

Akira Watanabe
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 (212) 920-7830
 Musical Theatre Actor
 Degree: BM Musical Theatre Comprehensive, UNK
 Miss Gifu 2021

<Awards>

Deans list : 2014-2016
 Scholarship : International Student Scholarship, Music Major Scholarship, Lavern Clark Vocal Scholarship, NCN Scholarship
 Award : Alpha Psi Omega – Outstanding Actress in an Ensemble Role, Shit Happens Award

<Performance Experience>

Regional

Musical Theatre

Wizard of Oz	Cyclone/Poppie/Ozian	Crane River Theatre
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat	Ensemble/Featured Dancer	Crane River Theatre
Tarzan	Ape	Crane River Theatre
Legally Blonde	Pilar	Round Barn Theatre
Sister Act	Nun/Dance Captain	Round Barn Theatre
Guys and Dolls	Hot Box Girl/Dance Captain	Round Barn Theatre
The Little Mermaid	Mersisitr/Seagul/Aerial silk	Round Barn Theatre
Mamma Mia!	Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
Happy Days	Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
Copa Cabana	Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
Annie	Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
Beauty and Beast	Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
In the Heights	Ensemble	Northampton Summer Theatre
Buddy: Buddy Holly the musical	Ensemble	Northampton Summer Theatre
Jesus Christ Super Star	Ensemble	Northampton Summer Theatre
She Loves Me	Choreographer/Customer/ Caroler	Kearney Community Theatre
9 to 5	Ensemble	Kearney Community Theatre
Hello Dolly!	Ensemble	Kearney Community Theatre

Dance

Let It Snow	Company dancer	Crane River Theatre
Erik and Kaiel : Duets	Company dancer	Merryman Performing Arts Center

Gala

National Collegiate Network's departing ceremony 2019	National Anthem singer/ Speaker	National Olympic Memorial Youth Center
National Collegiate Network's departing ceremony 2020 virtual	National Anthem singer/ Speaker	National Collegiate Network, Virtual
Celebrate Broadway	Duet and Company Singer/ Dancer	Crane River Theatre
New Year's Eve Gala Concert	Duet Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Preview Party for 2018	Company Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Preview Party for 2019	Company Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Preview Party for 2020	Company Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Japan Show Biz in NY	Duet Dancer	Toshi Nakazawa
Talent Night in NY Vol 5	Solo Dancer	The World Voice Ensemble
Talent Night in NY Vol 12	Solo Dancer/Solo Singer	The World Voice Ensemble
Talent Night in NY Vol 13	Solo Dancer/Solo Singer	The World Voice Ensemble

Choreography

Goshen Summer camp 2021	Greatest Show, It's Possible, Be the Hero, You will be found	Goshen Theatre
She Loves Me	Musical, She Loves Me	Kearney Community Theatre
UN7TED	Run the world	PMT House of Dance
Celebrate Broadway	Over the rainbow	Crane River Theatre

Video Comercial

Successful Japanese in the USA	Speaker	National Collegiate Network
Study abroad in the USA	Speaker	National Collegiate Network
Guys and Dolls	Dancer/Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Legally Blonde	Pilar/Ensemble	Round Barn Theatre
Happy Days	Dancer/Singer	Round Barn Theatre
Sister Act	Nun	Round Barn Theatre
UNK Music program	Speaker	UNK music department
Tell us about UNK	Speaker	UNK International office
Miyabi	Principal	Japanese Association at Kearney
Success story from our alumni	Guest speaker	Bohme Teragoya

Film

Room 1403	Sayaka(lead)	Masaaki Mitsuyasu
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Newspaper/ Web media

Interview about Akira Watanabe in NYC	Chunichi Newspaper
Interview about Akira Watanabe in NYC	Tokyo Newspaper
Ask a Japanese dancer challenges Broadway in NY	NY Keizai Newspaper
Next! Interview with a newcomer challenging in NY	NY Japion
UNK today	Kearney Hub
Interview from alumni part 1	Bohme Teragoya
Interview from alumni part 2	Bohme Teragoya
Special Interview	Gifu Shampoo
Special Interview	Koho Kasamatsu
Japanese Association at Kearney Spring Festival	Antelope newspaper
When Planet Alines (Dance concert)	Antelope newspaper

Collegiate**Musical Theatre**

Cinderella; The Madang Nuri	Fairy God Mother/ Narrator	University of Nebraska Kearney
How I became a Pirate	Maxine/Dance Captain	University of Nebraska Kearney
Girl Crush	Solist/Ensemble	University of Nebraska Kearney

Dance

Somebody's Hero	Poison Ivy	University of Nebraska Kearney
Synergy	Trio/Quartet Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
(Dis) Connected	Duet	University of Nebraska Kearney
(Dis) Connected	Duet	Wayne State College
When Planets Align	Solo/Company Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Art IN Motion MONA	Trio/Company Dancer	Nebraska Museum of Art
Art IN Motion MONA	Trio/Company Dancer	Wayne State College
It's Essential	Duet/Company Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Push and Pull	Quartet/Company Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Frankly, Just Some 10-Minutes Plays	Quartet Dancer/Dance Captain	Frank House
New Music Festival XIII	Solo/Company Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Spring Choir Concert	Company Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney

The Choraleers	Company Dancer	Saint Paul United Methodist Church
All Choir Concert	Company Dancer	Prince of Peace Catholic Church
Student Dance Workshop	Company/Tap Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney

Theatre

We Must Kill Toni (One Act)	Harris	University of Nebraska Kearney
American Buffalo (One Act)	Grace	University of Nebraska Kearney
The Creation of the World and Other Business	Movement Actor/Dance Captain	University of Nebraska Kearney
The Lady from the Sea	Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney

Choreography

International Food Festival (2014-2016)	Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Japanese Festival (2014-2016)	Actor/Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Chinese Festival	Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
African Festival	Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Asian American Festival (2015-2016)	Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
Korean Festival	Choreographer/Dancer	University of Nebraska Kearney
SubstansiRythm	Choreographer/Dancer	Copperfield
Nebraskats (Show choir)	Choreographer	University of Nebraska Kearney

Choral Experience

Show Choir : Nebraskats (2014-2016)

Choreography, Performed on TV (NBC Nebraska), Community stages, Local tour

Classical : Senior/Junior Recital

Choir Concerts (2014-2016)

Collegiate, Local churches

Additional Performances

American College of Dance Adjudication entries (2015-2017) : "Itchy", "Gone Fishing" and "Westward"

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Musical Theatre Dance : "I hope I get it" from chorus line

Master class with Composer, Mr. Andrew Gerle

Singer Member of Kearny Live Music (2015-2016)

Dance Workshops / Tours – Steps on Broadway, Chicago dance travel, ACDA, tours, 1MillionDance Studio in South Korea

Music Video – RBT advertisement, UNK advertisement, Synergy, Brusin' and Crusin', Dance videos

Vocal Competition - City Level

College, Regional Newspapers,

Guest dancer - High School Festival and Health Conference

Actor/Dancer Dancing Forever Gifu Civic Hall, 2011

Ballet Dancer Ballet Concert Ichinomiya Civic Hall, 2009

Chorus No (Japanese traditional performing arts) Gifu Mirai Hall, 2002

<Related Experience>

YouTube channel “Table Talk” Speaker (2020-present)
YouTube channel “KiSSo” Choreographer, Dancer, Singer, Creator (2017-present)
Sakura radio guest speaker, 2019
College Radio show, 2016
Own My Dance Team “Dance at UNK”- Choreographer, Music, Costume and Stage Management (2013-2017)
Model - Magazine and Photo shop

Directors : Bill Mutimer, Steve Birth, Shannon Cameron, Rick Marlatt, Brette Ensz, David Rozema, So-Young Chun, Anne Foradori, Rebecca M. Epperson, Taylor Ritz, Kyle Mundil, Nathan Mittleman, Amber Burgess, Mike Fielder, Jack Garrison, Ryan Schisler, Jerel Armstrong, and Jerry O’Boyle.

Music Directors : Ashley West, David Bauer, So-Young Chun, Brenda Tincher, Laura L. Horst, Judy Rozema, Andrew White, Anne Foradori, Paul Rigano, Nathan Mittleman, Alejandro Gutierrez, and Julie Barber.

Choreographers : Makenzie Hinrichs, Dayna A. DeFilippis, Tanner Peshek, So-Young Chun, Minori Yamauchi, Brianna Menloy, Laura L. Horst, David Rozema, Elizabeth White, Noelle Bohaty, Nathan Mittleman, Sarah Philabaum, Melanie Greyson, Amy Baker and Mike Fielder.

Voice : Sharon Campbell, Yoco Tokuya, Toya Atsuh Tokuya, Makie Armstrong