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THEATRE/DANCE

WHY STUDY THEATRE AND DANCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE?
UMaine’s Division of Theatre/Dance provides many opportunities for students to act, direct, design, and work backstage on productions. From the first year to the last, active participation is an essential part of the student’s learning experience.

WHAT DOES THEATRE AND DANCE OFFER ACADEMICALLY?
Students can earn a B.A. or a minor in theatre, a minor in dance, or enroll in our five-year M.B.A program in theatre. You might consider enhancing your academic experience by becoming a double major. The theatre major is designed to pair well with most other majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and there are plenty to choose from.

WHAT ABOUT THE SHOWS?
Our active production program features plays, musicals and dance concerts attended by thousands of people annually. The season typically features three main stage shows, a student produced Maine Masque show, many student-initiated theatrical works, two major dance concerts, and four emerging works dance performances. We also produce a statewide school touring production, and the Summer Music Theatre Festival.

WHAT ABOUT THE FACULTY?
UMaine theatre faculty have acted, directed and designed in professional theatres, have run regional and national workshops, published articles and books, and served as editors of national journals. They have affiliations with the American College Theatre Festival, New England Theatre Conference, United States Institute for Theatre Technology, and Association for Theatre in Higher Education. They have worked with professional theatres including, the Penobscot Theatre, the Theater at Monmouth, the Lewiston Public Theatre, and Portland Stage Company.

Our dance faculty teaches a full range of courses in ballet, modern, tap, jazz, ballroom and world forms. They produce several student dance performances throughout the year, and have sponsored the American College Dance Festival.

WHAT IS THE ADVANTAGE OF THE FACILITIES?
We have multimillion-dollar performance facilities including:
• Hauck Auditorium, a 500-seat proscenium theatre
• The Pavilion, an intimate 100-seat thrust stage
• The Black Box Theatre, a flexible seating experimental performance space

In addition we have dance studios, rehearsal spaces, and well equipped scenic and costume studios. Students have access to film and video editing equipment, professional audio equipment, and a complete lighting inventory including moving lights.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN THEATRE?
With a degree in theatre, you can do just about anything. Many of our graduates go on to graduate programs. Some immediately pursue careers in educational or professional theatre, or even film, television and digital production. Others use their degree in theatre to enhance their success in education, business and the legal professions.

DOES THEATRE OFFER ANY SCHOLARSHIPS?
To apply: umaine.edu/

Connect with us: umaine.edu/socialnetwork
The division also offers support by employing work-study students in the scenic and costume studios.

ARE THERE OFF-CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES IN THEATRE?

In addition to gaining hands-on experience with our academic year main stage productions, many students elect to work as an intern at a professional theatre. Our students have interned at many theatres including: Acadia Repertory Co., Maine State Music Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, Penobscot Theatre Co., Portland Stage Co., Theater at Monmouth, Trinity Repertory Co., Sea coast Repertory Theatre, Mount Washington Little Theater, Shakespeare & Co., Gateway Playhouse, Glimmerglass Opera, The Jen Wiley Theatre, Chester Theatre Co., Theatre West Virginia, Santa Fe Opera House and many others.

Our Students have attended workshops at the New England Theatre Conference, and the American College Theater Festival, as well as audition and perform in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition. We also take a large group of students to the United States Institute for Theatre Technology National Convention every year. Students can achieve membership in Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary theatre society.

WHAT IF I WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITH THEATRE AND DANCE BUT I DON'T WANT TO MAJOR?

That’s OK. Theatre classes and auditions are open to all students. All students may become members of the Maine Masque, one of the oldest college drama groups in the U.S., and also to SUMITT, a student group dedicated to the technical side of theatre. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved at all levels.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

“From stage managing real shows to leading the entire scene shop for the summer, I have been granted leadership roles that have taught me more than a classroom ever has. I have learned from theatre courses, of course, but nothing compares to the hands-on experiences that are available here. The chance to work in a setting that is specifically geared toward preparing you for professional work is absolutely invaluable.”

— Kaleigh Knights, technical director 2012 Summer Music Theatre Festival, vice president of Maine Masque and treasurer of SUMITT