

Fine and Performing Arts BPhil or BSGS

Overview

This major can help prepare students for many career opportunities including work in the specific areas of theater production or performance as well as the related areas of advertising, television, film, recreation, education, and management. Study includes a comprehensive study in theater, practical experience in professional production, and a solid background in the liberal arts. Talent, commitment, energy, and discipline are key personal qualities required for successful theater careers.

Many occupations today require a college educated individual who can write and speak well, solve problems, learn new information quickly and work well with others on a team. This means that college graduates use their education in a wide variety of fields, and your future career may relate more to your personal career interests, work values and transferable skills than any specific academic major.

Job Outlook

Employment of actors, producers, and directors is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations through 2014. Although a growing number of people will aspire to enter these professions, many will leave the field early because the work—when it is available—is hard, the hours are long, and the pay is low. Competition for jobs will be stiff, in part because the large number of highly trained and talented actors auditioning for roles generally exceeds the number of parts that become available. Only performers with the most stamina and talent will find regular employment.

Competition for jobs for musicians, singers, and related workers is expected to be keen. The vast number of persons with the desire to perform will continue to greatly exceed the number of openings. Talent alone is no guarantee of success: many people start out to become musicians or singers but leave the profession because they find the work difficult, the discipline demanding, and the long periods of intermittent unemployment unendurable.

See <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm> for more information.

Compensation

See <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm> for more information

Career Options/Tracks

Students of this major may go on to be actors; producers; directors; announcers; dancers; choreographers; or pursue behind the stage careers.

Advanced Education Options

Generally experience is more important than advanced degrees, but many performers or fine arts majors do go on to achieve master's or doctorate degrees in this field.

Sample Job Titles

- * Acting Coach
- * Costumer
- * Actor
- * Critic
- * Director
- * Agent
- * Drama Coach
- * Announcer
- * Playwright
- * Art Director
- * Producer
- * Broadcast Journalist Assistant
- * Casting Director
- * Radio/TV Announcer
- * Costume Designer
- * Sound Designer
- * Script Coach
- * Theater Manager
- * Script Manager
- * Stage Manager
- * Talent Manager
- * Talent Scout
- * Set Designer

Some Employers of Fine and Performing Arts Majors

- * Community theaters
- * Regional theaters
- * Commercial theaters
- * Summer stock theaters
- * Dinner theaters
- * Children's theaters
- * University theater groups
- * Touring companies
- * Industrial shows
- * Show groups
- * Amusement and theme parks
- * Television/film studios
- * Radio stations

Other Sources of Information

[Playbill.com](http://www.playbill.com) -some great links to jobs in theatre.

[BackStage.Com](http://www.backstage.com) : all behind-the-scenes jobs in the live entertainment field.

Theatre Jobs - login as a guest <http://www.theatrejobs.com>

Showbiz Jobs.Com <http://www.showbizjobs.com>

MonsterTRAK <http://www.monstertrak.com>