



Why pursue a degree in theatre or dance?

The Cal State Fullerton Theatre program is among the top 16 “Most Highly Recommended Undergraduate Programs” in the nation, according to the most recent *Performing Arts Major’s College Guide* published by Macmillan Books. Ranked with such prestigious schools as Juilliard, New York University, Boston University and Northwestern University. CSUF’s Dance program is also ranked under “Noteworthy Programs,” along with Brigham Young, Cornell, Duke, Hofstra and American University.

The Musical Theatre program also ranks in the "Most Highly Recommended Undergraduate Programs" along with the Boston Conservatory, Emerson College, Sarah Lawrence and the University of Michigan. In addition, the department is in close proximity to major regional theatres and borders Southern California’s mecca of major film and television studios, over 100 producing theatres, and the nation’s premiere entertainment parks: The Disneyland Resort, Knott’s Berry Farm, Six Flags Magic Mountain and Universal Studios. Our students can also take advantage of department-sponsored internships with such prestigious industry leaders as the Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Repertory Theatre, NBC, CBS and Paramount Studios.

What sets Cal State Fullerton’s programs apart?

Our programs focus on the development of the complete artist. While public performance is at the heart of our programs, we maintain a creative balance between academic courses and professional theatre training. In our quest to meet all of the needs of a theatre arts career, students have a choice of concentrations in the following areas: liberal arts; teaching and production/performance (which includes emphases in the areas of acting, directing, playwriting, technical production/design and musical theatre).

Experienced professional directors and nationally-known educators, designers, playwrights, authors, editors and casting agents are all part of the CSU Fullerton Theatre Arts faculty. For example, current faculty members include an international film director; an award-winning off-Broadway actress; a regional theatre playwright; a television history author; the editor of an international Shakespeare publication; a director with Columbia Pictures and

Universal Studios experience; the founder of one of California's major touring troupes for young actors; a regional-theatre chief executive; an author; a playwright and board member for the Orange County Black Actors Theatre; a Lorraine Hansberry Award winner and others with major professional experience and leadership positions in statewide, regional, national and international theatre organizations.

Members of the Dance faculty are comprised of richly talented professionals dedicated to the highest ideals of education and dance. Regionally and nationally known choreographers, acclaimed dancers with leading dance companies, nationally-known educators and designers are all part of the 12-member dance faculty at Cal State Fullerton.

What career opportunities are available?

The department sponsors internship programs with many of the most prominent theatres, film and television studios in Southern California—the heart of the country's entertainment industry. These organizations include the Tony award-winning regional theatres, the Mark Taper Forum, A Noise Within and South Coast Repertory Theatre, as well as NBC, Paramount Studios, Shakespeare Orange County and a myriad of other venues. Our theatre alumni are currently working professionally in all areas of the entertainment industry.

What degrees are offered?

Cal State Fullerton offers the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts with a choice of three concentrations. The concentration in liberal arts is for those who wish to study theatre as a cultural contribution or who wish to pursue graduate degrees in theatre with an emphasis in theory and research. It is strongly recommended that students electing this plan support the major with approved electives from art, music, foreign languages, literature, philosophy or speech.

The concentration in teaching meets the requirements of the teaching credential with specialization in secondary teaching. Students pursuing a concentration in teaching must meet all specific requirements for the desired teaching credential.

The concentration in production/performance includes emphasis in the areas of acting, directing, playwriting and technical production/design.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is designed for those wishing to pursue a career as a professional artist. Currently, a concentration in musical theatre is offered.

The Bachelor of Arts in Dance is designed to develop competency for pursuing careers in dance or for pursuing a graduate degree in dance.

What are some special features and programs at Cal State Fullerton?

CSUF features guest artists, including Joanna Gleason, Alice Ripley and Harriet Harris, and guest faculty. In addition, the Preeminent, Kaleidoscope Players, Front and Center, Vision and Visionaries, Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival and Musical Theatre Touring are among its challenging co-curricular activities. The Department sponsors internships with such prestigious industry leaders as the Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Repertory Theatre, NBC, CBS and Paramount Studios.

The Dance program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance. The fundamental goal of the Dance program is the humanistic education and aesthetic training of students in both theory and craft. To this end, the department engages in the rigorous recruitment of distinguished faculty members, challenging classroom and production experiences, and community services and out-reach activities.

What are some of the performance opportunities that are available through the program?

A theatre and dance season of 12-15 major annual productions, draws thousands of audience members to the Cal State Fullerton campus during the academic year. Kaleidoscope Players, a touring theatre for young audiences, plays to 70-80 elementary schools and more than 15,000 students each spring semester. The annual gala event, Front and Center at the Anaheim Pond, blends CSUF students with professional performers. The black-tie event has presented such world-renowned figures as Colin Powell, Michael Eisner, Bill Cosby, Tony Bennett, Whoopi Goldberg and Walter Cronkite in unique performance experiences. Finally, Vision and Visionaries is a marvelous song-and- dance gala event that honors distinguished and honorary CSUF alumni.

What scholarships and awards are available?

The department offers a number of student scholarships. Current funds are available from the Leo Freedman Foundation Grant, the Edwin Duerr Fund, the Dixie & Gordon Shaw Scholarship Fund, the Lyon Fund, the Johnson Scholarship, the Sheridan Scholarship Fund, the Vaughncille Joseph Meng Scholarship Fund and the Robert Christianson Scholarship Fund. In addition, theatre and dance students are eligible for any scholarships, grants or loans available to the general student body. For more information, please call financial aid at (714) 278-3125.

What distinctions/awards has the department received?

Cal State Fullerton is proud of the consistent regional and national recognition received from major media critics, regional and national adjudicators, educational peers and corporate executives. The Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival is the major agency concerned with reviewing artistic productions for the nation's college and university theatre programs, and the track record of our students in this major competition is outstanding. Ten productions have been awarded regional finalist status, with three productions selected for presentation in the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. Dozens of students have been singled out for Irene Ryan Acting Awards. In 2002, an original student play, "Grasmere" was performed at the Kennedy Center. In 1993, "All that He Was" was selected by the Center to represent the United States at a world festival of plays in Barcelona, Spain. The Department's Kaleidoscope Players have received two Pacific Mutual Awards, a Disneyland Award, and both regional and national Saturn Corporation Awards for showing initiative, creativity and ingenuity while benefiting others.

Who advises me?

Full-time faculty members advise new and continuing students.

How can I learn more?

Contact the Department of Theatre and Dance, California State University, Fullerton Performing Arts 157, P.O. Box 6850, Fullerton, CA 92834-6850. For further information, please call the dance coordinator or department chair at (714) 278-3628. Take a moment to visit our website at www.theatre.fullerton.edu/. We look forward to meeting with you and helping you chart a course to meet your academic and professional goals.