



# 39th Annual High School Theatre & Dance Workshop

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025

## *Schedule*

9:00-9:25 A.M. 9:30 A.M.	Check in— Earley Center for Performing Arts Lobby Welcome session— Ted Paul Theatre (PAC)
10:00 A.M.-10:50 A.M. 11:00 A.M.-11:50 A.M.	Session I Session II
12:00 P.M.-12:50 P.M.	Lunch on your own (Student Union Food Court and University Square have many options)
1:00 P.M.-1:50 P.M. 2:00 P.M.-2:50 P.M.	Session III Session IV
3:00 P.M.-3:50 P.M.  4:10 P.M.-5:00 P.M.	The Making of <i>The Winter's Tale</i> — Ted Paul Theatre Behind-the-scenes discussion with the director, designers and cast.  2025 Children's Theatre Tour — Ted Paul Theatre <i>The Me As Well Musical</i>

## *Welcome ...*

We're so glad you're here!

Please take a careful look at the schedule and decide which sessions you would like to attend. Please note that some sessions are repeated. We have lots of options for you to explore different opportunities and classes today. If you are planning on attending a dance class in the Florence Cobb Dance Studio, please note that it is across campus near the athletic/recreation facilities. Look for students/guides in the lobby to help you find your way!

# 38th Annual High School Theatre & Dance Workshop

## WORKSHOPS

### Session I, 10:00-10:50 A.M.

**Dance: Tap**

Stephanie Gildner, PA 113, lower level  
*repeats at 1:00 p.m.*

**Acting: Overcoming Performance Anxiety**

Meg Breithaupt & Chris Martens, PA 104, lower level

**Production: Test Your knowledge About Stage Lighting / Win Prizes!**

Steve Smith & Quis Su, PA 106

**Acting: Building Confidence for that Next Big Audition**

Ally Schultz, PA 126

**Acting: Improv Games**

Davis Jensen and Landon Javens, Andreas Theatre  
*repeats at 1:00 p.m.*

**Voice: Singing Master Class**

Stephanie Thorpe and Nick Wayne, PA 203A

**Production: Stage Management**

Rebehak Willey & Jay Wetenkamp, PA 203B

**Production: Constructing Newspaper Garments**

*Repeats at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.*  
Scott Anderson, Costume Shop, lower level

**Production: Superhero Costume Drawing**

Vicky Shlenova, PA 240  
*You'll be given a description of a superpower, and will get to design a costume that supports that idea.*

**Dance: Ballet**

Cadence Brown, HN 225, Florence Cobb  
Dance Studio

### Session II, 11:00-11:50 A.M.

**Musical Theatre Writing**

Joshual Barclay, PA 104  
*Explore exercises that work on creating concepts, playing with where songs fit in a plot, and character/world building*

**Performance: Warm-Up Routines**

Chris Martens, PA 106, lower level

**Performance: Acting with Masks**

Vladimir Rovinsky, PA 113, lower level

**Dance: Contemporary**

Athena Rodriguez, PA 126

**Performance: Learn to Listen - Meisner Acting Technique for Beginners**

Meg Breithaupt, PA 203A, main level

**Acting: How to Nail your Audition & Resume**

Landon Hudson, PA 203B, main level

**Production: Constructing Newspaper Garments**

*Repeat from 10:00 a.m., repeats at 1:00 p.m.*  
Scott Anderson, Costume Shop, lower level

**Production: Lights, Color, Candy!**

Clayton Thorson & Mel Christinsen,  
Ted Paul Theatre, main level

**Performance: By the Seat of your Pants: Building an Improvised Character**

Casey Ring, Andreas Theatre

**Production: Pneumatic Special Effects**

George Grubb, Scene Shop, lower level

**Dance: Musical Theatre Choreography**

Liz Albenesius & Davaughn Lane  
HN 225, Florence Cobb Dance Studio

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## WORKSHOPS

### Session III, 1:00-1:50 P.M.

**Performance: Scansion**

Heather Hamilton, PA 104

*learn about and explore the rhythm in theatrical text*

**Dance: Tap**

Stephanie Gildner, PA 113, lower level

*repeats from 10 a.m.*

**Production: Stage Makeup**

David McCarl, PA 122/123, lower level

**Dance: Disco!**

Daniel Stark, PA 126

**Production: Constructing Newspaper Garments**

*Repeat from 10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.*

Scott Anderson, Costume Shop, lower level

**Song Selection Secrets: Choosing the Perfect  
Audition Rep**

Phyllis Horridge, PA 203A, main level

**Engaging the Digital Audience: Theatre in the  
Social Media Age**

Selwyn Ofori, PA 203B, main level

**Acting: Improv Games**

Davis Jensen and Landon Javens,  
Andreas Theatre

*repeat from 10 a.m.*

**Dance: Jazz**

Yukina Sato, HN 225, Florence Cobb Dance Studio

### Session IV, 2:00-2:50 P.M.

**Production: Sound Design, Foley**

Anastasiia Didenko, PA 104, lower level

**Acting: Puppetry!**

Hans Bloedel, PA 113, lower level

**Performance: Singing While Dancing**

Sydney Marcia, PA 126, lower level

***The Devil Is In: How To Be The Bad Guy  
And Do It Well***

James C. Van Oort, PA 203A, main level

**Acting/Movement: Stage Combat**

David McCarl, Andreas Theatre, main level

**Production: Try Out Programming Moving Lights /  
Very Hands On!**

Steven Smith, Ted Paul Theatre

**Production: Colors in Costumes**

*Basic understanding of color wheel and color  
combinations, drawing clothes on a prepared figure  
using color pencils or other media*

Vicky Shlenova, PA 240, main level

**Performance: Acting Shakespeare**

Casey Ring, PA 203B, main level

**Production: Creating Soundscapes**

George Grubb, PA 240, main level

**Dance: Improv Movement**

Daniel Stark, HN 225, Florence Cobb Dance Studio

## Department of Performing Arts Teaching Faculty and Workshop Presenters

**Scott Anderson** is the Costume Shop Manager for the Theatre and Dance at Minnesota State Mankato and serves as the Costume Designer for Highland Summer Theatre. In addition to his academic work, Scott is a freelance costume designer who has worked in theatre, dance and opera for the last 20 years. His works have been seen in such theatres as the Montgomery Theatre of Philadelphia, People's Light and Theatre, Act II Playhouse, the Ogunquit Play House, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, the Sierra Repertory Theatre and the Clinton Area Showboat. Scott received his BS in Genetics and Embryonic Sciences from Pennsylvania State University in 2003, his BA in Theatre Design and Technology from DeSales University in 2006, and his MFA in Costume Design from Indiana University in 2009.

**George Grubb** is the Sound Designer and Technical Director. A native of Marshall, Minnesota, George has spent the last 30 or so years working in theatre around the state and the world. George has worked for The Guthrie Theatre, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Park Square Theatre, Theatre de Complicite and many others. He has designed sound for over 70 productions, and served as technical director for more than 60.

**Heather E. Hamilton** holds a BA in Philosophy from Plymouth State University (NH) and an MA and Ph.D. in Dramatic Literature and History from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has served as Director of Theater at the Wolfeboro, NH, Area Creative Arts Center, Executive Director of The Little Church Theatre in Holderness, NH, and Artistic Director of the Sandwich Players in Sandwich, NH. She is a published author. She has acted on both American coasts and is an award winning performer. Among her honors, she received a "Best Professional Actress" award from the NH Theatre Awards for her role of Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*. She has been directing in Mankato since 2007.

**David McCarl** serves the Department as Costume Designer and Head of the Production Area (faculty in Design and Technology). He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Costume Design from Indiana University and a BA from the University of Northern Iowa, with majors in both Theatre and Art. Professor McCarl teaches classes in Basic Design, Beginning and Advanced Costume Design, Costume History, Beginning and Advanced Stage Makeup, Portfolio Seminar, Drawing & Rendering, and Stage Combat. He is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) and the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD). Professor McCarl is a published author and historian and to date has designed costumes for over 200 productions.

**Vladimir Rovinsky**, Originally from St. Petersburg, Russia, Vladimir trained as a Director at the St. Petersburg Academy of Theatre Arts, where he received his M.F.A. in 1999. Vladimir has been teaching acting since 1996 and has worked as a director, actor and teacher at several Universities in the U.S., including the University of Massachusetts, Yale School of Drama, University of Minnesota, Saint Cloud State University, Macalester College, Stanford University, and at several overseas programs in China, Canada, Puerto Rico and Russia. In addition to his teaching for last two decades, Vladimir has been co-Artistic Director of Theatre Novi Most ("New Bridge Theatre"), a Minneapolis based theatre company that combines theatre traditions of Russia and the United States. Theatre Novi Most is recipient of multiple Arts Activities Grants awarded by Metropolitan Regional Arts Council.

**Yukina Sato** is a dancer, choreographer, and filmmaker. She holds an MFA in Dance from The Ohio State University and a BFA in Dance Performance from the University of Central Oklahoma. Her research focuses on locating cultural identity through embodied memories and geographical space. She had formal training in Russian-style ballet, modern dance, jazz dance, aerial arts, and hip-hop. She was a former member of the Kaleidoscope Dance Company and worked with various performing artists such as 10 Hairy Legs/ Larry Keigwin/ Lea Cox/ Noa Shiloh/ James Gregg / Diavolo -Architecture in Motion- and many more. She also served as embodied archivist at OSU and closely worked with Ursula Payne, Bebe Miller, Carolyn Adams, and Dianne McIntyre.

**Steven Smith** received his MFA in Technical Direction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and now serves as the Lighting Designer for the department, responsible for designing or supervising students' designing of lighting for all MSU Theatre productions. Since leaving graduate school, he has served as lighting designer for more than 200 productions, as technical director for more than 50 productions and as resident scenic designer for Torchlight Theatrics for three years. He is a member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and USITT. Steve won the KCACTF National Teaching Artist Grant in lighting design for 2009. He teaches introduction to theatre, theatre technology, lighting technology and lighting design.

**Daniel Stark**, Director of the Dance Program, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Master of Fine Arts in Dance from the University of Iowa. His choreography was featured in "Earth: Healing the Rift," a performance in Kenya and broadcast by the BBC. He also created dances for the Beijing Dance Academy in China; Quad Cites Ballet in Illinois; the Aha! Dance Theatre in Kansas City; Same Planet Performance Project in Chicago; 940 Dance Company in Kansas; Bellingham Repertory Dance in Washington; Vandance Inc. in Pennsylvania; and Zenon Dance Company in Minneapolis. Additionally, he has had guest artist residencies, teaching and creating dances, at Iowa State University, Gustavus Adolphus College, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Winona State University. Five times his work has been selected for performance at the Kennedy Center as part of the American College Dance Association (ACDA) national conference, an honor only shared with one other choreographer in the history of the conference. He has also taught at the Beijing Dance Academy, Zenon Dance School, Carlton College, and St. Olaf College. At MSU Mankato, he teaches Contemporary, Jazz, Partnering, and Improvisation dance techniques as well as Dance Composition for the stage and camera.

**Stephanie Thorpe**, soprano, is a voice faculty member in the Department of Music at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she teaches classical, musical theatre, and contemporary vocal genres as well as voice-related courses. Thorpe directs a yearly musical production and co-directs the a cappella ensembles, Maverick Fusion and Maverick Vocal Precision, with Dr. Doug Snapp. Prior to her faculty appointment, she performed full-time for several years in Las Vegas, Nevada. Thorpe is currently a member of Thursday Musical, a performing arts organization, and continues to be active in opera, musical theatre, contemporary music, and in recital. Thorpe is an active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She has served as an adjudicator for the North Central Regional Chapter, the Minnesota Chapter, the Cal-Western Regional Chapter, and the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Student Auditions. Thorpe is certified in Contemporary Commercial Vocal Pedagogy and received a Vocology Certificate through the National Center for Voice and Speech with Dr. Ingo Titze and Dr. Katherine Verdolini Abbott.

**James C. Van Oort** holds an MFA in Directing from Minnesota State University, Mankato and currently serves as the Scene Shop Supervisor and Assistant Technical Director in the Department of Performing Arts. He has appeared many times on stage at MSU and his thesis production of *Silent Sky* was an invited production at KCACTF Region V in 2021. His play, *Spiders in the Night*, premiered at Dakota Wesleyan University in 2015, and his play, *We All Live Together*, was funded with a grant from the South Dakota Arts Council. Current playwriting projects include a one-person drama, *My Addie*, and a seasonal Christmas comedy with the working title *Santa Peed in my Stocking*. James serves on the board of directors of Merely Players Community Theatre and is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

**Nicholas Wayne** is the Musical Director at Minnesota State Mankato and is a 2002 graduate of Bethany Lutheran College, where he majored in Music. In May 2004 he earned his Master of Music Degree in Vocal Performance from Minnesota State Mankato, and has taught as an adjunct faculty at Minnesota State Mankato, where he now serves as full-time faculty, Gustavus Adolphus College and Bethany Lutheran College.

**Graduate Teaching Assistants:** Joshua Barclay, Hans Bloedel, Meg Breithaupt, Anastasiia Didenko, Stephanie Gildner, Phyllis Horridge, Landon Javens, Chris Martens, Selwyn Ofori, Casey Ring, Joe Svihel

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This document is available in alternative format to individuals with disabilities by calling the Department of Theatre & Dance.

**LOT 16 (PARKING LOT)**

**ANDREAS THEATRE PA 242**

PA 240 Design Lab

Exit to parking lot

**MUSIC FACULTY OFFICES PA 223-236**

Exit to parking lot

**OUTSIDE PLAZA**

**To Centennial Student Union**  
Start from lobby at the Southwest (SW) corner to go to Centennial Student Union food court. Through the Plaza to Maywood/Ellis intersection. Go down the mall and to your right to the CSU. Food court is just inside the entrance by the fountain.



**PERFORMING ARTS CENTER LOBBY**

**NW**

Hallway

**TED PAUL THEATRE PA 246**

**MAIN FLOOR**

**RECITAL HALL PA 250**

**THEATRE FACULTY OFFICES PA 206-222**

**NE**

Hallway

**MENS ROOM**

**SW**

Hallway

**THEATRE & DANCE, MUSIC OFFICES**

**PA 203A**

**PA 203B**

**WOMENS ROOM**

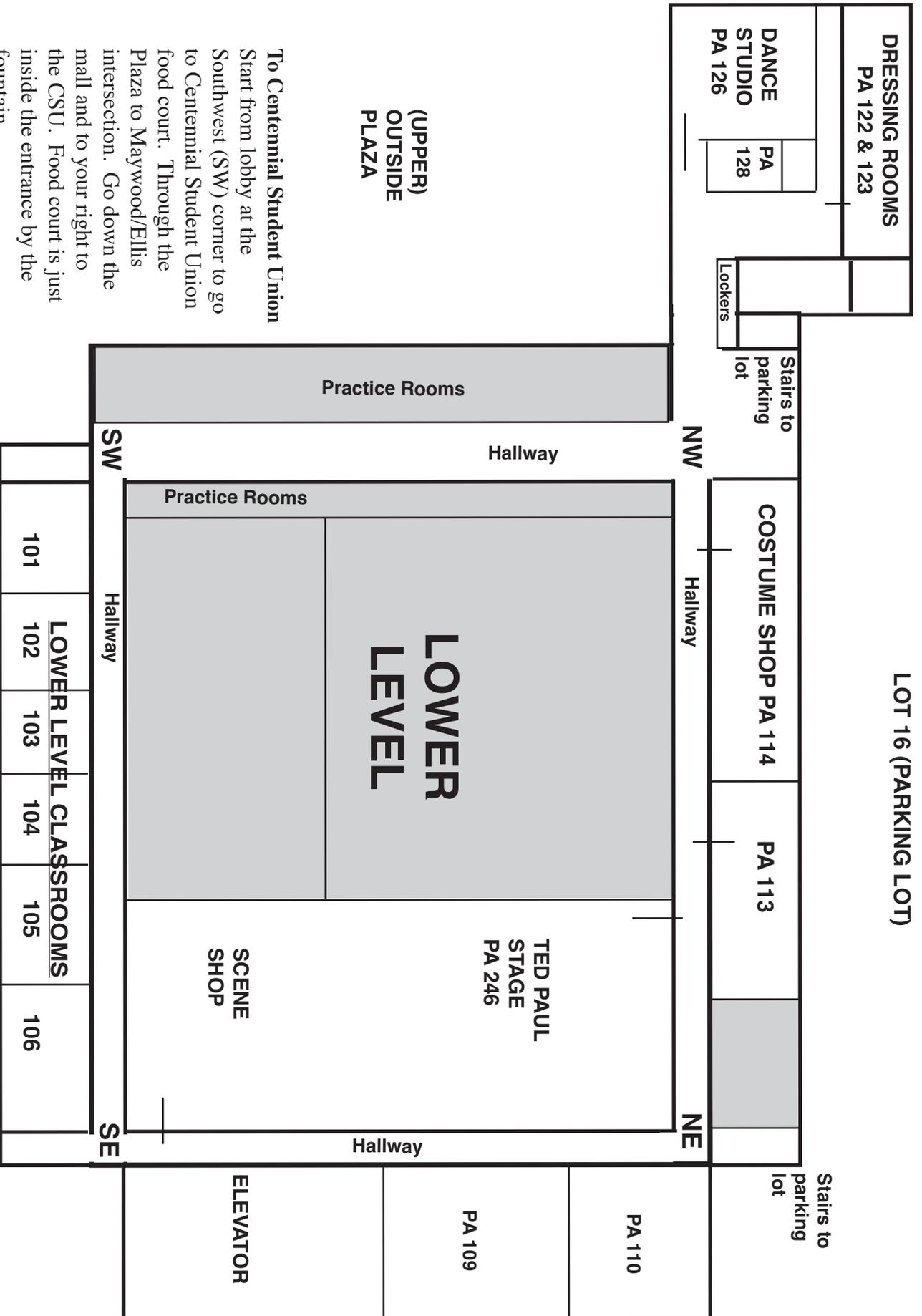
**SE**

Exit to Highland North

Exit to Crossroads Center

**MAYWOOD AVENUE**

**LOT 16 (PARKING LOT)**



**(UPPER)  
OUTSIDE  
PLAZA**

**To Centennial Student Union**  
 Start from lobby at the Southwest (SW) corner to go to Centennial Student Union food court. Through the Plaza to Maywood/Ellis intersection. Go down the mall and to your right to the CSU. Food court is just inside the entrance by the fountain.

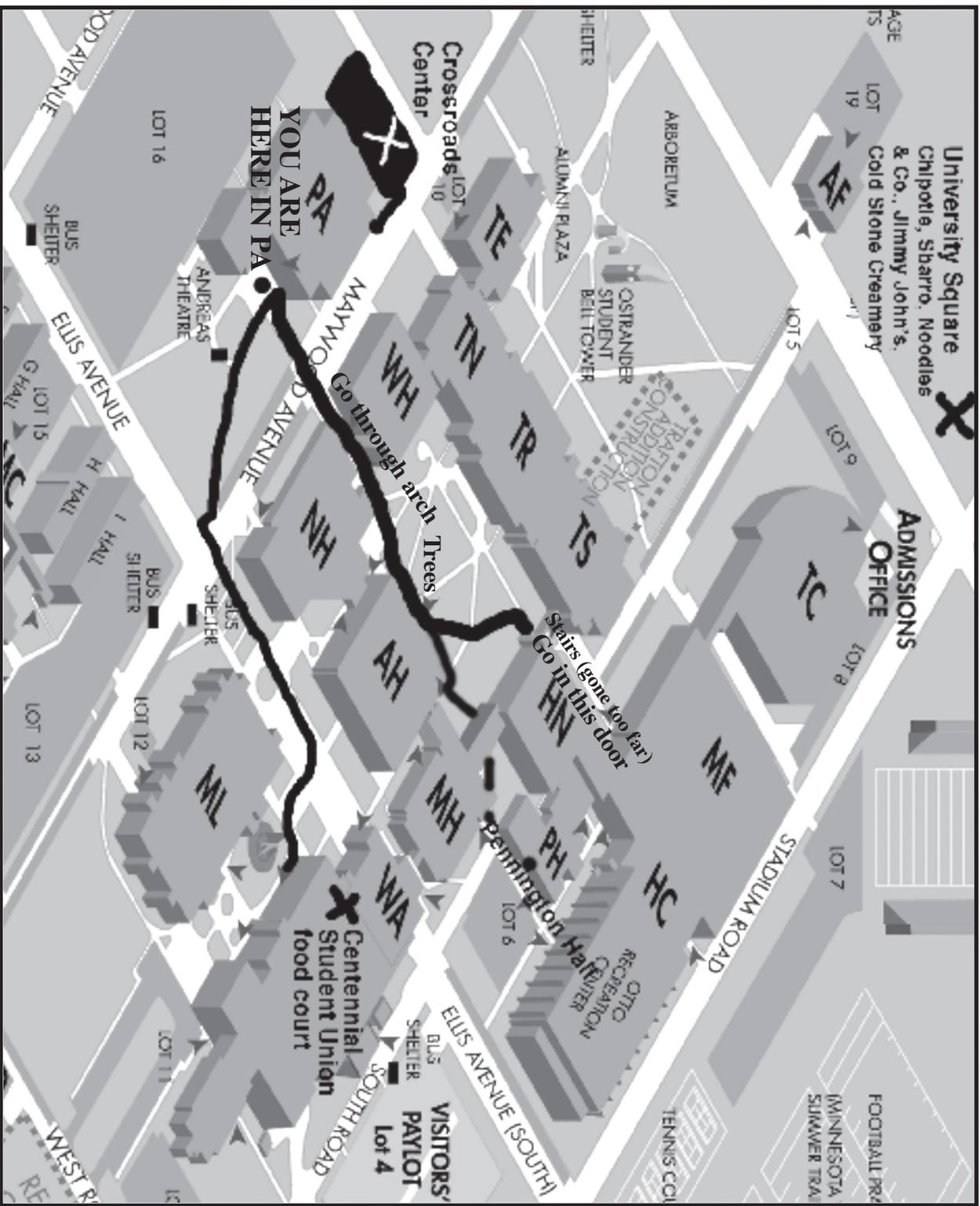
Up stairs to Highland North

Up stairs to Crossroads Center

**MAYWOOD AVENUE**

101	102	103	104	105	106
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**LOWER LEVEL CLASSROOMS**



The **Florence Cobb / Highland North (HN)** dance studio is located near the center of campus. Exit lobby's SW door, and across Maywood Avenue, through the arch. Go right of the trees and then left and up to the door (before stairs).

Inside, up the stairs and straight to HN225, on right.

**CENTENNIAL STUDENT UNION** food court has several options on two floors, including Taco Bell, Erberts and Gerberts and Chick-fil-A

Visit: <http://www.umn.edu/dining/locations/>

**UNIVERSITY SQUARE MALL** offers the following food options:

- Chipotle
- Noodles & Company
- Weggy's (burgers, sandwiches, breakfast)
- Jimmy John's Subs & Clubs

**DIRECTIONS:** Out the lobby at Southwest (SW) corner. Go across plaza and diagonally to end of mall at Maywood and Ellis Avenue. Go down the mall and to your right to the CSU.