

THEATRE ARTS

Theatre Arts explores the actor's tools: body, voice, mind, imagination, and the essential self. Theatre arts can also deal with design theories and textual analysis and may introduce the ideas, skills, and aesthetic issues which comprise the creation of a theatrical event. Movement, singing and acting may all be explored.

TYPICAL SKILLS

Good work ethic	Presentation, public speaking skills
Adaptability	Imagination and creativity
Flexibility	Attention to detail
Appreciation of aesthetics	Strong communication skills
Basic reading, writing and editing skills	Interpersonal skills
Interpretive skills	

TYPICAL JOBS LIST

The following are actual job titles of people who have graduated with an undergraduate degree in Theatre although some of these positions may require education beyond a bachelors.

ACTOR/ACTRESS

Performing artist who portrays characters in plays, musicals, films, commercials, TV and radio programs to entertain or inform an audience. Expresses character and emotions through voice, body motion, gestures and facial expression. Interprets a writer's script to entertain, inform or instruct an audience. May also coach, train or, with much acting experience, direct other actors. May teach in college/university, drama school or workshops.

ART DIRECTOR/GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Designs the 2-dimensional presentation of words and pictures to communicate visual messages, sell a product or create an impact on a specific audience. Some specialize in one area: magazine, book, newspaper, collateral (brochure, annual report, catalog), package, display, CD/cassette/book jacket, exhibit, sign/sign system or typography and font design. Some may specialize in film, television, multimedia or computer-related graphic imagery such as Web page design and computer interface design.

AUDIO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN

Set up or set up and operate audio and video equipment including microphones, sound speakers, video screens, projectors, video monitors, recording equipment, connecting wires and cables, sound and mixing boards, and related electronic equipment for concerts, sports events, meetings and conventions, presentations, and news conferences.

BROADCAST JOURNALIST/REPORTER

Analyze, interpret, and broadcast news received from various sources. Collect and analyze facts about newsworthy events by interview, investigation, or observation. Report and write stories for newspaper, news magazine, radio, or television.

COSTUME DESIGN

Design clothing and accessories for television/film/theatre. Create original garments or design garments that follow well established fashion trends. May develop the line of color and kinds of materials for production.

FUNDRAISER

Plans, manages or participates in raising assets and resources for an organization or cause.

LIGHTING TECHNICIAN

Sets up and operates electrical lighting equipment for the motion picture, video and theatrical industries. Provides creative and technical services and expertise during theatrical productions, educational and commercial/industrial films etc. Determines from chief lighting technician what the director of photography is attempting to accomplish and how the set will be lit.

MODEL

Assumes different poses for photographers. Most are fashion or "runway" models in manufacturers' showrooms, department stores and private salons. Some specialize in modeling one part of the body (hands, feet, eyes etc.). May appear in TV commercials that include speaking, singing or dancing, or demonstrate products/services at trade shows, conventions etc.

MUSICIAN

Play one or more musical instruments or entertain in recital, in accompaniment, or as a member of an orchestra, band, or other musical group. Musical performers may entertain on-stage, radio, TV, film, video, or record in studios.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST

Works to advance the interests of an organization or cause by developing an active relationship with (and support from) such groups as customers, employees, donors, investors, suppliers, public interest groups, government officials and agencies, community/national leaders, minorities etc. May work in nonprofit, government or business sector or in consulting firm.

RADIO/TV BROADCAST TECHNICIAN

Performs a variety of non-routine technical tasks in the recording and transmittal of radio and television broadcasts. Operates electronic equipment such as cameras, character generators, microphones, and recording equipment. Operates audio/video console to regulate transmission of broadcast.

RADIO/TV ANNOUNCER

Introduces and closes programs, gives station identification, announces news, weather or sports, and reads commercial copy and public service announcements on radio or television. In some situations may ad-lib. As disc jockey, plays recorded music and comments on selections. As talk show host, introduces a topic, interviews guests and solicits input from callers. May host civic, charitable or promotional events broadcast over television or radio.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

May be employed as direct sales representative to sell products or services, be self-employed and sell compatible (but non-competitive) products for several manufacturers as independent manufacturers' agent, or work for an independent agency. Manufacturers' agents commonly start their careers as sales reps. May sell to business (wholesalers, retailers, or industry) government or non-profit organizations or individuals.

SET DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION

Design and construct special exhibits and movie, television, and theater sets. May study scripts, confer with directors, and conduct research to determine appropriate architectural styles.

SINGER

Performer who uses the voice to interpret music and entertain an audience. Classified by voice range: soprano, mezzo-soprano, contralto, tenor, baritone, bass. Also by type of music performed: popular--rock, jazz, country-western, rhythm & blues, folk, spiritual, gospel, new age--or classical--opera, church, concert, musical theatre etc.

SOUND TECHNICIAN

Provides technical expertise necessary to develop and implement sound in a range of multimedia projects. Produces specialized sounds for feature films, theatrical presentations, television, radio, musical recordings and concerts. Duties include importing and storing sounds, recording and mixing sounds, dubbing, and applying sound to multimedia applications.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Plans and manages recreation programs/facilities for general public or particular groups--children, elderly, employees, special interest groups etc. Organizes, promotes and develops interest in a particular event. May work for local or recreation departments, private businesses or nonprofit institutions.

TELEVISION/FILM DIRECTOR

Directs films (union or non-union), taped TV programs, live productions, documentaries, music videos or other types of audio-visual entertainment or informational productions. Guides the efforts of performers, camera and lighting crews, costume and set designers in achieving the overall artistic and creative visual interpretation of a film or TV program.

TELEVISION/FILM PRODUCER

Plans and coordinates various aspects of television programs and feature films. May work on such projects as TV movies, mini-series, drama, musical variety, news, children's programming and commercials. Coordinates various work aspects of production, such as audio work, scenes, music, timing, camera work, casting and script writing.

VOICE TEACHER

Instructs individuals or groups in vocal music from grade school through college/university, in a conservatory or privately.

WRITER/AUTHOR

Writes to communicate ideas, images, emotions, information or opinions. May create imaginative works such as novels, short stories, poems, scripts or dramas for adults or children.

HIRING ORGANIZATIONS

Community theaters
Regional theaters
Dinner theaters
Children's theaters
Amusement/theme parks
Newspapers/magazines

Touring companies
Industrial shows
Show groups
Television/film studios
Radio stations
Colleges/Universities

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION/ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Community Theatre <http://www.aact.org/>

Clarkstown Summer Theatre <http://www.summertheatrefestival.com>

Conference of Drama Schools <http://www.drama.ac.uk/>

Downtown Art Series <http://www.dasinfo.com/>

Episcopal Actors' Guild <http://www.actorsguild.org/>

Glasgow, The Cecilian Society <http://www.gla.ac.uk/Clubs/Cecilian/>

Institute of Outdoor Drama <http://www.unc.edu/depts/outdoor/>

International Playback Theatre Network <http://www.playbacknet.org>

League of American Theatres and Producers <http://www.broadway.org/>

Solo Together <http://www.gis.net/~mtf/solo.htm>

United Stage of America <http://unitedstage.com/>

World Communities: Center for Communities in Theatre
<http://canes.gsw.peachnet.edu/~world/>

WEBSITES: JOB INFO

Artslynx www.artslynx.org/jobs

Playbill.com -some great links to jobs in theatre.

BackStage.Com: all behind-the-scenes jobs in the live entertainment field.

[Shakespeare Festival Links](#)

[Summer Theater list](#) - jobs are not listed, but theater contact information is.

[The Hollywood Reporter: Welcome!](#)

[Texas Theatre Jobs-great list!](#)

[Media Contacts - U.K.](#)

[Job Village-performing arts jobs](#) - you can register for free.

[PropPeople.com Job Board](#)

[Theater Services Guide](#)

Theatre Jobs - login as a guest <http://www.theatrejobs.com>

Showbiz Jobs.Com <http://www.showbizjobs.com/>

MonsterTRAK <http://www.monstertrak.com>

WEBSITES: CAREER INFO

Actors, Directors & Producers (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 1996-97)
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos093.htm>

MISCELLANEOUS

American Association of Community Theatre www.aact.org

Arts and Entertainment MetaLink* <http://dcregistry.com/arts.html>

Educational Theatre Association www.edta.org

Scott's Theatre Links *MetaLink <http://www.theatre-link.com>

Screen Actors' Guild www.sag.org

Stage Managers' Association www.stagemanagers.org

The Art and Science of Theatre <http://library.thinkquest.org/21722/main.html>

Theatre Bay Area <http://www.theatrebayarea.org/>

Theatre Development Fund <http://www.tdf.org/>

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

Departmental Contacts

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Theatre Arts and the Liberal Arts

The Theatre Arts Department is part of the College of Arts and Sciences. Among the college's essential goals are: 1) that all students undertake research so that they experience the excitement of new knowledge and change; 2) that all students be exposed to major ethical dilemmas they will face in the world; and 3) that all students look at the world through the eyes of someone different from themselves. In the classrooms, rehearsal rooms, and shops of the Theatre Arts Department, we engage these lofty goals every day.

The Department of Theatre Arts

Dating back to the founding of the University Dramatic Club in 1923, the Department of Theatre Arts is committed to the development of its students as human beings and to nurturing their apprenticeship as theatre artists. The department fosters creativity, collaboration, discipline, and

artistic growth in its students. It embraces the theatre as a means of creative expression, cultural understanding, social development, and historical perspective.

We train students in the fine art of theatre-voice, movement, scene study, and design-and also teach the historical and literary context of the theatre as a humanist and liberal art. All students are exposed to the diversity of multicultural theatre.

The department strives to develop, disseminate, and preserve knowledge. This knowledge includes the ability: to understand the theatre arts, to appreciate them, and to create works of art that enhance the human condition.

The African American Theatre Program

Founded in 1993, the African American Theatre Program is integral to the Theatre Arts; Department. It develops theatre artists trained in the traditions of African American theatre and contributes to the multi-cultural arts movement. The AATP includes two Mainstage productions, community service and touring, and eight courses for graduate and undergraduate students. Subjects include theatre history, literature and performance, and theatre practicum. Undergraduates can earn a minor in African American Theatre or Cultural Performance. The minor in African-American theatre is unique among American universities.

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Check out our [Degree Programs](#) for more information on the degrees offered at the University of Louisville, Theatre Arts Department.

Theatre in Production

Opportunities for students to learn theatre by making it include:

- **Mainstage Series (*Belknap Theatre*)**
Annual season of fully-produced shows directed by faculty or guest artists and designed by faculty or advanced graduate students. Students may audition for all productions. The repertoire includes classics, contemporary plays, and musical theatre.
- **Studio Theatre**
Student produced, directed, acted, designed, and managed work that emphasizes the play and performance over production values. Repertoire includes one-act plays, lesser known works, and new material.
- **Juneteenth Festival**
Annual celebration of new writing through play readings and a playwriting contest sponsored by the department's African American Theatre Program.
- **Repertory Company**
Tours culturally-diverse classic, folk, and modern plays to local schools.

Facilities

- [Playhouse](#), 345-seat proscenium theatre
- [Thrust Theatre](#), 164-seat thrust theatre

Career Opportunities

Our graduates live in the world as:

- Actors in the professional theatre, television, and film in America and several foreign countries.
- Designers of scenery, lighting, and costumes from coast to coast.
- Scenic artists and technicians for professional theatres and production companies.
- Teachers in public and private schools, junior colleges, colleges, and universities.
- Businesswomen (and men), parents, play-goers, and plain folk whose daily lives are enriched by a deeper understanding of the power and potential of art.

Degree Programs

- Undergraduate Studies
 - [B.S. Degree Information \[PDF\]](#)
Allows students to pursue an intense study of theatre within a liberal arts college.

- Graduate Studies

For info about Graduate Programs in UofL's Department of Theatre Arts contact: Nefertiti Burton, Director of Graduate Studies
nefertiti.burton@louisville.edu

- [Master of Fine Arts](#)
Emphasizes training in [acting/performance \[PDF\]](#) in a three-year professional program. U of L is the only Kentucky school offering this terminal degree in theatre.

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