

# MELODY MUNITZ

THEATRE ARTIST & RESEARCHER

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## EDUCATION

Penn State University, Schreyer Honors College May 2022  
B.F.A. in Musical Theatre with Honors, B.A. in Psychology with Honors  
Summa Cum Laude - GPA: 4.0/4.0

## EXPERIENCE

### RESEARCH/SCIENTIFIC INVOLVEMENT

- Researcher - University of Chicago, School of Molecular Engineering, *STAGE Lab* 2021-2022
  - Collaborator on the creation of two new theatre pieces about, inspired by, and utilizing science and technology, & leading the 'Future of Theatre' research initiative
- Researcher - Penn State, Department of Psychology, *Empathy and Moral Psychology Lab* 2021-2022
  - Undergraduate Researcher self-conducting interdisciplinary theatre/science research observing the impact of empathy on spectator emotional response
- Research Assistant - Penn State, College of Business, *Intentional Inclusivity Lab* 2021-2022
  - Collaborator on studies relating to the perception and effectiveness of various leadership behaviors exhibited by different genders
- Published Contributor - *Prompt: A Journal of Theatre Theory, Practice, and Teaching* 2021
- Researcher - University of Exeter, *The Eye's Mind* 2021
  - Conducted neuroscience research on newly-recognized condition Aphantasia 2015-2018

### PROFESSIONAL THEATRICAL/ARTISTIC INVOLVEMENT

- Performing Company Member - New York Public Library for the Performing Arts Festival 2022
- Performing Company Member - Collab24 Devised Theatre Festival 2021, 2022
- Performing Company Member - Dramatists Guild 'End of Play' Festival 2021, 2022
- Performing Company Member - The 24-Hour Plays: Nationals Summer Season 2020
- Performing Company Member - New York Musical Festival Student Leadership Program 2019
- Intern - Off-Broadway's Keen Company (Theatre Management, Production, and Casting) 2019
- Intern - Hershey Medical Center, Arts in Health Certification Program 2021
- Published Contributor - BroadwayBeat News, over 2,400 reads of first published article 2020
- Featured Artist - ReachForIt Inc. Theatre Company 2020-2021
- Featured Artist - 'Live, Love, Laugh' Theatre Podcast (Apple Podcasts, Audible, etc.) 2021

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Director, Co-Founder, Graphic Designer - Penn State Arts for Health 2020-2022
  - Emphasizing the power of the arts in communal and personal well-being
  - Presenter at National Organization of Arts in Health (NOAH) 2020 Conference
- Vice President - Phi Beta Kappa Lambda Chapter 2021-2022
- Campaign Voice - Penn State 'We Are Here' National TV Commercial 2020
- Study Abroad - Schreyer Honors College Maymester Theatre Study Tour in England/Ireland 2019
- Student Ambassador - College of Arts and Architecture 2018-2022
- College Representative - Penn State Center for Performing Arts Student Council 2021-2022
- Musical Theatre Representative - School of Theatre Student Advisory Board 2018-2022
- Class of '22 Representative - Musical Theatre Student Committee 2018-2022

- Undergraduate Representative - School of Theatre Season Planning Committee 2020-2022
- Founding Member - School of Theatre Student Diversity Committee 2020-2022
- Coordinator - School of Theatre Prospective Student Events 2018-2022
- Content Creator - College of Liberal Arts Filippelli Institute for e-Education and Outreach 2019
- Moderator - Student Programming Association Lecture Series 2020
- Performer - President Barron's Football Tailgate Events 2021
- Performer - President Barron's Holiday Celebration 2021
- Performer - Student Programming Association 'Lights Up' Concert on HUB Lawn 2021
- Performer - Movin' On Spotlight Series Concert 2020
- Performer - Penn State Military Appreciation Week Luncheon 2021
- Performer - Penn State White-Out Football Game Half-Time Show 2018
- Company Member - Penn State's Full Ammo Improv Troupe 2020-2022
- Published Contributor - Phroth: Penn State's Satirical Humor Publication 2019-2021
- Undergraduate TA - Psych260: Neural Basis of Human Behavior 2021
- Founding Member - Gender and Sexual Diversity in Schreyer 2020-2022
- Founding Member - Penn State Scientific Journal Club 2020-2021
- Soles4Souls Volunteer Tristate Organizer - Collected >83,000 pairs of shoes for needy 2013-2020

## AWARDS & HONORS

- Department of Psychology Student Marshal 2022
- School of Theatre Student Marshal 2022
- College of Arts and Architecture Creative Achievement Award 2022
- College of Arts and Architecture Student Leader Award 2022
- Penn State University Libraries Research Award: Excellence in Information Literacy 2022
- Student Engagement Excellence Award 2022
- The Evan Pugh Scholar Senior Award 2022
- Charles N. Cofer Memorial Award in Psychology 2022
- Susan Browning Theatre Award 2022
- Robert Reifsneider Community Service Award 2021
- Artuso Internship Excellence Scholarship 2021
- Student Engagement Network Grant 2021
- The Evan Pugh Scholar Junior Award 2021
- President's Freshman Award for Academic Excellence 2019
- Schreyer Honors College Academic Excellence Grant 2018-2022
- Schreyer Honors College Internship Grant 2021-2022
- Wyllis Leonhard Music and Dance Scholarship 2018-2022
- Musical Theatre Excellence Scholarship 2018-2022

# PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

## OFF-BROADWAY/NYC THEATRE

<i>A Little Princess</i> (US Premiere)	Flower Seller	Signature Theater/d. Laura Luc
<i>Head and Heart</i> (Premiere)	Melody	Signature Theater/NYMF
<i>30 Million</i> (Premiere)	Dee-Dee	Theatre Row/Keen Company
<i>Hatch</i> (Premiere)	Judy	Theatre Row/Keen Company
<i>Firebirds</i> (Staged Reading)	Melanie	Theatre Row/Keen Company
<i>Dream Street</i> (US Premiere)	Stephanie	Pearl Theater/d. Laura Luc
<i>The Space In Between</i> (Premiere)	Moon	24-Hour Plays/d. Mark Armstrong
<i>Curtains, The Musical</i>	Jenny Harmon	New York Live Arts/CMTF
<i>Flight of the Lawnchair Man</i>	Sylvia	New York Live Arts/CMTF

## REGIONAL THEATRE

<i>Brigadoon</i>	Fiona	Penn State/d. Jen Delac
<i>A Chorus Line</i>	Maggie	Penn State/d. John Simpkins
<i>The Wild Party</i>	Dolores	Penn State/d. Ali Morooney
<i>A Little Night Music</i>	Mrs. Segstrom	Penn State/d. Phillip Fazio
<i>The Lucky Boy</i> (Premiere)	Marie	Penn State/d. John Simpkins
<i>Hands on a Hardbody</i>	Swing	Penn State/d. John Simpkins
<i>Moving Forward</i>	Soloist	Penn State/d. Michele Dunleavy
<i>Take A Walk In My Shoes</i>	Performer	Penn State/d. Jen Delac
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Cinderella	Rider University/d. Luis Villabon
<i>The Fantasticks</i>	Luisa	Embark/d. Katie Schmidt Feder
<i>Beauty and the Beast</i>	Belle	Hendrick Hudson Players
<i>The 25th Annual...Spelling Bee</i>	Olive	Hendrick Hudson High School
<i>The Little Mermaid</i>	Ariel	Cortlandt Arts/d. Carol Arrucci
<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Dorothy	Antonia Arts Productions

## CONCERTS

Sting's Rainforest Benefit	Vocals w/Sting, Bruce Springsteen	Carnegie Hall/Gil Goldstein
U.N. Ambassador's Ball	Vocals w/Steven Tyler	Metropolitan Club
Women in the World Summit	Performer w/Meryl Streep	Lincoln Center
Golden Hat Benefit	Vocals w/Sierra Boggess	Carnegie Hall/Tim Janis
Daisy Jopling's 'Awakening'	Performer	Lincoln Center
An American Christmas Carol	Vocals w/Matthew Morrison	Carnegie Hall/Tim Janis
Actor's Fund Gala	Performer w/Morgan Freeman	NY Marriot Marquis Ballroom
100-Year Association Gala	Performer w/Brian Stokes Mitchell	Sardi's Times Square
John's Hopkins 100-Year Gala	Performer w/Bono	Hammerstein Ballroom
Lyrics for Life Benefit	Performer	Symphony Space
Sing for Hope Gala	Performer	Liberty Plaza
Make It All Better	Phoebe	Gilbert Lewis Bailey II
Me and My Friends Killing Nazis	Hannie	Alex Sage Oyen, Lauren Marcus

## TV/FILM/COMMERCIAL

Penn State 'We Are Here' Commercial	Lead Vocal	ABC
Late Show w/ Stephen Colbert	Vocals with Jain	CBS
The Today Show	Featured Guest	NBC
Anderson	Featured Guest	ANE & Warner Brothers Prod.

# ORIGINAL ARTISTIC WORKS

## PLAYS

- *Lonely Together* (One-Act) 2021
  - Self-directed production at the Penn State Downtown Theatre Center
  - Featured in *Penn State News, Onward State*
- *Quit While I'm Ahead* (Full-Length) 2022
  - Workshop & upcoming production by the Penn State School of Theatre
- *On the Line* (Short Radio Play) 2020
  - Produced by the *Penn State Radio Players*
  - Available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Soundcloud, YouTube
  - Featured in *Penn State News, Onward State*
- *Back* (10-Minute Play) 2021
  - Produced as part of the Penn State School of Theatre 24-Hour Play Festival
- *With a Side of Hypocrisy* (Short Play) 2021
  - Produced as part of the Penn State School of Theatre Short Play Festival
- *No Going Back* (Short Play) 2020
  - Published on the Quarantine Playwriting Bake-Off competition website
- *Broke(n) and Free* (10-Minute Play) 2022
- *Record, A Play* (10-Minute Play) 2022

## MUSIC

- "Aesthetic Strangers" - Debut Single 2021
  - Released on Spotify, Apple Music, and other major music streaming platforms
  - Featured on Spotify playlist "The Sound of Pennsylvania State University"
  - Featured in the Palmer Museum of Art's *Penn State Creates Virtual Gallery*
- "Satellites" 2021
  - Released on Spotify, Apple Music, and other major music streaming platforms
  - Featured on *The Daily Collegian* Video News Broadcast
  - Featured at Penn State's *Movin' On* Concert
  - Featured at Penn State's Alumni Association "*We Are*" Weekend

## POEMS

- "It was" 2021
  - Featured in *Reach For It, Inc.* Poetry Month tribute
  - Featured in the Palmer Museum of Art's *Penn State Creates Virtual Gallery*
- "in process, in progress" 2021
  - Video of piece produced by the Penn State School of Theatre
  - Debuted in Penn State School of Theatre's *Transcending*
- "[Inhale, Exhale]" 2020
  - Included in devised theatre piece *Take A Walk In My Shoes* by Jennifer Delac
  - Video of piece produced by the Penn State School of Theatre
  - Received original choreography by Jimin Moon
  - Featured in the Palmer Museum of Art's *Penn State Creates Virtual Exhibit*

## FINE ARTS

- "Garden Lungs" 2020
  - Watercolor painting commissioned by the Burke Rehabilitation Hospital of New York to be used as the basis of their Covid-19 Survivor Installation
- "Laughing Lilacs," "Poised Peony" & "Teacher Trees" 2020
  - Commissioned embroidery for Penn State School of Theatre classroom decor