

FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY



FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY offers a B.A. degree in Theatre Arts in a program accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

THE THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM provides students with sound training in all areas of theatre, which can serve as an end in itself, as undergraduate preparation for graduate study, or as a program leading directly to a career in theatre.

The purpose of the Theatre Arts program is to develop a well-rounded understanding of theatre and the related arts. Although some graduates have entered the profession immediately, most seek further training in either graduate or professional schools.

THE CURRICULUM

In addition to the general education courses central to the traditional liberal arts degree, Theatre Arts majors take core courses providing a

solid theatre background for either of the advanced specialty areas: Design or Performance.

The core curriculum represents the basic body of knowledge that all theatre artists should have. These include basic courses in Acting, Directing, Stagecraft, Makeup, Costume Crafts, Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, as well as practical experience actually working on various aspects of mainstage productions.

The specialty courses afford each student advanced training in his selected career area:

Design Specialty majors continue on with more advanced courses in Theatre Management as well as Scenic, Lighting, Sound and Costume Design.

Performance Specialty majors concentrate on upper level courses in Acting and Directing.

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THE UNIVERSITY THEATRE

The Fine Arts Department's co-curricular production company, The University Theatre, offers four major productions each year and as many as 12 student directed experimental theatre productions. Each season more than 150 students from across the campus participate in The University Theatre's productions. Although the productions act as the laboratory for the theatre majors and minors, their primary function is to serve the entire campus and community. Student actors and technicians learn to sustain high standards of performance through exposure to a large and demanding audience.

FACILITIES

The Fine Arts Theatre serves as a laboratory for the study of Theatre Arts. It is a versatile facility, capable of conversion from a traditional proscenium stage to a thrust stage in a matter of minutes. The stage house has a 26 line counterweight fly system as well as a very flexible lighting grid "net" and catwalk for front-of-house lighting.

The theatre facility is used as a classroom and is also made available to students for the purposes of their directing projects and/or acting project rehearsals. The theatre scene shop, sound and lighting control booth, make-up studio and costume studio are all used for productions and course instruction.

The Theatre Arts program also has at its disposal a design studio equipped with 18 drafting stations and the performance venues of the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center in downtown Florence.

Our hands-on approach to learning the craft from within these working theatre venues prepares our students to move directly into the profession or on to graduate and professional schools.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Theatre faculty encourage majors to accompany them to regional theatre conferences where they meet theatre professionals, are exposed to new technologies, and learn invaluable interview and audition skills.

Faculty lead student groups to New York for experiential learning, attending performances at the very center of America's theatrical heart.

Theatre Arts alumni have gone on to successful graduate study and careers including

- Actor
- Director
- Producer
- Technical Director
- Lighting Designer
- Production Manager
- Film Maker
- Scenic Designer
- Theatre Manager
- Secondary School Educator
- Minister
- College Professor

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the academic scholarships and grants available to all Francis Marion University students through the University's Financial Assistance Office, the Department of Fine Arts is sometimes able to assist deserving students in a variety of ways. Please visit departments.fmarion.edu/finearts/schol01.htm

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please visit our website for additional information about our Theatre Arts Program:
departments.fmarion.edu/finearts

To arrange a visit to campus and the Department of Fine Arts, call admissions at 843-661-1231.

For more specific information about studies in Theatre Arts at Francis Marion University, call (843) 661-1385 or contact:

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