Resource Guide
Musical Theatre

**This guide is designed for Music Library materials. Additional information about theater is available through the Theater Arts Research Guide accessible through the Western Libraries’ home page (www.library.wwu.edu)**

*All print resources listed in this guide are located in the Music Library unless otherwise noted.*

**Search Tips:**

Selecting search terms:
When you are just beginning your research, knowing which terms to use can be difficult. One approach to the problem is to conduct a Subject search on the term Musical Theater. This will pull up a large list of subject headings, each linked to a list of related materials. The Selected List of Subject Headings below offers several suggested search terms.

Limiting searches by media type:
Searches can be limited to media type. Either conduct an Advanced Keyword search and limit your search to printed materials (for books), music recordings (for sound recordings), or visual media (for DVDs and VHS), or score, or conduct your search and then click the limit/sort button at the top of the search results list.

Searching for musical theater by country or region:
To search for materials about musical theatre in a specific country, conduct a Subject search with the term dance followed by the name of the country. For example: Musical Theater China.

Determining authorship of a musical or a song from a musical:
In musical theatre, the composer of the work is generally regarded as the author even if someone else wrote the lyrics. For example, Leonard Bernstein, who composed the music, is considered the author of West Side Story even though Stephen Sondheim wrote the lyrics. The same holds true for an individual song in a musical, the author is whoever composed the entire musical.

Full score, vocal score, score with parts, study score, miniature score - which is it?
A full score is a music score that includes every instrument or voice part the piece was written for. A vocal score includes just the voice parts with a piano reduction of the full orchestra. A score with parts is precisely that, often the score is a piano accompaniment and the part is the vocal line that the piano accompanies. Miniature and study scores are more or less the same thing, they include the full orchestration of a piece but use very small print.
Selected List of Subject Headings:

Acting in Musical Theater
Costume
Costume Design
Musical Theater
Musical Theater Drama
Musical Theater History
Musical Theater Instruction and Study
Musicals
Musicals Excerpts
Musicals Vocal Scores with Piano
Pantomime
Singspiel
Theater
Theatrical Makeup
Voice Disorders
Voice Disorders Treatment

Musical Theater Call Number Ranges:

Acting in musical theater..........................MT956
Costume design...............................PN2067, TT507
Musicals vocal scores.........................M1503-M1505
Musicals excerpts vocal score..................M1507
Voice disorders.................................RF510

Bibliographic Resources:

*ML128.M78 B6 1985*

*ML128.M78 D48 1998e E-book*

*ML128.M78 E84 2004 Reference*

*ML2054 .C35 2002*

*PN2067 .J68 2000 Haggard 2 – Reference*
*ML128.S3 L55 1984*

*ML128.M78 W56 1986 Reference*

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**Basic Reference Sources**

*ML108.A52 1989 Reference*

*ML105.D76 2007 Reference*

*ML102.M88 E94 2008 Wilson 3E*

*ML102.M88 G3 1994 Reference*

*ML102.M88 H59 1995 Reference*

*PN2220.H58 1993 Haggard 2 – Reference*

*ML100.N48 2001 Reference* (also available online through Oxford Music Online)

*ML128.M78 S86 2000 Reference*