



COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Scholarships

The department offers scholarships to qualified freshmen and transfer students through competitive auditions held on campus in January and February. Scholarships range up to \$500 per year, and students may apply for continuing scholarships once they are enrolled at Winthrop.

For more information, contact:
**Department of Theatre
and Dance**

115 Johnson Hall
Winthrop University
Rock Hill, SC 29733
803/323-2287
theaterdance@winthrop.edu
www.winthrop.edu

WINTHROP
UNIVERSITY
ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

Theatre

With a liberal arts focus, Winthrop prepares leaders in the arts.

The Department

The Department of Theatre and Dance fosters individual students' aesthetic, intellectual, and creative development within the context of a liberal arts education as they pursue a Bachelor of Arts in theatre. Through class instruction, private coaching, mentoring, and performance, the department advocates both theoretical and creative exploration to achieve an understanding of the social, political, historical, and technological aspects of theatre. Class size remains small for majors: sometimes as small as five and never more than 25. The department offers a minor in theatre or dance and welcomes all students to enroll in courses and audition for productions. The department presents four main stage productions (three in theatre, one in dance), two student choreography showcases, and five studio dance/theatre productions and other informal performances each year. Very few undergraduate programs offer this high number of opportunities for students to act, design, direct, choreograph, stage manage, and run productions. The department also regularly hosts festivals, and students join faculty in travel to professional conferences.

Degrees

The department offers a B.A. in theatre with special emphases in performance, design/technical theatre, or teacher certification (K-12). All students study a core curriculum of courses in acting, design/technical production, history/literature, and directing. Majors will also take courses in dance, visual art, music, or literature to complement their

studies in theatre. A student's choice of a special emphasis leads to advanced, focused study in performance, design/production or teaching pedagogy. The curriculum includes advanced courses in acting, directing, playwriting, make-up, design, dialect training, and stage combat.

Facilities

Johnson Hall features a spacious 330-seat proscenium theatre with an orchestra pit, fly system, and control rooms with digital equipment, supported by multiple dressing rooms and a make-up area. Alternatively, the studio theatre provides an intimate setting for student works. The building also houses an acting studio and two dance studios, a computer lab, scenic studio, and costume studio. The Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center next door includes two more dance studios.

Accreditations

Winthrop University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) and the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). Accreditation through these organizations means that the Winthrop University theatre and dance programs meet the highest standards of excellence for faculty expertise, quality of facilities, curricular offerings, and quality of artistic work. Winthrop also holds accreditation with the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Study Abroad

Every year the department places majors in study-abroad programs arranged through the university's International Center. Students spend a semester or more in locations such as England, Australia, South Africa, or on world cruises.

Graduate School

Among theatre majors, about one in ten continues to pursue graduate level training in the arts. They become professional actors, designers, choreographers, directors, or university level educators. Winthrop graduates have continued on to some of the top theatre graduate programs in the country. Beyond that, however, many theatre majors ultimately elect to become lawyers, K-12 teachers, counselors, social workers, or pursue some other sort of professional training.

Careers

Every year surveys reveal that employers are looking to hire people who are good communicators, problem-solvers, project-oriented, self-motivated, and adaptable. If students hope to be successful as a theatre major, then they must develop all these job skills. Moreover, the twenty-first century is an era of innovation, imagination and creativity. A theatre major prepares graduates to be successful members of the workforce, no matter where their careers take them.

Certainly all the traditional jobs are open to theatre majors within the field: designer, actor, teacher, or free-lance artist. Beyond that, though, there is a wide horizon of possibilities in related fields such as: drama therapy, the fashion/design industry, arts administration, non-profit fund-raising and development, marketing/public relations, theatrical/dance supply industry, arts facilities management, communications, and arts technology, just to name a few.



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