

School of Drama



The School of Drama investigates the art of theatre and performance—its practice, history, meaning—and fosters a spirit of inquiry by providing artists and scholars with tools for critical and inventive thinking and opportunities for practical application.

Highlights

- ▶ The UW School of Drama is one of the best professional training programs in the country. It was hailed in *The New York Times* as “one of the nation’s most often mentioned MFA acting programs by casting directors and theatrical agents.”
- ▶ In recent years, faculty, staff, and the School have been honored by the University of Washington, receiving prestigious awards including four UW Distinguished Teaching Awards, two UW Distinguished Staff Awards, and the Brotman Award for Instructional Excellence in Undergraduate Education.
- ▶ The PhD program is at the forefront of critical theatre studies in America, with a highly respected national profile. Faculty have been published by prestigious publishing houses such as Cambridge University Press, Camden Press, University of Delaware Press, Palgrave MacMillan, University of Iowa Press, and Oxford Press.
- ▶ The School is the only comprehensive undergraduate and graduate theatre program in the region. Facilities feature four theatre configurations that are standard in professional theatre.
- ▶ Internationally, students study and present work at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland and at The UW Drama Collective in Pontlevoy, France.
- ▶ Faculty and alumni have founded theatres such as ACT (Seattle), Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Empty Space Theatre, and most recently, the Washington Ensemble Theatre (WET), Emerald City Scene, Wing-it Productions, and Next Stage.

STUDENTS (AUTUMN 2010)

220 Undergraduate majors
33 Master of Fine Arts students
10 PhD students

DEGREES AWARDED (2009-2010)

66 Bachelor of Arts degrees
16 MFA degrees in Acting, Directing, and Design
2 PhDs in Theatre History, Theory, and Criticism

ALUMNI AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1 Academy Award, 2 nominations
6 Emmy Awards, 19 nominations
9 Tony Awards, 10 nominations
5 Obie Awards
1 Golden Globe Award, 3 nominations
1 Ace Award
2 Princess Grace Awards
1 Best of Festival, Edinburgh Festival

Core Teaching

The undergraduate curriculum in drama (BA) provides a general knowledge of the art and craft of the theatre as a foundation for further study or training.

The focus of the three-year Master of Fine Arts programs is to prepare artists for professional careers. The Professional Actor Training Program (PATP) trains actors to successfully

perform in professional theatre, film, and television, and to generate challenging new work. The Design Program prepares students for professional careers as scenic, costume and lighting designers for theatre, dance, and opera. The Directing Program stresses the traditional elements of director training such as acting and rehearsal techniques, staging, text analysis, and concept development. The PhD program is designed to train scholars in the fields of theatre history, theory, and criticism.



Faculty

Awards and leadership roles for School of Drama faculty include:

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| 3 UW Distinguished Teaching Awards | 1 TCG/NEA Career Development for Directors Award |
| 6 Donald E. Petersen Fellowships for Excellence | 1 Tony Award Winner |
| 2 Fellows of the American Theatre | 1 multiple Tony Award nominee |
| 2 Dramalogue Awards | 1 Drama League Award |
| 1 NAACP Image Award | 2 Theatre Hall of Fame Inductees |
| 1 American Theatre and Drama Society's Betty Jean Jones Award for Outstanding Teachers of Drama | 1 John Gielgud Directing Fellowship |
| 1 Jones Chair in the Arts | 1 Presidential Faculty Development Fellowship |

Several faculty currently hold or recently have held board positions in professional organizations specific to their areas of expertise, both nationally and internationally. Faculty regularly work professionally and teach throughout the world, most recently in Italy, Ireland, Wales, Japan, Russia, Germany, and Denmark.

Productions

The mainstage subscription season features at least six fully produced shows. These productions primarily feature MFA students in acting, design and directing with undergraduate students participating in many ways onstage and off. One production is comprised exclusively of undergraduates. Additional productions are staged each quarter in Studio 218 by the MFA Directing students and occasional playreadings provide a variety of production opportunities for all students.

The subscription season attracts approximately 10,000 patrons each year from both the campus and the community. The School of Drama is supported in its work by members of the community who serve on the School's Advisory Board.

The Undergraduate Theater Society (UTS) is an ASUW-sponsored student organization which supports undergraduate student productions. UTS annually produces a season of plays specifically with and for undergraduates in the Cabaret Theatre in Hutchinson Hall.



"Arcadia" by Tom Stoppard, Spring 2007, Playhouse Theatre. Scenic design by Andrea Bryn Bush, MFA 2007.



FACULTY (AUTUMN 2010)

- 4 Professors
- 6 Associate Professors
- 2 Assistant Professors
- 3 Senior Lecturers
- 2 Lecturers
- 4 Part-time Faculty
- 1 Adjunct Faculty
- 1 Affiliate Faculty

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Bachelor of Arts

GRADUATE AREAS OF STUDY

- Acting
- Costume Design
- Directing
- Lighting Design
- Scenic Design
- Theatre History, Theory & Criticism

PERFORMANCE VENUES

- The Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse
- The Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre
- Meany Studio Theatre
- The Cabaret in Hutchinson Hall

CONTACT INFORMATION

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