## David Quang Pham (he/him)

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A challenge that I face at developmental departments is the expectation that visiting musical writers will have academic experiences in teaching; MSU's ĭmáGen initiative and the University of the Arts' Polyphone Festival being two examples. I look to meet this standard through my aspiration to grow as a musical writing and science playwriting educator in your program at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre.

And as a playwright, a pattern in my work is that the story traverses science communication through the human condition. TOUR, an opera about subatomic educators colliding in the academic Accelerator, was conceived as a physics undergrad. ELLIPSES, a musical about the isolated Galaxy family, was developed in our 2020 isolation. This musical found a yearlong home at Working Title Playwrights. My three-year-long plan is for BU to be the home and inspiration of my next science musical.

Based on the work at Boston Theater Marathon Festival and alumni Steven Barkhimer's musical profession, I know that BU is open to the form. As a librettist, I am going to be writing librettos, and seek mentorship from Barkhimer. My three-year graduate school project will be a musical that personifies science, perhaps telecommunication, having observed BU's research in it. Also, I will make the most of writing unplanned dozens of shorts and several full-length plays a year. Working Title Playwrights enhanced my playwriting discipline and connected me with my first stage manager, dramaturg, and director. I also produced as an affiliate of CreateTheater and Playwrights Foundation and as a mentee under Jane Dubin and Jennifer Isaacson of Theater Resources Unlimited. Working with Boston's artists may be sought if I am accepted, but I also look forward to connecting BU's theatre with my education as a science communicator. As a graduate student, my theses would be STEAM collaborations. Together, I would like to focus on humanizing the rich history of science in Boston.

My chronology in playwriting looks expansive lately. The best years of my life was as an apprentice, is as a fellow, and always as a champion of science plays. Much of the enlightenment happened in the dark years of 2020-2021. So, the time is now to get out of my Dark Age and onto an era of large-scale structure emergence. It is never too late to start grad school. However, the sooner I start, the earlier the galaxies, stars, planets, and ultimately cells can form; the more time there is for chaotic systems to settle with ecosystems; the smoother it is for intelligent life to set design my worlds and find their callings in art and science. Those who have graduated alongside me may be discovering new ions, fighting cancer with lasers, and stopping asteroids from hurtling towards our planet. However, I am a rare particle who can gravitate the masses towards what is present in the field of STEM and the natural field of science.