School of Theatre & Dance

e-mail: theatre@mail.wvu.edu

The School of Theatre & Dance offers the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) as the terminal degree in the following majors:

- Acting
- Scenic Design & Technology
- Costume Design & Technology
- Lighting Design & Technology
- Technical Direction

All MFA degree programs in the School of Theatre & Dance are 3-year, 6-semester programs resulting in a terminal degree in that field of study.

West Virginia University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

FACULTY

DIRECTOR
- Joshua Blackmer Williamson - M.F.A. (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
  Associate Professor of Lighting & Sound Design

PROFESSORS
- Mary McClung - M.F.A. (West Virginia University)
  Costume Design & Technology
- Jerry McGonigle - M.F.A. (American Conservatory Theatre)
  Acting, Directing

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
- Jessica Morgan Bishop - M.F.A. (The Ohio State University)
  Stage Movement
- Lee Blair - M.F.A. (University of Florida)
  Acting, Directing
- Cornel Gabara - M.F.A. (Columbia University)
  Acting
- Laura Hitt - M.A. (Brown University)
  Voice and Speech
- Yoav Kaddar - Ph.D. (State University of New York - Albany) and M.F.A. (University of Washington - Seattle)
  Dance
- Robert Klingelhofer
  Scene Design
- Jay Mairarcher - Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)
  Theatre History, Literature, & Criticism

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS
- Radhica Ganapathy - Ph.D. (Texas Tech University)
  Theatre History, Literature, & Criticism
- General McArthur Hambrick - M.F.A. (University of Washington)
  Dance

CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS
- Alan McEwen - M.F.A. (University of Oregon)
  Lighting & Sound Design
- Steven Neuenschwander - M.F.A. (Yale School of Drama)
  Technical Direction, Production Management

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
- Tiffany Delligatti - M.F.A. (University of Connecticut)
Costuming

TEACHING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
• Cathy O’Dell - M.F.A. (West Virginia University)
  Acting, Theatre History

TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
• Irene Alby - M.F.A. (Columbia University)
  Acting

Admission

Prospective candidates for the degree of master of fine arts in theatre must have a B.A. or B.F.A. degree or equivalent from an accredited institution. Ordinarily, a minimum of thirty semester hours in theatre at the undergraduate level is expected to have been completed with a grade point average of no less than 2.75; although, students with an undergraduate grade point average of 2.25 to 2.75 may be admitted with probationary status.

Auditions

Applicants must audition/interview to gain admittance into the program. Applicants intending to specialize in acting must submit a complete resume of their acting experience, at least two letters of recommendation from acting coaches or directors, and must present an audition before at least one member of the acting faculty. Those intending to specialize in design must submit a complete portfolio of their work, a resume of their design experience, and at least two letters of recommendation from design instructors or directors. An interview with members of the design faculty is also required.

For further details regarding these requirements, please contact the School of Theatre & Dance, West Virginia University, P.O. Box 6111, Morgantown, WV 26506-611, visit theatre.wvu.edu, or call (304) 293-2020.

Advanced Standing

Students may be eligible for eighteen hours of graduate transfer credit for advanced-standing if they meet the regular requirements of graduate admission. Students admitted with advanced standing are required to be in residence at WVU for a minimum of two semesters and a summer session. The request for advanced standing should be made to the school chairperson at the time of application.