TTU School of Theatre and Dance had its first in-person, BFA Actor Showcase in New York City in May of 2022. Graduating BFA students were able to spend three days in the city prior to many of them relocating there after graduation in May of 2022. It was inspiring to see students select and prepare their audition material and to witness the confidence they brought to their work. That confidence and professionalism was in great part due to the security they felt by receiving such important funding from TTU and TrUE Transformers, in particular.

**Faculty Voice**

"Funding from TrUE Transformers was instrumental in making possible lodging in New York City for our BFA Showcase. ...they were able to “live” in the city for several days thereby making it less daunting once they relocate. And the opportunity to present their work to industry professionals through both live performance and filmed showcase reel...it was an invaluable experience, capping off their fourth and final year at TTU."

-- Ronald Dean Nolen

**Student Voice**

"...The BFA showcase challenged each individual to use the skills learned throughout their time at Texas Tech and create lived in characters that highlighted their strengths as a lead and supporting actor. From this work agencies from around the country get to see the talents of Texas Tech students and decide if they would like to work with us in the future. Showcase provides a safety net of what can be a high stress situation and turns it into a conversation for agencies to get to know the fresh faces that choose to come to NYC. Overall going to New York with my graduating class solidified that we are a team. Being part of the BFA journey has difficult moments, but being able to share those experiences with others who truly understand what it means to put in the work is a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience amongst young theatre professionals."

-- Undergraduate, Keandra Hunt

**Goals**

- Professionalism
- Realized Goals
- First-hand Experience

**To Date Progress**

Students are still meeting with agents and managers as a result of our showcase reel and the in-person performance at Ripley Greer Studios. The goal is that our graduates will sign with representation (talent agents) and begin the process of auditioning for work as actors.

**Team**

**Faculty:** Ronald Dean Nolen, Casey Joiner

**Students:** Paris DuPre, Elliot Esquivel, Keandra Hunt, Laureen Karichu, Lauren Robinson, Alexa Teleki, Hannah Turell, Gracie Wilson, Hunter Wilson

**My Top 3 Transformative Priorities**

- Supported Multiple Undergraduates
- Incorporated Community Based Components
- Strong Potential for Institutionalization