

# EMPLOYABILITY HANDBOOK

## THEATRE, FILM, AND ENTERTAINMENT MEDIA



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## Introduction:

The arts and entertainment industries, including theatre and film, are very competitive industries and finding work in them requires you to be patient, persistent, creative, personable and flexible. You will have to work to find work. This means you will have to be proactive in finding opportunities. Most opportunities come through networking.

In addition to the larger theater and entertainment industries in New York City, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, etc., there are smaller production companies and theaters in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and many other areas in New England and across the country.

This handbook is meant to give you some guidance about putting together your materials (cover letter and resume), how to network, employment opportunities, and graduate programs that may help you further your education, skills and preparedness for your careers. This handbook will also discuss how the skills you are learning as a theater major and film minor will prepare you for a wide range of careers beyond the entertainment and theater industries.

The cliché is that it takes hard work and a little luck to have a career in theater or film. However, the truth is it takes hard work and luck but it also takes patience, persistence, flexibility, and being personable.

## Overview:

So you are a performer. You feel you are destined to be on the stage or on the screen. Or perhaps you are studying to work in technical theater. You are drawn to creating the lighting for theatrical productions or you find creative satisfaction in building sets or you want to design costumes and dress characters. Maybe you want to work in the film or entertainment industry. You want to write the stories we see on the screen. You want to capture the images for the stories. You want to design the story through editing. You want to take the lead and direct. You have strong aspirations, but what do you do when you graduate? Are you ready?

Most likely you will not find your career posted on Linked In or Monster.com or any other employment website. Theater, film and entertainment are very competitive industries that rely on networking to fill the slots on theater, film and television productions. These are industries where you really do need to know someone. Does that mean that everyone working in theater, film and television knew someone before they got started? Were they related to people already working in the industry? Not likely.

What it means is that you will have to work to find work.

How do you work to find work? First, you do as much as you can while you are in school to network with your peers and to gain experience that will give you confidence while also giving you material for your resume. Do things that add diverse experiences to your life and education so you can use them as discussion points in your cover letter. During your college years get involved beyond the classroom. You will be learning the knowledge and skills and you will be given lots of opportunities to apply your creativity through class assignments and projects. Get involved in clubs and activities that expand your experiences and skill set. Getting involved in clubs (Film Club, Drama Society) is a great way to network with your peers and build strong friendships while working on creative projects beyond the classroom.

Apply yourself. Work to get an internship. There are many opportunities in Los Angeles, New York Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, etc. There are also many opportunities in Connecticut and the surrounding states. Treat getting an internship as an important creative project. Take the time to research and plan and prepare. There are a list of companies and theaters listed in this handbook. There is also a list of some of the bigger internship opportunities. And, there are numerous other avenues to getting an internship. But you have to do the work. This Employability Handbook will discuss ways to find internships beyond the ones that are posted publicly.

As a student your job is to learn and grow. You are also responsible for gaining as many opportunities as you can to further your experiences. You are responsible for putting in the practice to refine your knowledge and skills. You are responsible for growing your confidence. You are responsible for networking and being involved. You are responsible for getting the experiences that will be material for your resume and cover letter. There are examples of cover letters and resumes included in this Employability Handbook.

Once you graduate you will need to do more work to find work. There are ways to find opportunities. There are websites that can give you some leads. But more likely you will have to search out your work opportunities. How you find the work opportunities will be covered in this handbook. Beyond the theater and entertainment industries there are job opportunities in many industries that can and will utilize the skills you are learning and using as theater and film students. Most industries need people who are creative thinkers with strong communication skills. In addition, film and theater requires you to be strong problem solvers, creative critical thinkers who are good with time management. Ultimately, many of the skills that you learn to make films or plays are the skills that most industries strongly desire in their employees.

## Sample Cover Letter 1

YOUR NAME

Your street address, City, State, Zip – Phone number – Email Address

ABC Theater Company  
65 Wiltern Street  
Boston, MA 00000

Dear Ms. Employer:

I am writing to apply for the stage manager position at ABC Theater Company. I have been heavily involved in theater since my freshman year in high school and during the past two years I have been the stage manager on 4 productions at Eastern Connecticut State University. I believe my knowledge, skills and experience make me a great candidate for your position.

I have learned about the various crafts and creative skills required to stage a play. I have found I have strong leadership abilities in taking a play from inception through closing night and managing all the moving parts to make the play a seamless whole. I have stage managed four plays at ECSU, two main stage productions and two black box theater productions. I created the schedules and managed the various technicians involved in staging the plays.

One of the most challenging experiences I had was (describe the experience and how you rose to meet the challenge. This paragraph is about you describing elements about your experience that prove you are fully capable for the challenge.

This paragraph should have some detail and insight about you that might set you apart from the competition. Perhaps you have a relative who has worked in regional theater all your life, or perhaps your first experience seeing a play changed your life in a significant way, this is your chance to separate yourself from the competition.

I believe my motivation, experience and determination will make me a successful stage manager at ABC Theater Company. Add something unique about the theater company that you learned through research and that you find attractive (I am impressed that ABC Theater Company has been providing live theater to the upstate NY area for over 20 years and I would cherish the opportunity to help continue that successful streak of productions). I look forward to speaking to your in more detail about the position and my qualifications.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Your Name

## Sample Letter 2

YOUR NAME

Your street address, City, State, Zip – Phone number – Email Address

ABC Post-Production Studios  
65 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 00000

Dear Mr. Employer:

I write to apply for a post-production assistant position with ABC Post-Production Studios. During the past four years I have learned about film production from inception of an idea through the final stages of post-production. I am particularly interested in post-production and editing.

I am very impressed with the quality of the work that is created by ABC Post-Production Studios. I like that your company works on a variety of projects. I am sure that I would be able to continue to learn and grow with your company. (this paragraph is where you want to highlight why you are drawn to this employer).

I have experience working on and feel competent on various editing software, including Avid MediaComposer, DaVinci Resolve, and Premiere Pro. I feel confident in my ability to learn new software quickly. I have experience editing projects from start to finish and I even edited two promotional videos for a nonprofit organization. These two projects are being used professionally. (this paragraph is where you discuss your skills and knowledge and hopefully can point out a unique experience).

I believe I would be an exceptional post-production assistant for ABC Post-Production Studios. I am driven to have a career in post-production. I have strong communication, problem solving, and multi-tasking skills. I feel that ABC Post-Production Studios would be a great company to work for and I look forward to talking to you further about my skills and knowledge. (this paragraph is where you can connect yourself to the company one more time – try to add something unique about yourself that will help you stand out).

Thank you,

Your Name

# PETER JACKSON

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## CONTACT

34 Wilson Lane  
Clinton, CT 00000  
[pjackson@gmail.com](mailto:pjackson@gmail.com)  
(860)555-5555

## EDUCATION

Eastern Connecticut  
State University  
B.A. Theater  
Minor: Film Studies  
May 2020

## SKILLS

Avid Media Composer,  
Premiere Pro, Celtx,  
Word, Excel, Digital  
Film Equipment,  
Time Management,  
Critical Thinking, Flexible,  
Persistent, Verbal and  
Written Communication.

## REEL

[www.vimeo.com](http://www.vimeo.com)

## PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

<i>Shatter</i> , short narrative film	2020
Director, Camera Operator, Editor	
<i>Could Be You</i> , short PSA	2020
Producer, Writer	
<i>Access, Inc.</i> , short informational film	2019
Director, Writer, Editor	
<i>Main Street Tees</i> , commercial	2019
Production Assistant	
<i>Not You</i> , 48 hour short film project	2019
Producer, Writer, Camera Operator	
<i>Jacob</i> , short documentary film	2019
Producer, Camera Operator	
<i>Table for 2</i> , short narrative film	2018
Production Assistant	

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Subway, sandwich maker and cashier	2018-
TGI Fridays, waitstaff	2016-18
Shoes, Inc., shoe salesperson	2015-16

## Sample Resume 2 - Theatre

**Your Name**  
**Union affiliation/s (if any) go here**  
**(123) 456-7980**

### Representation (if any)

### Vocal Range

Height: 5'2"

Weight: 128

Hair: Black

Eyes: Brown

### **THEATRE:** *(in reverse chronological order)*

SHOW <i>(in CAPS)</i>	<i>Role (in italics)</i>	Producing Organization
SHOW	<i>Role</i>	Producing Organization/ <i>(well-known Director)</i>
SHOW <i>(w/famous fellow actor's name)</i>	<i>Role</i>	Producing Organization
SHOW <i>(Staged Reading)</i>	<i>Role</i>	Producing Organization
UNGODLY LONG...TITLE	<i>Role</i>	Producing Organization, Location

### **FILM:**

MOVIE TITLE	<i>(type of role)</i>	Producing Organization/ Well-known Director
WORKING TITLE	<i>Co-star</i>	Producing Organization/ Well-known Director

### **TELEVISION:**

SHOW	<i>(type of role)</i>	Network/Well-known Director
SHOW	<i>Guest Star</i>	ABC/Well-known Director

### **TRAINING:**

Eastern Connecticut State University B.A. in Theatre (expected graduation May, 2021)

Voice	Singing (4 years) – Vocal Coach Linklater Technique – Vocal Coach
Movement	Ballet (4 years) – Dance Instructor Feldenkrais (basic) – Movement Coach
Acting	Stanislavski – Acting Professor Period Styles – Acting Professor

Workshops	Title of Workshop (Instructor); Michael Chekhov Audition Technique (Ragnar Freidank); Tap in the 1920s (Instructor)
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### **SPECIAL SKILLS:**

Dialects (Australian, Texan, Bostonian); Gymnastics (11 years); Spanish (conversational); French (basic); Tennis (State Champion '14,'16).



**DIRECTING**

**Plays and musicals, 1994-present**

<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Independent Shakespeare Company, Los Angeles CA
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream (concert)</i>	Independent Shakespeare Company
<i>What The Butler Saw*</i>	North Carolina Stage Company, Asheville NC
<i>Dead Man's Cell Phone*</i>	Immediate Theater Project, Asheville NC
<i>Fever/Dream</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre, Swannanoa NC
<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>A Number</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>4.48 Psychosis</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>Thom Pain</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>You Can't Take It With You</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>Moonlight and Magnolias</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>Macbeth**</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, High Point NC
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	NEA funded schools tour & North Carolina Stage Company
<i>All In The Timing*</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>Arcadia</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>Our Town</i>	Warren Wilson Theatre
<i>Lone Star Love (Asst. to Michael Bogdanov)</i>	John Houseman Theater, NYC
<i>The Syringa Tree</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>As You Like It</i>	North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
<i>Lone Star Love (Asst. to Michael Bogdanov)</i>	Great Lakes Theater Festival, Cleveland OH
<i>Art**</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>The Secret Garden</i>	Clarence Brown Theatre Company, Knoxville TN
<i>Loot</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>Hamlet* **</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>Hedwig and The Angry Inch</i>	North Carolina Stage Company
<i>You Can't Take It With You</i>	Southwestern University, Georgetown TX
<i>Picasso At The Lapin Agile</i>	Capital Repertory Theatre, Albany NY
<i>All In The Timing</i>	Clarence Brown Theatre Company
<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead</i>	Southwestern University
<i>Hamlet Trio (director and adaptor)</i>	Southwestern University
<i>The Tragic Destiny of Ettienette Duchamps</i>	New York International Fringe Festival, NYC
<i>Right You Are (If You Think You Are)</i>	Southwestern University
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	POTP, University of Delaware, Newark DE
<i>Skylight</i>	Capital Repertory Theatre
<i>Dinner with Friends</i>	Hangar Theatre, Ithaca NY
<i>Arms and The Man**</i>	Two River Theatre Company, Manasquan NJ
<i>Don't Dress For Dinner**</i>	Hangar Theatre
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	national tour for National Shakespeare Company, New York NY
<i>Blithe Spirit</i>	Hangar Theatre
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest**</i>	Hangar Theatre
<i>The Tempest</i>	Vermont Stage Company, Burlington VT
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream**</i>	Vermont Stage Company
<i>Safe From the Future*</i>	Raw Space, NYC

\* also scenic and/or costume designer \*\* also sound designer

**Music, dance and performance collaborations, 1996-present**

<i>out there out here</i>	with performers Julie Gillum and John Crutchfield, NC Stage Catalyst Series
<i>Sindbad</i>	Sequitur at Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, NYC
<i>Pierrot Lunaire</i>	Sequitur at Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall
<i>Red Dust+</i>	Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh PA

*Nurse!* with choreographer Rebecca Lazier and Terrain Dance Company, The Kitchen, NYC  
*Ernst Toller: Requiem for an Idea* Sequitur at The Joyce Soho, NYC  
*Power: A Cabaret* Sequitur at Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre, NYC  
*Money: A Cabaret* Sequitur at Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre  
*Songs of Sex and Solitude* Sequitur at The Knitting Factory, NYC  
*Men-Children Only* with composer Harold Meltzer, Sequitur at Theatre 80 St. Marks  
*The Consolations of Scholarship* Sequitur at Merkin Hall  
*Music for Gracious Living* Sequitur at Merkin Hall

+creative consultant, will assume future direction

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## AWARDS

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### **Alley Audience Awards, 2008**

Best Production and Best Director, *Moonlight & Magnolias* (director), North Carolina Stage Company

### **Alley Audience Awards, 2008**

Best Actress and Best Lighting Design, *Macbeth* (director), North Carolina Stage Company

### **Mountain Express Readers' Choice Awards, 2007**

Show of 2007, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (director), North Carolina Stage Company

### **Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Off-Broadway Achievement, 2005**

Nominee, Outstanding Musical, *Lone Star Love* (assistant director), John Houseman Theater, New York NY

### **Knoxville Area Theatre Coalition Awards, 2003**

Best Director of a Musical for *The Secret Garden* (director), Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville TN

### **Mountain Express Reader's Choice Awards, 2003**

Best Production (tie) for *Hamlet* (director and production designer), North Carolina Stage Company Best Production (tie) for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (director), North Carolina Stage Company

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## EDUCATION

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### **MFA in Theatre (Acting), 1992**

Professional Theatre Training Program, University of Delaware, Newark DE

### **BA in Music, 1988**

Amherst College, Amherst MA

◆ Edward Poole Lay Fellowship (post-grad), Roland Wood Best Actor Prize, Phi Beta Kappa

### **Additional courses and summer programs in theatre, 1985-1988**

- ◆ City of London University, London UK (courses in improvisation and voice)
- ◆ National Shakespeare Conservatory, New York NY (summer conservatory program)
- ◆ Harvard University / American Repertory Theatre, Cambridge MA (summer courses in acting)
- ◆ Williamstown Theater Festival, Williamstown MA (apprentice program; full scholarship)

# *Victor Vision*

vision\_director@asta.com

(661) 555-7777

## *Directing*

"Far" (premiere)	Director	CSUB
<i>Actor's Nightmare</i>	Director	Empty Space
<i>Grapes of Wrath</i>	Director	Bakersfield Community Theatre
<i>Hotel Paradiso</i>	Asst. Dir. to Mandy Rees	CSUB
<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>	Asst. Dir. to Maria-Tania Becerra	CSUB

## *Stage Management*

"New Kid"	Kamala Kruszka, dir.	CSUB and on tour
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Zoe Saba, dir.	CSUB

## *Acting*

Fool	<i>King Lear</i>	Randy Messick	Bakersfield College
Ensemble	<i>Chicago</i>	Mandy Rees	CSUB
Fenton	<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Maria-Tania Becerra	CSUB

## *Education*

**A.A.** Bakersfield College, June 2013

Acting: Randy Messick, Bob Kempf

**B.A. in Theatre**, California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB), expected June 2015

Directing: Mandy Rees

Stage Management: Chris Eicher

Acting: Mendy McMasters

Theatre for Youth: Kamala Kruszka

Stagecraft, Technical Theatre and Design: Chris Eicher

## Internship Opportunities:

Warner Brothers

<https://www.warnerbroscareers.com/internships/>

Television Academy Foundation

<https://www.emmys.com/foundation/internships>

ViaCom

<https://viacomcbs.careers/internships/new-jobs/>

CBS Interactive

<https://cbsinteractive.com/careers/internships/>

NBC

<https://www.nbcunicareers.com/mediatech/internship-program>

Disney

<https://jobs.disneycareers.com/professional-internships>

Dreamworks

<https://www.dreamworks.com/careers>

Sony

<https://www.sonyjobs.com/internships.html>

Fox

<https://foxcareers.com/students>

21<sup>st</sup> Century Fox

<https://foxcareers-staging.azurewebsites.net/YourResources/Internships>

Time Warner

[https://www.internships.com/posting/bug\\_38650150791](https://www.internships.com/posting/bug_38650150791)

## Networking:

Sharing information and ideas between folks with a common profession or special interest is the definition of networking. This process is mandatory for people interested in careers in the theater, film and entertainment industries. But how do you network as a college student or right after graduation when you don't really know anyone in the business?

You start by networking while you are in school with your peers and colleagues who share the same interests and career goals. Networking with your fellow students will allow you to develop friendships and partnerships that will benefit your creative projects while you are a student. These bonds can also benefit you in projects beyond the classroom. The connections you make through networking will help you when you graduate as well. These connections will provide moral support and encouragement as you journey to find entry into the very competitive industries of theater, film and entertainment. In addition, these connections can be very beneficial because one of your friends might get an internship or entry-level position with a company and they can alert you to other opportunities, introduce you to the people at the company (thus expanding your network) or recommend you to others they meet through their new position.

You can also take matters into your own hands and start to develop a network of people in the industry already. You will have to put in extra hard work and effort but this can provide very beneficial opportunities and outcomes.

First, you need to figure out the type of work you would like to do (camera work, editing, sound, production design, production management, costumes, etc.) or locations you would like to work in (Los Angeles, New York City, Boston, Providence, Atlanta, etc.). Second, you need to do the research and work to find the companies and people who do the type of work you are interested in and in the location you would like to work in. There are websites that list production companies in all the states and major metropolitan areas. You have to put the work and effort into looking up these companies, learning about them, and figuring out who you should contact via email. Usually you want to contact someone who is doing what you would like to do as a career (cinematographer, sound mixer, music editor, assistant director, stage manager, etc.) or someone in a position of power at a company (manager, coordinator).

Once you have done the work to find the companies or people to contact you want to research that company and/or individual so you have knowledge about them. You want to craft an email introduction to them. In the email you want to express some of the learned information you have about them "I was impressed with the work you did on such and such project." "I really admire the work your company does." You DO NOT want to ask them for a job. Everyone asks them for a job and this is easy to stop all future communication and thus stop your ability to add them to your network.

After expressing how you were impressed by them you want to ask for something simple. “If you have time I’d like to meet you for coffee to learn more about some of your creative work and techniques.” “I’d like to learn more about your company. Is there any chance I could visit for a short tour to see your company?” You want to ask questions that open the door for more communication. This is how you start to develop your network of people in the industry. Perhaps you get to meet a camera operator for coffee and you really want to work in the camera department. That camera operator knows other people who work in camera departments and if they trust and like you they might drop your name to others and this could lead to “real” opportunities. But, you have to do the work to create the possibility for the opportunity.

Example: Amanda, a theater major, is in her final semester at ECSU. Amanda is really interested in working in production design for film, TV and the stage. Amanda wants to move to Boston and find work. Amanda goes to [newenglandfilm.com](http://newenglandfilm.com) and looks under the directory. She sees categories for Art Direction and Production Designer. Under these categories she finds companies and individuals that do the type of work she would like to do. Amanda researches the companies and individuals to see what they have done. Amanda contacts the companies and individuals via email to express her interest in “getting coffee to learn more about what they have done” or “visiting the company to learn more about what they do.” Amanda is working to expand her network.

## Production Companies in Connecticut:

Ten out of Ten -- <http://ten10pro.squarespace.com/home#aboutus>

Content Pictures -- <https://contentpictures.com/>

Revisionist Films -- <https://www.revisionistfilms.com/>

Retrospective Films - <https://www.retrospectivefilms.com/>

Blue Giraffe Films - <https://www.bluegiraffefilms.com/>

The Film Posse - <http://thefilmposse.com/>

Lojeri Productions - <https://www.lojeriproductions.org/>

LGR Productions - <https://lgrproduction.com/>

Ironikdesign - <http://www.ironikdesign.com/>

Bret Stern Productions - <https://www.sonostudios.com/>

Magic Dog Creative -- <http://www.magicdogcreative.com/>

Copper Pot Pictures -- <http://www.copperpotpictures.com/>

Think Make Create -- <http://www.thinkmakecreate.com/about>

Orange Lion Productions -- <http://orangelion.com/>

You can do Google searches to find film production and post-production companies in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York.

## Regional Theaters:

CT Regional (the following companies have periodically offered paid and/or unpaid internships)

<https://www.ivorytonplayhouse.org/>

<https://hartfordsymphony.org/about/employment/internships/>

<https://www.hartfordstage.org>

<https://www.goodspeed.org/education-library/internships>

<https://www.palacetheaterct.org/education/learning-wings/>

<https://twhartford.org>

<https://www.longwharf.org/>

<https://www.theoneill.org/work-with-us>



## Other Employment Opportunities:

The knowledge and skills you learn as a theater major and film studies minor can be used in a wide variety of career possibilities. You will be learning how to express yourself clearly and creatively. You will gain strong verbal and written communication skills. You will develop strong critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities. You will gain strong time management skills and leadership qualities. And, you will develop patience, persistence and the ability to be task focused. These are all qualities that transcend the theater, film and entertainment industries like sales, insurance, management, etc.

There are also opportunities to work in various industries in Connecticut that can use your skills. Large and medium sized companies need people who can help them develop creative communication, both internal and external. These communications might be in person (conferences and conventions), digital (online) or visual (streaming film content, training films, promotional films). Below is a list of some larger companies in Connecticut. You can find employment opportunities at these companies.

### **Aerospace/Defense**

GKN  
Pratt & Whitney  
Sikorsky

### **Bioscience/Healthcare/Medical**

Alexion  
Jackson Laboratory  
Pfizer

### **Consumer**

Bigelow Tea  
Duracell  
LEGO Systems

### **Financial Services**

Bridgewater Associates  
Canaan Partners  
W.R. Berkley Corp.

### **Green Technology**

FuelCell Energy, Inc.  
Praxair Inc.  
Proton Onsite

### **Insurance**

Aetna  
Cigna  
The Hartford

### **Manufacturing**

Henkel  
PEZ  
Stanley Black & Decker

### **Technology Innovation**

Booking Holdings  
Gartner Group  
Ideanomics

## Graduate Schools

Pursuing further studies and experiences through graduate school can be a great way to expand your skills, knowledge and experiences. Graduate school programs will allow you to build your confidence through more practical experiences and also to expand your network. Most graduate programs in theater and film are Master of Fine Arts Degrees that take three years to complete. The degree will also open the door to possible teaching positions at colleges and universities. Below is a list of graduate programs in theater and film.

### **THEATER - MFA in Directing**

#### **ALABAMA**

[University of Alabama](#); MFA in Directing

#### **ARIZONA**

[Arizona State University](#); MFA in Directing

#### **ARKANSAS**

[University of Arkansas](#); MFA in Directing

#### **CALIFORNIA**

[California Institute of the Arts \(CalArts\)](#); MFA in Directing

[California State University – Fullerton](#); MFA in Theatre Arts with Directing Concentration

[University of California – Irvine](#); MFA in Directing

[University of California – Los Angeles \(UCLA\)](#); MFA in Directing

[University of California – San Diego](#); MFA in Directing

#### **CONNECTICUT**

[Yale University – School of Drama](#); MFA in Directing

#### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

[Catholic University of America](#); MFA Directing

#### **FLORIDA**

[Florida State University – School of Theatre](#); MFA in Directing

#### **HAWAII**

[University of Hawaii at Manoa](#); MFA in Directing

#### **IDAHO**

[University of Idaho](#); MFA in Theatre (specialization in Directing)

#### **ILLINOIS**

[DePaul University](#); MFA in Directing

[Illinois State University](#); MFA in Directing

[Northwestern University](#); MFA in Directing  
[Southern Illinois University Carbondale](#); MFA in Theatre (emphasis in Directing)  
[Western Illinois University](#); MFA in Directing

## **INDIANA**

[Indiana University](#); MFA in Directing

## **IOWA**

[University of Iowa](#); MFA in Directing

## **LOUISIANA**

[University of New Orleans](#); MFA in Performance (Directing)

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

[Boston University](#); MFA in Directing  
[University of Massachusetts-Amherst](#); MFA in Directing

## **MINNESOTA**

[Minnesota State University at Mankato](#); MFA Theatre Arts

## **MISSISSIPPI**

[University of Southern Mississippi](#); MFA in Directing

## **MONTANA**

[University of Montana](#); MFA in Directing

## **NEVADA**

[University of Nevada](#); MFA (concentration in Directing)

## **NEW YORK**

[Brooklyn College](#); MFA in Directing  
[Columbia University](#); MFA in Directing  
[The New School for Drama](#); MFA in Directing  
[Pace University](#); MFA in Directing  
[Sarah Lawrence College](#); MFA in Theatre (Directing Concentration)

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

[University of North Carolina at Greensboro](#); MFA in Directing

## **OHIO**

[Ohio University](#); MFA in Directing

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

[Carnegie Mellon University](#); MFA in Directing  
[Penn State](#); MFA in Directing for the Musical Theatre Stage  
[Temple University](#); MFA in Directing

## RHODE ISLAND

[Brown University \(Trinity Rep Consortium\)](#); MFA in Directing

## SOUTH DAKOTA

[University of South Dakota](#); MFA in Directing

## TENNESSEE

[University of Memphis](#); MFA in Directing

## TEXAS

[Baylor University](#); MFA in Directing

[Texas State University](#); MFA in Directing

[University of Texas at Austin](#); MFA in Directing

## VIRGINIA

[Regent University](#); MFA in Acting (with Directing concentration)

[Virginia Tech Graduate School](#); MFA in Directing and Public Dialogue

## WASHINGTON

[University of Washington](#); MFA in Directing

## CANADA

[University of Alberta](#); MFA in Directing

[University of British Columbia-Vancouver](#); MFA in Directing

[University of Calgary](#); MFA in Directing

[University of Ottawa](#); MFA in Directing

[University of Victoria](#); MFA in Directing

[York University](#); MFA in Directing

## THEATRE – GRADUATE DRAMATURGY PROGRAMS

	Master of Arts (MA)	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	Doctor of Fine Arts (DFA)
<a href="#">Bowling Green University</a> – Theatre			X	
<a href="#">Brooklyn College</a> – Theater History and Criticism	X			
<a href="#">Columbia University</a> – Dramaturgy and Theater Studies		X		
<a href="#">Cornell University</a> – Theatre Arts	X		X	
<a href="#">City University of New York</a> – Theatre			X	
<a href="#">Florida State University</a> – Theatre Arts, Dramatic Criticism, Theatre History, Dramaturgy	X		X	
<a href="#">Harvard University/ American Repertory Theatre</a> – Dramaturgy		X		
<a href="#">Hunter College</a> – Concentration in Dramaturgy	X			
<a href="#">Indiana University at Bloomington</a> – Theatre History, Theory and Criticism			X	
<a href="#">Louisiana State University</a> – Theatre (Performance, Directing, & Dramaturgy)			X	
<a href="#">Ohio State University</a> – Dramaturgy, Dramatic Literature, Dramatic Criticism, Theatre History	X		X	
<a href="#">Ohio University</a> – Theatre History and Criticism.	X			

<a href="#">San Diego State University</a> – Theatre Arts with dramaturgical options	x			
<a href="#">Southern Illinois University, Carbondale</a> – Dramaturgy			x	
<a href="#">State University of New York at Stony Brook</a> – Theatre with studies in Theatre History, Dramatic Literature, & History of Theatre & Performance	x			
<a href="#">University of California at Davis</a> – Performance Studies			x	
<a href="#">University of Colorado at Boulder</a> – Theatre History & Criticism	x		x	
<a href="#">University of Georgia</a> – Theatre (Performance, Directing, & Dramaturgy)			x	
<a href="#">University of Iowa</a> – Theatre Arts with a focus in Dramaturgy		x		
<a href="#">University of Kansas at Lawrence</a> – Theatre History, Theory, & Criticism	x		x	
<a href="#">University of Massachusetts at Amherst</a> – Dramaturgy		x		
<a href="#">University of Minnesota</a> – Theatre Historiography	x		x	
<a href="#">University of Texas at Austin</a> – Performance as Public Practice	x	x	x	
<a href="#">University of Washington at Seattle</a> – Theatre History, Theory and Criticism through Theatre and Performance Studies			x	
<a href="#">Yale University</a> – Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism		x		x

## FILM SCHOOL GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The University of New Orleans – <https://www.uno.edu/academics/colaehd/la/film-and-theatre>

Loyola Marymount School of Film and Television – <https://sftv.lmu.edu>

University of Southern California Cinematic Arts – <https://cinema.usc.edu>

UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television – <https://www.tft.ucla.edu>

Emerson College Film and Media Art – <https://www.emerson.edu/academics/academic-departments/visual-media-arts>

Florida State University Film School – <https://film.fsu.edu>

Savannah College of Art and Design – <https://www.scad.edu>

University of North Carolina School of the Arts – <https://www.uncsa.edu>

NYU TISCH Film & TV – <https://tisch.nyu.edu>

The University of Miami – <https://com.miami.edu/cinematic-arts/>

The University of Texas at Austin – <https://rtf.utexas.edu>

American Film Institute - <https://www.afi.com>

Columbia University - <https://arts.columbia.edu/film>

Chapman University - <https://www.chapman.edu>

Columbia College - <https://www.colum.edu/academics/media-arts/cinema-and-television-arts/index>

**There are many more graduate film programs across the country but these are some renowned programs. You can seek further guidance and advice from Professor Brian Day.**

Being Prepared:

How do you get prepared for your career after you graduate? You need to start the process during your junior year and really work on it during your senior year.

You want to try to get internship experiences and any and all experiences involved in your area of interest outside of the classroom. Join the Film Club or Drama Society. Be involved and active in film and theater productions. Build your network of colleagues while you are still a student.

Take your career seriously and do the work necessary to find opportunities. If you are an aspiring film director then make films throughout the year. If you are an aspiring screenwriter then write scripts. Just do it. Be active. Be productive. You will learn by doing.

Get to know your professors. Stand out to them in a productive and positive way. Discuss your interests and goals and ask for advice and guidance.

Be mature. Be curious. Be motivated. Be determined. Be personable. Be patient. Be persistent. Be modest. Keep striving and learning. Look for the crack in the door where you can put your foot in and get your career started.

Student	Year of Graduation	Pursuit/Opportunity
Hannah Mae Garrahy	May 2019	Pursuing an M.F.A. in Film at the University of New Orleans
Wasan Hayajneh	May 2020	Pursuing an M.F.A. in Animation at Savannah College of Art and Design
Erik Brenner	May 2020	Worked on a feature film in Boston, MA in 2021.
Drew Ellison	May 2021	Worked on a feature film shot in Hartford in May 2021. Worked with the camera department on a film project during the summer of 2021.
Meghan Campbell	May 2021	Pursuing and M.F.A. in Screenwriting at the University of Southern California.
Paulina Palomo	May 2021	Internship with Endomol Shine North America through the Academy of TV Arts and Sciences.
Massiel Evans	May 2021	Year-long Acting & Production Apprenticeship with the American Stage in St. Petersburg, FL.
Erin Wallace	May 2021	Accepted and participated in the 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Dramaturgy Intensive.