

Theatre Careers

What can I do with this degree?



Theatre is an art form that depends on performers to portray real or imagined events while utilizing total mastery of the body, mind, and technical craft. Assorted design, stagecraft, and written elements are needed to enhance the viewing experience for the audience. With its never-ending supply of themes, characters, plots, and constant need for creativity, careers in theatre offer opportunities for success.

Skills

- Public speaking
- Confidence
- Active listening
- Critical thinking
- Adaptability
- Keen observing
- Independent working
- Voice/ body control
- Intense concentration
- Project collaboration
- Creativity
- Project management
- Presentation skills
- Quick thinking
- Planning technique
- Team-work
- Time management
- Innovative

Degrees & Certifications offered at Texas State University

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Theatre
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre with Pre-Professional Option
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre with Acting Emphasis
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre with Performance and Production Emphasis
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre with Design/ Technology Emphasis
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre with All-Level Certification
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Musical Theatre
- Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Theatre
- Master of Arts (MA) in Directing
- Master of Arts (MA) in Playwriting
- Master of Arts (MA) in Theatre History, Dramatic Criticism, and Dramaturgy

CAREER PATHS

(Some of the occupations outlined in this brochure may require additional education or training)

Performing

Sample Job Titles

- Actor/ Actress
- Professional performer
- Announcer
- Comedian
- Stand-in
- Drama therapist
- Mime
- Clown
- Newscaster
- Puppeteer
- Tour guide
- Model
- Teacher
- Voice-over actor
- Reader / narrator
- Ventriloquist

Possible Work Settings

- Community theatres
- Regional theatres
- Summer stock
- Dinner theatres
- Cruise ships
- Children's theatres
- University theatre groups
- Touring companies
- Industrial shows
- Television
- Film
- Radio
- Night clubs
- Colleges & universities
- Amusement parks

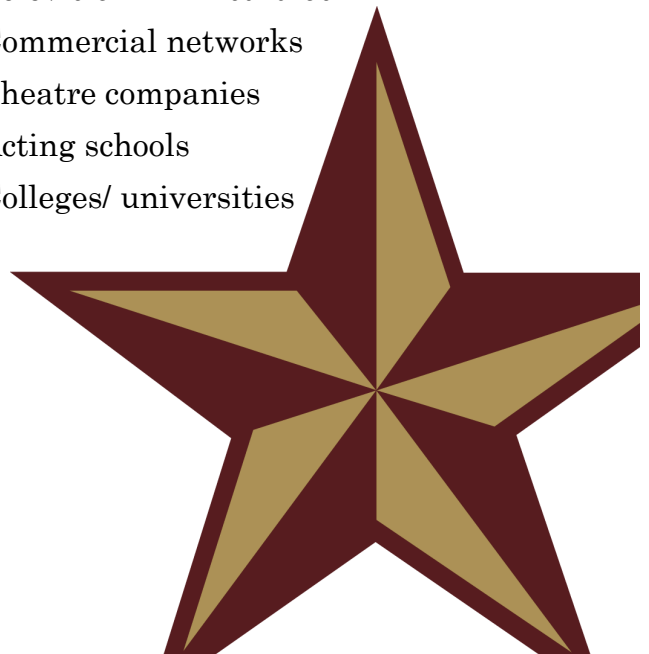
Directing

Sample Job Titles

- Director
- Technical director
- Casting agent
- Stage manager
- Support staff
- Public relations specialist
- Recruiter
- Script coach/ manager
- Special events coordinator
- Agent
- Booking manager
- Casting director
- Critic
- Drama coach

Possible Work Settings

- Theatres
- Television/ Film studios
- Commercial networks
- Theatre companies
- Acting schools
- Colleges/ universities



Technical

Sample Job Titles

- Set designer/ construction
- Property designer
- Lighting designer
- Sound operator
- Costume designer
- Hair/ Make-up specialist
- Riggers
- Electricians
- Wardrobe specialist
- Prop manager

Possible Work Settings

- Community theatres
- Regional theatres
- Commercial theatres
- Summer stock theatres
- Dinner theatres
- Children's theatres
- University theatre groups
- Touring companies
- Industrial shows
- Show groups
- Amusement/ theme parks
- Television/ film studios
- Radio stations

Writing

Sample Job Titles

- Scriptwriter
- Playwright
- Screenwriter
- Copy writer
- Journalist
- Publicity press agent
- Researcher
- Author

Possible Work Settings

- Theatres
- Television/ film studios
- Television stations
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Freelance
- Publishing companies

Business

Sample Job Titles

- Producer
- Marketer
- Fundraiser/ Developer
- Coordinator of volunteers
- Administrator of arts programs
- Box office sales
- Agent

Possible Work Settings

- Television/ film studios
- Theatres
- Arts councils
- Private contract



Student Organizations

- Alpha Psi Omega– theatre honor fraternity, <http://www.theatreanddance.txstate.edu/department/APO.html>
- Opening Door Dance Theatre

Professional Organizations

- Texas Educational Theatre Association, <http://www.tetatx.com/>
- California Educational Theatre Association, http://www.cetoweb.org/ceta_pages/
- American Association of Community Theatre, <http://www.aact.org/index.htm>
- American Society for Theatre Research, <http://www.astr.org/>
- League of Professional Theatre Women, <http://theatrewomen.org/>
- American Alliance for Theatre & Education, <http://www.aate.com>
- Dramatists Guild of America, <http://www.dramatistsguild.com/index.aspx>
- Educational Theatre Association, <http://schooltheatre.org/>
- Screen Actors Guild– American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, <http://www.sagaftra.org/>
- The Broadway League, <http://www.broadwayleague.com/>
- Stage Managers' Association, <http://www.stagemanagers.org/>

Information compiled from:

Texas State University Department of Theatre and Dance, University of California Santa Barbara Career Services, Northeastern University Career Services, Southern Illinois University Career Services, Rutgers Career Services, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Career Services, Oregon State University Career Services

Job Search Sites

- Entertainment Careers Jobs Listings and Internships, <http://www.entertainmentcareers.net/>
- Showbizjobs, <http://www.showbizjobs.com/>
- Playbill Job Search, <http://www.playbill.com/jobs/find/>
- Backstage Jobs, <http://backstagejobs.com/>

Theater Services Guide, <http://www.theaterservicesguide.com/home.asp>

- American Theatre Wing, http://americantheatrewing.org/theatrereferences/tr_training_and_jobs.php
- Theatre Communications Group, <http://www.tcg.org/about/internships.cfm>
- The WWW Virtual Library, Theatre and Drama, <http://vl-theatre.com/>

Career Library Resources

- *Opportunities in Acting Careers*, Dick Moore
- *Your Film Acting Career*, MK Lewis & Rosemary R. Lewis
- *Great Jobs for Film Majors*, Sandra R. Gordon
- *Careers for Film Buffs & Other Hollywood Types*, Jaq Greenspon
- *Opportunities in Film Careers*, Jan Bone & Ana Fernandez
- *Vault Career guide to Media and Entertainment*, Sucharita Mulpruru & the Staff of Vault
- *Great Jobs for Theater Majors*, Jan Goldberg
- *How to Get Into the Entertainment Business*, Ron Tepper
- *The Fine Artist's Career Guide*, Daniel Grant
- *Careers in Technical Theater*, Mike Lawler

www.careerservices.txstate.edu

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