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Advice

I would recommend that students interested in research and creative activity should work to find a project they are passionate about, first and foremost, because it is so important to love what you are doing, especially when things get challenging and difficult. It's also really important to make sure your proposal is as detailed as possible and your project has a clear scope, which not only helps the people you're applying to get a clear vision of your project, but also helps you not get overwhelmed and set up a clear schedule or plan. Also, finding a mentor in your field you have a strong connection to will work wonders in helping you grow as an artist, researcher, or academic, so find those faculty who you click with and build those relationships. Overall, the process of applying to and taking part in research and creative activity is an incredibly transformative and fulfilling experience, so if you have an inkling of wanting to try and get involved, just go for it and see where it takes you!

Current Research

My research is focused on the intersection of American musical theatre and war memory to examine musical theatre as a site of cultural history and memory. I intend to use my scholarly work to further the idea that musical theatre and is more than just campy, jazz-hand filled, lowbrow entertainment and is an important composite of American history and war memory. The most recent work that I conducted during my Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship examines the cultural legacy of the Second World War in American musical theatre and how contemporary creatives have grappled with traditional World War II myths on stage, in an attempt to examine the war in a more realistic and less romanticized fashion. My Masters' thesis continues this research by showcasing the trends and shifts in American musicals talking about war since the 1940s with a focus on three musicals: South Pacific, Miss Saigon, and Allegiance.



Involvements

- Phi Alpha Theta Historical Honor Society
- The Players' Society
- Musco Center for the Arts

Awards & Distinctions

- Presidential Scholarship
- History Departmental Honors
- History Department Best Senior Thesis
- SURF Fellow
- History Department Research Grant
- Deans List

Conferences

- Student Scholar Symposium
- Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium