

# Michael C. Morrison

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Objective:

To produce art that is relevant to current sociological issues and movements. To educate young professionals with a holistic approach to performance technique and the collaborative process. To continue to research new innovations in style and technique within the theatrical process.

### Education:

- **The University Southern Mississippi** (USM) – MFA in Theatre Performance (2015)
- **Middle Tennessee State University** (MTSU) – BS in Liberal Studies emphasis in Music and Theatre Performance (2010)

### Certifications:

- **Boston Conservatory** – Certificate of Distinction/ Vocal Pedagogy (July 2021)
- **Lessac Vocal Practitioner** – Lessac Institute (active since May 2017)
- **Unarmed Combat** – Dueling Arts International (inactive – pursuing renewal)
- **Small Sword** – Dueling Arts International (inactive – pursuing renewal)

### Training:

- **Vocal Pedagogy:** Boston Conservatory – Vocal Pedagogy Professional Workshop, H. Stephen Smith (MTSU)
- **Directing:** Kim Tobin-Lehl
- **Arts Management:** Kim Tobin-Lehl
- **Lessac Vocal Technique:** Robin Aronson (President Emeritus – Lessac Institute, Lessac Certified Trainer, USM).
- **Classical Voice Training:** Stephen Smith (MTSU, Stockholm Opera) Tommy Gaines (Memphis Opera)
- **Dialects:** Robin Aronson(USM)
- **Suzuki Technique:** Robin Aronson (USM)
- **Voice Over Technique:** Robin Aronson(USM)
- **Musical Theatre:** Robin Aronson(USM), Dale McGuilliard (MTSU)
- **Spoken Word Technique:** Robin Aronson (USM)
- **Shakespeare:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Greek Theatre:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Uta Hagen Process:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Lugering Expressive Actor:** Sean Boyd, Lugering certified Master Teacher, (USM)
- **20th Century Theatre:** Louis Rackoff (USM)
- **Music Industry:** Cedric Dent (10 time Grammy award winning member of Take 6)
- **Stage Movement:** Kim Nofsinger (MTSU)
- **Ballet:** Shellie Neilson (USM)
- **Modern Dance:** Marsha Barskey (MTSU)
- **Jazz Dance:** Kim Nofsinger (MTSU) Erin Rehberg (MTSU)
- **Auditioning:** Monica Hayes (USM)

# Teaching Experience

Michael C. Morrison

## The University of St. Thomas - Houston (2019 - present)

### Associate Professor of Drama

**Responsibilities** - Create and implement curriculum based on the objectives of the drama program, institution requirements, and the university mission. Instruct students both in class and via private coaching. Advise students on academic and professional choices. Direct at least one full scale production every academic year. Vocal and dialect coach for productions. Create and manage internships and professional opportunities for Drama majors with professional theatres. Manage the social media and digital content for the drama program. Create, research, and produce theatrical works for the university and drama program. Serve on Faculty Senate representing Fine Arts and Library.

### Classes Taught

#### **Intro to Theatre:** (Fall 2019 - Spring 2024 - 10 sections)

Survey Course focusing on the process of theatre, history of theatre, and the cultural impact of theatre.

#### **Acting 1:** (Fall 2019 - Spring 2024 - 6 sections)

Beginning acting course focusing on the fundamentals of acting in character creation, movement, voice, and script analysis. Course is a requirement for majors.

#### **Theatre Speech:** (Spring 2020 Fall 2022, Fall 2024)

Vocal technique course focused on Lessac Kinesensics along with other techniques for healthy vocal production, character creation, and theatrical styles.

#### **Musical Theatre Performance:** (Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2024)

Course focused on vocal and performance techniques specific to musical theatre and the various styles and genres found within musical theatre.

#### **Movement for the Actor:** (Fall 2020, Fall 2023, Fall 2025)

Course focused on various stage movement techniques including the Lugerling Expressive Actor technique, Viewpoints, and Suzuki

#### **Auditioning and Professional Practice:** (Spring 2023)

Course focused on audition technique, interview skills, resume and content building, and common perspectives, standards, and practices in the professional theatre.

#### **Comedic Styles:** (Fall 2022)

Course focused on the various comedic styles found in theatre including Commedia dell'Arte, Farce, High Comedy, and Satire/Parody among others.

# Teaching Experience

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## The University of St. Thomas - Houston (continued)

### Associate Professor of Drama

#### **Styles of Acting:** (Spring 2024)

Class focused on various styles of acting found in theatre throughout theatrical history. Styles covered include Greek, Shakespeare, Restoration Comedy, Commedia, Absurdism, etc. Students are required to demonstrate proficiency in the stylistic technique and knowledge of the culture that influenced said technique.

#### **Acting 2 - On-Camera and Digital Media:** (Spring 2024)

Course focused on the techniques associated with on-camera and creating content for digital/social media. Students were required to learn/ implement basic editing techniques as well.

#### **Theatre History 1 & 2:** (Fall 2023, 2024, 2025)

2 semester requirement: Theatre History 1, focusing on Antiquity to the 18th century. Theatre History 2 focusing on the 19th century to present day. Students are required to have a foundational knowledge of important movements, works, and key figures in theatre history as well as their sociological impact.

#### **Children's Theatre:** (Spring 2025)

Course focused on techniques and processes for creating theatre for young audiences. Class is required to create and perform a full production for grade school audiences at the end of the semester.

#### **Voice Over:** (Spring 2025)

Course focused creating voice based content in the digital realm. Students are required to create voice-overs for animation, commercials, audio books and film.

#### **University Service:**

- **Faculty Senate** (2021-2025) - representing Fine Arts, Drama, Dance, and Library
- **Faculty Development Committee** (2023-2025) - tasked with awarding grants to faculty and staff for presentations, conference attendance, and research

#### **Academic Presentations:**

- **Southeastern Theatre Conference** - Spring 2024 - *Does Not Disappoint: Creating a One-Person Show and Exploring Identity Through Performance*
- **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival** - Region 6 2025 - *Does Not Disappoint: Creating a One-Person Show and Exploring Identity Through Performance*

# Teaching Experience

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## Theatre Under The Stars (2017 – 2022)

### Teaching Artist/Showcase Director

**Responsibilities** – *Humphrey School for Musical Theatre* teaching artist specializing in teaching Lessac Voice, Acting, Movement, Auditioning and Stage Combat. Showcase director for the scene and song study class which taught students to approach character creation in musical theatre using the techniques of Uta Hagen, Lessac, Luger, and Viewpoints.

## A.D. Players Theatre Arts Academy (2017 – 2019)

### Teaching Artist/Dialect Coach

**Responsibilities** – Dialect coach for the Young Adult Professionals production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Teaching Artist for the Theatre Arts Academy. Classes taught included an eight-week unarmed stage combat class, a semester long character development class using *Peter and the Starcatcher* as source material, and an improv class. All classes culminated with a showcase performance.

## Lone Star College Montgomery (2016-2019)

### Adjunct Professor/Theatre (Intro to Film and Theatre)

**Responsibilities** – Created and implemented curriculum based on the objectives of the theatre department and institution requirements. Class requirements for Theatre Appreciation and Film Appreciation included: the ability to analyze and critique the theatrical and filmmaking process, the ability to understand and identify the various artistic styles, genres, and periods associated with each artistic medium, and being an active participant in the creative process through collaboration with fellow students. Each student was required to demonstrate these abilities through writing, intelligent discussion, and various creative projects. One section of Theatre Appreciation and six sections of Film Appreciation, totaling 21 hours of instruction.

## Main Street Theatre, Houston (2016-2025)

### Teaching Artist

**Responsibilities** – Acting and Dance Instructor Taught fundamentals of acting and dance for multiple age groups as well as a class for international students at the KIPP Charter School. Each class culminated in a showcase where the students created and performed their own one act play.

# Teaching Experience

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## The University of Southern Mississippi (2012–2015)

**Theatre Appreciation Instructor** *Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, and Spring 2015*

**Responsibilities** – Creating and implementing curriculum for a non-major theatre appreciation class. Class requirements included being able to recognize, analyze, and critique the theatrical process as well as theatrical styles and periods. Each student was required to demonstrate these abilities through writing, intelligent discussion, and various creative projects. Five sections totaling 15 hours of instruction.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant – Musical Theatre Performance** *Spring 2015*

**Responsibilities** – Weekly voice lessons with each student on their graded pieces and showcase material, created a process of script analysis combining music theory and acting technique for students to use on each project, graded all written work, created and graded all quizzes based on reading curriculum, directed various scenes for the end of the semester showcase.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant – Dialects** *Fall 2014*

**Responsibilities** – Weekly dialect coaching session with each student on that week's project, grading of all written work, developed and led the class in a Lessac based warm up specific for each dialect, directed scenes for the end of the semester showcase.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant – Fundamentals of Acting** *Spring 2014*

**Responsibilities** – Graded all written work and quizzes, led daily warm ups based on the Lessac vocal technique and Lugerling Movement technique, instructed on script analysis and vocal technique, coached students on graded work, and directed scenes for end of the semester showcase.

**Vocal Coach – Acting, Period Styles 1** *Spring 2015*

**Responsibilities** – coached students on the correct vocal process for Greek and Shakespearean theatre.

## Playhouse On The Square, Memphis (2012)

**Instructor, Teen Musical Theatre**

**Responsibilities** – Co-led an 8-week class teaching teens ages 13–18 the basics of musical theatre performance culminating in a showcase. Showcase required every student to perform a standard from Broadway's golden age and a modern musical.

# Teaching Experience

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## **Playhouse On The Square - Memphis (2012)**

### **Instructor - Teen Acting**

**Responsibilities** - Led an 8-week class teaching the fundamentals of acting and auditioning techniques to teens ages 13-18 culminating in a showcase. Students were required to perform both a monologue and a scene. This class was focused on modern theatrical trends and students were tasked with finding scenes in their age range and character type with guidance from the instructor.

### **Teaching Assistant, Children's Musical Theatre**

**Responsibilities** - Assisted in an 8-week class that taught children ages 6-12 the basics of musical theatre performance culminating in a showcase focused on golden age Broadway standards.

### **Teaching Assistant, Children's Shakespeare**

**Responsibilities** - Assisted with the After School Acting Program teaching grade school students, up to 6th grade, the basics and history of Shakespeare. Students competed in a short one act competition winning best characterization.

## **Lifeway Christian Resources, Fuge Camps (2008-2012)**

### **Drama Instructor**

**Responsibilities** - Taught weekly beginning acting to a new class of 40 students culminating in an end of the week performance in front of a camp audience

### **Creative Movement Instructor**

**Responsibilities** - Taught a weekly class of 30 students a three-minute dance to be performed in front of a camp audience. *Creative Movement Video Instructor* - Cast and trained 6 actors/dancers to perform in a 30-minute training video for that year's creative movement instructors - I was the featured instructor for the video.

### **Choir Instructor**

**Responsibilities** - Trained beginning singers to perform one song at the end of each weekly camp.

### **Worship Leadership Instructor**

**Responsibilities** - Taught a small class of 15 the process of organizing a worship service from the perspective of a music minister.

# Directorial Experience

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## **Director – University of St. Thomas**

- **Peter and the Starcatcher** - 2020
- **Healing Hilarity** - 2020 (digital production created with students)
- **The Liar** - 2021 (digital production)
- **The Addams Family** - 2022
- **Shakespeare in Love** - 2023 (regional premier)
- **Nice work If You Can Get It** - 2023 (regional premier)
- **The Lifespan of a Fact** - 2024
- **Optimistic** - 2024 (new work/world premiere)
- **A Doll's House** - 2024 (Herzog version, and regional premiere)
- **My Fair Lady** - 2025

## **Director/Playwright – A Non Equity Love Medley (Valentines Cabaret)** – 2018

**Responsibilities** – Directed, wrote, and compiled a Valentines- themed cabaret for A.D. Players theatre in Houston Texas. This production included the staging of hit songs in popular music and musical theatre as well as original works. Full scale production elements were used while still keeping an intimate cabaret aesthetic.

## **Assistant Music Director – Violet** – University of Southern Mississippi – 2015

**Responsibilities** – Coached the cast on the different musical styles within the musical and how to properly sing them, responsible for rehearsals when the music director was unable to attend, privately coached the lead actors on their individual songs as well as worked on big ensemble numbers.

## **Production Director – Student Life Camps** – 2013

**Responsibilities** – Directed all actors, technicians, worship leaders, and camp pastors for a 13-week national tour to various locations for Student Life Camps, serving an average of 800–1500 students a week. Responsibilities included: planning and managing load in and load out of all set and technical equipment; planning each night's worship service with the pastor and worship leader, implementing planned sketches and videos; rehearsing actors and technicians, calling every show; leading in pre-worship meeting/prayer. Worked with nationally known worship leaders/pastors.

## **Production Director – Fuge Camps** – 2008

**Responsibilities** – Directed all actors, technicians, worship leaders, and camp pastors for a 6-week camp in Jenness Park, California, serving an average of 400 campers a week. Responsibilities included: planning and managing load in and load out of all set and technical equipment; planning each night's worship service with the pastor and worship leader, implementing planned sketches and videos; rehearsing actors and technicians, calling every show; leading in pre-worship meeting/prayer.

# Performance Experience

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## Professional/Regional Theatre

<u>Show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Theatre/Prod. Company</u>
Fiddler On the Roof	Lazar Wolf/Tevye	A.D. Players Theatre
A Christmas of Many Errors	Michael	A.D. Players Theatre
Sound of Music	Baron Elberfeld	A.D. Player Theatre
Hark The Harold (2021)	Harold	A.D. Players Theatre
Miracle on 34th Street	Multi Role	A.D. Players Theatre
A Lie of the Mind	Frankie	Dirt Dogs Theatre
Parade	Leo Frank	Kirkwood Music Services
God's Favorite	Ben	A.D. Players Theatre
David BSITW	Goliath Puppeteer	A.D. Players Theatre
Littleboro Valley Story	Goshen	A.D. Players Theatre
Rock Nativity	Melchior	A.D. Players Theatre
Hark the Harold	Harold	A.D. Players Theatre
Best Christmas Pageant Ever	Fireman	A.D. Players Theatre
Titanic	Isidor Straus	Kirkwood Music Services
Peter and The Starcatcher	Smee	Stageworks Theatre
The Producers	Max Bialystock	Stageworks Theatre
The Energized Guys	Multi Role	National Thtr/Children
Born Yesterday	Barber/Bellhop	Alley Theatre (Houston)
Sweeney Todd	Adolfo Pirelli	Springer Opera House
Urinetown	Mr. McQueen	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
Rent	Benny	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Fantasticks	El Gallo	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
YAGM Charlie Brown	Charlie Brown	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Little Mermaid	Chef Louis	Peach State Summer Thtr.
Les Miserables	Enjolras	Peach State Summer Thtr.
Taking Steps	Roland Crabb	Southern Arena Theatre
Les Miserables	Enjolras	Hattiesburg Civic Opera
King Lear	Multi Role	New Moon Theatre
L'Histoire du Soldat	Joseph	CODA at Rhodes
A Christmas Carol	Fred/Y. Scrooge	Theatre Memphis
A Christmas Carol	Christmas Present	Theatre Memphis

# Performance Experience

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## Academic Theatre

<u>Show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>University</u>
Spring Awakening	Adult Men	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
The Liar	Cliton	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Clybourne Park	Steve/Karl	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Rent	Benny	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Assassins	The Proprietor	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
The Firebugs	Fire Captain	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Ragtime	Henry Ford	Middle Tennessee State Univ.
Oklahoma	Ensemble	Middle Tennessee State Univ.
Anything Goes	Ensemble	Middle Tennessee State Univ.

## Choral Performance

- Mozart's Requiem (2005, 2009)
- Handel's Messiah (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)
- Faure Requiem (2006)
- Haydn's Hymn of Praise (2007)
- Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass (2008)
- Haydn's The Creation (2008)
- Bernstein's Chichester Psalms (2009)

*All concerts performed with the Middle Tennessee State University Concert Chorale/Schola Cantorum*

## Special Event Performance

<u>Show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Producing Company</u>
Does Not Disappoint	Actor	Univ. of St. Thomas, Houston
A Million Dreams Gala	Singer/Soloist	Univ. of St. Thomas, Houston
Mardi Gras Gala	M.C./King Rex	Univ. of St. Thomas, Houston
A Non-Equity Love Medley	Actor	A.D. Player Theatre
People	Soloist	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Pursuit	Actor	Lifeway Christian Resources
Connect	Actor	Lifeway Christian Resources
Kairos	Actor	Lifeway Christian Resources
Move	Actor	Lifeway Christian Resources
Star Wars in Concert*	Choir Member	Lucas Film/Another Planet

\* *Star Wars in Concert in partnership with the London Philharmonic*

# Theatrical Experience

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## Backstage Crew

<u>Show</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Producing Company</u>
Sound of Music	Deck Crew	A.D. Players Theatre
The Hiding Place	Deck Crew	A.D. Players Theatre
West Side Story	Spotlight Op.	A.D. Players Theatre
AIW in 80 Days	Sound Board Op.	A.D. Players Theatre
Harvey	Deck Crew	A.D. Players Theatre

## Stage Management

- *Secret In The Wings* - Creative Movement Practices (2023)
- *The Book of Mary* (world premiere) - Ted Swindley Theatre Workshop (2023)
- *Honor* (Staged Reading) - Ted Swindley Theatre Workshop (2022)

## Vocal and Acting Coaching

- Vocal and Dialect Coach - *My Fair Lady* - Univ of St. Thomas/Stoic theatre (Fall 2025)
- Vocal Coach - *A Doll's House* - Univ. of St. Thomas/Stoic Theatre (Fall 2024)
- Vocal Coach - *The Lifespan of a Fact* - Univ. of St. Thomas (Spring 2024)
- Vocal Coach - *Nice Work If You Can Get It* - Univ. of St Thomas (Fall 2023)
- Dialect Coach - *The Importance of Being Earnest* - Univ. of St. Thomas (Fall 2022)
- Vocal Coach - *Eurydice* - Univ. of St. Thomas (Fall 2021)
- Dialect Coach - *Arsenic and Old Lace* - A.D. Players Theatre Arts Academy (Fall 2017)
- Acting Coach - *The Crucible* - Frank Black Middle School (Fall 2015)
- Vocal Coach - *Spring Awakening* - University of Southern Mississippi (Spring 2015)
- Vocal Coach - *Taking Steps* - Southern Arena Theatre (Summer 2014)
- Vocal Coach - *Clybourne Park* - University of Southern Mississippi (Spring 2014)
- Vocal Coach - *Rent* - University of Southern Mississippi (Fall 2013).

# Organizations / Certifications / Accolades

Michael C. Morrison

## Organizations

- **Actors Equity Association** - Equity Membership Candidate (Equity eligible 8/10/18)
- **Lessac Institute** - Certified Practitioner and Member
- **Alpha Psi Omega Lambda Nu** - University of Southern Mississippi - Hattiesburg MS
- **International Thespian Society** - Cordova High School - Memphis, TN

## Awards/Nominations

- **2025 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Musical, *My Fair Lady* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Houston Press Theatre Awards** - Nominated for Best Musical, *Fiddler On The Roof* - A.D. Players Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston** - Nominated for Best Supporting Actor - *Fiddler On The Roof* - A.D. Players Theatre
- **2024 Houston Press Theatre Awards** - Nominated for Best Ensemble in a Musical, *Fiddler On The Roof* - A.D. Players Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Musical, *Fiddler On The Roof* - Ad. Players theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Musical, *Nice Work If You Can Get It* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Play, *A Doll's House* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Direction of a Musical, *Nice Work If You Can Get It* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Direction of a play, *A Doll's House* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Direction of a play, *The Lifespan of a Fact* - Stoic Theatre
- **2024 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Direction of a Musical, *Nice Work If You Can Get It* - Stoic Theatre
- **Houston Press Theatre Awards 2022** - Nominated for Best Musical "Sound of Music" A.D. Players Theatre
- **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award** - Nominated 2024
- **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award** - Nominated 2022
- **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award** - Nominated 2021
- **2017 Broadway World Houston Award** - Nominated for Best Actor in a Musical  
Role: Max Bialystock, Production: *The Producers*, Stageworks Theatre
- **2015 Irene Ryan Award Nominee and Semi-Finalist** 2015  
Role: Karl/Steve, Play: *Clybourne Park*, University of Southern Mississippi

# Organizations / Certifications / Accolades

Michael C. Morrison

## Quotes

*I have seen Michael succeed both onstage and off in situations that require great leadership skills and coolness under pressure. Michael isn't just interested in the spotlight. He is interested in every aspect of theatre and a true team player. His immense talent and insatiable desire to create compliment his intense work ethic.*

**Jake Speck, Former Executive Director - A.D. Players Theatre, Broadway Veteran**

*I have seen Michael play many roles in musicals from a wide variety of genres He knows music and is able to adapt to genre and style brilliantly. Michael played Enjolras in Les Miserables in a 1200 seat theatre His Voice filled the space with clarity and a lovely resonance and tone, and his acting in the role stole our hearts. Michael's work was original and bold.*

**Professor Monica Hayes, Head of MFA Program, Univ. of Southern Mississippi**

*Ehrhardt and Morrison were delightfully funny as realistic representations of siblings: constantly bickering just enough to bother their parents and getting one another all riled up when chaos inevitably ensued. I found myself paying the most attention to their interactions with each other during the family group scenes, as something humorous was always being delivered from one or both of them in the background if you listened.*

**Audrey Morabito, Broadway World, Review of *God's Favorite***

## **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award - Nominated 2024**

*"I think that he should be considered because, in my personal time of working with him, he has been nothing but kind, fair, and direct with me, regarding the potential of what can be accomplished. In my History of the Theatre course last semester, Prof. Morrison treated me fairly, as it related to my status of being the only graduate student in his course. I was able to learn a lot from that class and did not feel as though I was being short-changed. In my current course with Prof Morrison, we are currently working on producing my One-Man show for my Capstone project. This is a very special project to me, not just because it is my project, but because of what it represents. It is my first time having the opportunity to act in Jones Theatre upstairs in the black box space. To be willing to be my professor for this class, I am eternally grateful to Prof. Morrison. These are the reasons that I would nominate and choose Michael Morrison to be the recipient of this award." -David Landry*

## **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award - Nominated 2022**

*"Professor Morrison makes his classroom environment very welcoming. He makes really funny jokes and cares a lot about his students well beings. He approaches learning the ins and outs of theatre by making the environment very safe to voice one's opinions. For example, if a student is recording that class period for whatever reason, and another student wants to say something to contribute to the discussion but is worried about it being recorded; Professor Morrison kindly makes the original student stop recording so the other student feels comfortable. Overall Professor Morrison is a great professor and I will definitely be taking more of his classes in the future just because of how great he is. I thoroughly enjoy and look forward to every class period!" -McKenna Malzahn*

## **St. Thomas Aquinas Excellence in Teaching Award - Nominated 2021**

*"Not only is the Professor specialized in knowledge of the subject taught, he is passionate about it. His enthusiasm towards Theatre is captivating and makes students interested to know more. He challenges students to think outside the box and to speak their mind so we are able to engage in fruitful conversations. Not only is he a great professor, but an inspiring one as well." Abigail Cardoza*