and a nationally recognized guest artist that displays the remarkable versatility of the UWSP Dance Program. The concert demonstrates the vast range that dance encompasses—in style, intention, feeling, and purpose. The dances created are rich investigations of the questions that we ponder in life and each one reveals, through the moving body, something special and unique.

TICKETS

PROGRAM

Concept Map



Let's Make Connections



Demographic

What demographic/type of theater do you think this is?



Overarching Theme

What themes stand out to you with these selections?

In your opinion, is this an effective and well-balanced season?

Project: Design Your Own Theatre Season!

You will create your own theatre season in groups! There's a catch! You will need to make sure it meets the producer's requirements...



Required Elements

01

Demographic

Picked at random.

02

Guidelines

At least 1 Play

At least 1 Musical

At least 1 child-friendly option

At least 1 “classic”

03

Assigned Fun “Rule”

Picked at random.

04

Name of Theme

But SHH! It’s a secret! We will all guess your theme at the end of class.

05

Rationale

Write a 5-8 sentence explanation for each production chosen in their season.

06

Name of the Theatre Group

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. Two white clouds are hanging from the top. In the foreground, there are seven red chairs with rounded backs, arranged in a row. The background is a light yellow color.

Presentation: Bringing it all together

You will create a
SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT VIDEO
announcement of your season!

The logo for Northlight Theatre is centered on a dark blue rectangular background. The text "NORTHLIGHT" is on the top line and "THEATRE" is on the bottom line, both in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font. The background of the entire image is a stylized theater interior with red curtains on the left and right sides, and a row of red theater seats at the bottom. The walls are a light yellow color.

NORTHLIGHT
THEATRE

Considerations



Number

How many will shows will your season have?



Budget

Do some research on a realistic budget for your demographic.



Community

How will your season impact your community?
What is your goal with this season?

Modeling - Example



2025-2026

Season Announcement

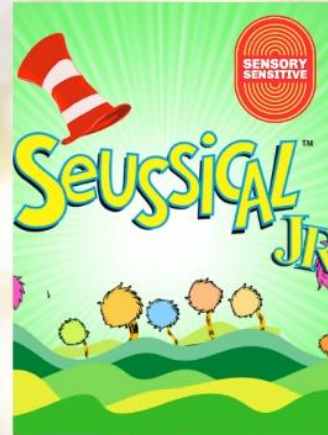


A Murder Mystery Radio Play

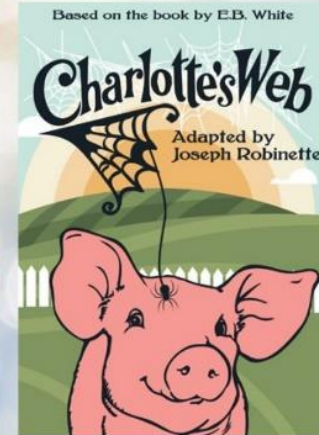
October 24-25, 2025



January 30-31, 2026



June 17-20, 2026



September 19-21, 2025

SHHH!!

Keep your
theme a
secret so we
can all guess!









WORK TIME

The background is a light yellow stage. On the left and right sides, there are golden pillars. Three spotlights are mounted on each pillar, pointing towards the center. In the center, there are two white clouds hanging from the top. At the bottom, there is a row of seven red chairs.

*Presentations:
Season
Announcements!*



Closing Activity - Circle Time

- 
- 
- 
- 
- What was your favorite part of today's lesson and why?
 - What do you believe are some common major themes in choosing a theatre season?
 - What was something you learned, or haven't considered prior to this lesson?
 - What are some of the big takeaways from today?

Journals

In your journals, write a brief reflection on the impact of a theatrical work you have seen. Where did you see it? Why do you think they chose to produce that show? Was it part of a theme?

With what you have learned today, what information has impacted you for the future?



Homework

Look up a theatre organization and review their season. Write a half page paper OR record a 3-minute overview about what you discovered and share the relationship of choices between your own class project to the organization of choice's season.

