

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts major prepares students for professional careers in theatre and performance through intensive, conservatory-style training in acting, performance, production, design, and collaboration. Students develop artistic, technical, and professional skills through coursework, rehearsals, performances, and production experiences while gaining a broad understanding of the performing arts industry. Graduates are prepared for careers in professional theatre, entertainment, arts organizations, education, and related creative fields, as well as further study at the graduate level.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Theatre and Live Entertainment
2. Film, Television, and Digital Media
3. Arts and Cultural Organizations
4. Event Production and Management
5. Education and Community Arts Programs

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Actor/Performer
2. Theatre Production Assistant
3. Stage Manager Assistant
4. Casting Assistant
5. Production Coordinator
6. Assistant Director
7. Arts Program Coordinator
8. Event Production Assistant
9. Theatre Technician
10. Creative Assistant

5 Hard Skills:

1. Performance Techniques
2. Theatre Production Practices
3. Script Analysis and Interpretation
4. Stage Management and Production Coordination
5. Design and Technical Theatre Skills

5 Soft Skills:

1. Creativity
2. Communication
3. Collaboration
4. Adaptability
5. Discipline and Time Management

Additional Training or Certifications:

A bachelor's degree in Performing Arts provides students with the professional training and creative experience needed for careers in theatre, entertainment, and arts organizations. Continued professional development through auditions, workshops, networking, and portfolio development is essential for career growth. Students interested in advancement may pursue graduate degrees such as a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Acting, Directing, Design, Theatre, or related performing arts fields. Additional training in areas such as stage combat, voice, movement, digital production, arts administration, or specialized technical skills may also enhance career opportunities.

Student and National Organizations:

1. Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
2. United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT)
3. Actors' Equity Association (AEA)
4. Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC)
5. Educational Theatre Association (EdTA)