

MEET YOUR CORPS MEMBER, ABBY!

I am originally from the Sauk Valley area and grew up in Sterling where I graduated from Sterling High School in 2016. While at SHS, I was very active in the theatre department. For me, acting was something that clicked. It felt like second nature to be on stage and rehearse. However, I didn't think acting was a "realistic" journey for college and tried to look at other options besides the arts. The other options just didn't speak to me like theatre did. It wasn't until my mom confronted me that I realized with a lot of hard work and belief in myself, I could be an actor. My mom didn't want me to pick a path only because it was "safe". I will never forget her telling me, "You have your whole life to settle. Don't start settling for less before you start."

I attended Illinois State University in the Fall of 2016 and graduated in May 2020 with a B.A. in Acting and I wouldn't trade it for the world. During my time, I found my passion for stage combat and now have two certifications from the Society of American Fight Directors in specialized styles of fighting (for stage). As an acting major I learned how to collaborate and work with others on projects efficiently. Also during my time, I had opportunities to broaden my skills through directing a full-length play and working in the costume shop as a stitcher.

Aside from theatre at ISU, I was also involved in University Housing where I worked for two years as a Resident Assistant or RA in Hewett Hall. My responsibilities included hosting events for my floor, having an "on-call" schedule, and making sure residents were safe and welcome in the residence hall. Being an RA taught me that I have an instinct to help others in any way that I can. I enjoy being someone others feel comfortable turning to with questions or concerns and help when they need it.

Working with ISAC, my goal is to help others with the dreams they have post high school. I want to inspire everyone to follow their passion and make the most out of their college experience.

