THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Mark Madama, Ph.D., professor of music in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, retired from active faculty status on September 3, 2022.

Professor Madama earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Montclair State University in 1976. Professor Madama entered the academy directly from the professional world, where he was (and remains) active, first as a television and stage actor, and then as a director in regional playhouses, and writer. Professor Madama served as a visiting professor at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance from 2000-2002, and was selected to join our faculty in the Department of Musical Theatre as an assistant professor in 2002. He was promoted to associate professor in 2008 and professor in 2021.

Since joining the University of Michigan, Professor Madama has been teaching musical theatre performance classes at levels from freshmen to senior; musical theatre history classes from the 1860s to the present; and directing numerous productions including Assassins, Rent, Big River, Guys and Dolls, Company, City of Angels, The Pajama Game, Nine, Ragtime, Into the Woods, Children of Eden, Good News!, The Full Monty and the Horton Foote play 1918. He has also worked on the yearly “Senior Showcase,” which is presented in Ann Arbor and New York. Before starting his tenure at Michigan, Professor Madama worked as a director, writer, and actor throughout the world. He has been one of the resident directors at Music Theatre of Wichita for over twenty years. He has also worked regionally at such theatres as the Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles, Studio Ensemble Theatre in New York, Casa Mañana Theatre, Pittsburgh CLO, Theatre Under The Stars, Kansas City Starlight, Theatre Memphis, and Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma.

Professor Madama’s production of Tintypes, in which he played a leading role as well as directing, was awarded “Best Production” at the Dundalk International Theatre Festival in Dundalk, Ireland, with Professor Madama awarded “Best Director” honors as well. His Tintypes also had the honor of representing the United States as the first American theatrical production to be presented in the Eastern Bloc countries of Czechoslovakia and Poland after the fall of the Iron Curtain. Professor Madama co-authored a new version of the 1927 musical Good News!, which has now been performed in over three hundred theaters in the United States, plus numerous international productions.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Mark Madama, professor emeritus of music.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

October 2022