

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN**THEATRE****OVERVIEW OF MAJOR**

Concordia University's Department of Theatre offers a BFA Major in Theatre, BFA Major in Playwriting, BFA Specialization in Theatre and Development, BFA Specialization in Design for the Theatre, BFA Specialization in Theatre Performance and a Minor in Theatre. At the graduate level, The Department of Theatre, in conjunction with Music and Contemporary Dance, offers a Graduate Certificate in Creative Practices in Technical Production for Live Performance. For the latest information on programs, go to the Theatre Department's website at:

<http://theatre.concordia.ca>.

The Department of Theatre prepares students for a multitude of occupations related to theatrical/opera/ballet administration, the theatre business, writing, production, directing, design, performing, education, artist management, support services and behind the scenes.

CELEBRATED CANADIANS

Robert Lepage. Canadian Playwright/Actor/Director

Colleen Dewhurst. Canadian Actress. Winner of Several Awards

Allan Moyle. Canadian Film Director/ Writer. Director of *Pump Up the Volume*

Richard Monette. Concordia Alumnus. Actor. Artistic Director, Stratford Festival

Catherine Anne O'Hara. Canadian Actress/Comedian. Played Mom in *Home Alone*

Steve Galluccio. Concordia Alumnus. Playwright & Screenwriter. *Mambo Italiano*

Heather Markgraf-Lowe. Concordia Alumnus. Founder/Artistic Director, Village Theatre West

**EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY
CONCORDIA GRADUATES**

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Activity Specialist
- Actor/Actress (5135)
- Audiovisual Technician (5225)
- Box Office Assistant (6611)
- Broadcast Assistant (5227)
- Creative Instructor
- Cultural Events Coordinator (1226)
- Dance Instructor (5134)
- Drama Director (0512)
- Extra, Performing Arts (5135)
- Interpretive Guide (5212)
- Lighting Designer (5243)
- Lighting Technician (5226)
- Marketing Manager (0611)
- Production Assistant (5227)
- Project Coordinator
- Publicist (5124)
- Set Designer (5243)
- Singer (5133)
- Stage Staff (5227)
- Tour Coordinator (6216)
- Wardrobe Supervisor (5226)

MORE JOB TITLES

Among the abundance of occupations available to theatre majors in the performing arts and entertainment industries are stage director, business manager, theatrical press agent, producer, box office treasurer, playwright, special effects specialist, librarian, stage manager, actor and theatre arts professor. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which theatre majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, and diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code.

For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>.

- Advance Person
- Announcer (5231)
- Artistic Director (5131)
- Casting Director (5131)
- Choreographer (5131)
- Commentator (5123)
- Composer (5132)
- Conductor (5132)
- Costume Designer (5243)
- Dance Therapist (3144)
- Disc Jockey (5231)
- Drama Coach (5135)
- Drama or Theatre Critic (5123)
- Drama Teacher, Secondary School (4141)
- Drama Therapist (3144)
- Drama Therapist (3144)
- Dramatic Artist
- Film Director (5131)
- General Manager (0015, 0512)
- Housing Manager (0512)
- Lighting Designer (5243)
- Magician (5232)
- Makeup Artist (5226)
- Mime (5135)
- Movement Notator (5134)
- Music Director (5132)
- Music Teacher (5133)
- Music Therapist (3144)
- Musician (5133)
- Narrator (5135)
- News Anchor (5123)
- Pantomimist (5232, 5135)
- Property Designer (5243)
- Radio and Television Announcer (5231)
- Scenic Artist (5227)
- Scenic Designer (5243)
- Screen Writer (5121)
- Songwriter (5132)

- Sound Designer (5243)
- Technical Director (5131)
- Touring Production Manager (0512)
- Vocalist (5133)
- Voice Coach (5135)
- Voice-over Actor (5135)
- Writer (5121)

POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

Entertainment, performing arts, the film industry and education sectors offer a broad range of potential work settings for theatre majors. Graduates work for regional theatre, radio & television, motion picture productions, art councils, event production companies, non-profit theatrical companies as well as on-and-off-Broadway. To research specific employers who hire those in the field; there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising Agencies
- Art Agencies
- Ballet Companies
- Book Publishers
- Children's Theatre
- Colleges & Universities
- Commercial Theatres
- Community Theatres
- Courtrooms
- Cruise Ships
- Cultural Organizations
- Dance Schools and Studios
- Dinner Theatre Productions
- Entertainment Law Firms
- Experimental Theatres
- Hospitals, Clinics, Nursing Homes
- Magazine Publishers
- Music Industry
- Network Entertainment Centres
- Newspapers
- Nightclubs & Lounges
- Non-profit Arts Settings
- Off-Broadway Theatres
- Opera Companies
- Party Planning Services
- Performing Arts Centres
- Production Houses
- Repertory Companies
- Resident and Non-resident Theatres
- Road Company Productions
- Secondary Schools
- Stock Theatres

CON'T. – POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

- Theme Parks
- Touring Companies
- Trade Associations and Unions
- Variety Shows

SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

For those who wish to pursue career paths related to the business of theatre, a deep understanding of the artistic process is essential. For those who wish to work behind the scenes, teamwork is indispensable.

For performers, key ingredients include passion, determination, enthusiasm, confidence, physical stamina, self-expression, a sense of drama and good memorization. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the theatre related fields.

- Ability to Follow Direction (For Performers) Ability to Perform in Public
- Ability to Relate Ideas
- Ability to Think Clearly
- Adaption to Change
- Analytical Reasoning
- Capacity to Repeat Performances Numerous Times
- Confidence
- Creativity
- Critical Observation
- Curiosity
- Decision-making Skills
- Dedication
- Excellent Communication Skills
- General Knowledge
- Good Grammar & Vocabulary
- Imagination
- Introspective Analyses Capability
- Knowledgeable of Popular Cultural
- Persistence
- Reading/ Speaking Proficiency
- Self-motivation
- Skill in Multi-tasking
- Strong Oral and Written Expression
- Teaching Skills
- Unique Perception
- Willingness to Face Criticism & Rejection

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

CANADIAN

Canada Council for the Arts

<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/>

Supports professional and student artists and arts organizations in music, theatre and related industries. Lists research grants and provides creation, production, dissemination and play translation assistance. Click on Theatre to start to explore. Try the News Room to keep current with trends.

Canadian Actor Online

<http://www.canadianactor.com/>

Meant to address questions from new actors, directors, writers and producers and provide an “online community” for Canadians working in these fields. Also aims to help them be realistic about their work.

Equity Online (Canadian Actors' Equity Association)

<http://www.caea.com/>

Represents Canadian professional actors, performers, directors, choreographers, fight directors and stage managers involved in live performance in theatre, opera and dance. Try the Association's multitude of useful links as well as News and Newsmagazine on the latest events and happenings in the industry.

Canadian Arts Presenting Association (CAPACOA)

<http://www.capacoa.ca/>

Supports performing arts touring professionals: agents, facility managers, artists, stagehands, ticket sellers, marketers and impresarios. Under Services offers new graduates networking and professional development opportunities. Job Postings available under News.

Canadian Association for Theatre Research

<http://www.catr-acrt.ca/>

Serves the interests of theatre professionals, researchers, teachers and students. Promotes research in Canadian theatre and performance studies. In addition, provides a links to research tools, a newsletter and a journal.

CON'T. – PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology/Institut canadien des technologies scénographiques (CITT – ICTS)

<http://www.citt.org/>

Serves the Canadian live performance community including designers, technicians, managers, consultants, suppliers, educators and students. Of interest to recent graduates is its Job Board. Click on Online Resources to uncover useful links.

Conseil québécois du théâtre

<http://www.cqt.ca>

Protects the interests of companies, associations and professionals working in professional theatre in Quebec. The Bottin has links to festivals, theatre schools, theatre companies, associations, libraries and much more.

The Dance Centre

<http://www.thedancecentre.ca/>

Offers programs resources and services, including residencies, for students, dance creators, performers and professional dancers.

Media Job Search Canada (MJSC)

<http://www.mediajobsearchcanada.com/>

Posts jobs and resources for performing artists and related occupations. Try Media Websites to search by media category and province. Post your resume here.

Playwrights Guild of Canada (PGC)

<http://www.playwrightsguild.ca/>

Promotes Canadian playwrights. Holds events where playwrights can make valuable contacts. Offers production support for amateur groups. Explore Programs and Services – at bottom left of screen.

INTERNATIONAL

American Alliance for Theatre & Education

<http://www.aate.com/>

Offers useful links, conferences, opportunities for collaboration and an abundance of resources for theatre educators, artists, researchers, scholars and administrators. Under Resources explore the Career Centre (for job vacancies) and Funding Opportunities.

American Association of Community Theatre

<http://www.aact.org/>

Supports individuals and organizations involved with community theatre. Use the Index to explore theatre job descriptions, job listings, links by subject, play contests and Tips of the Month.

American Film Institute

<http://www.afi.com>

To promote excellence in the art of film, television and digital media, provides training, and presents awards for outstanding motion pictures and television productions.

Offstage Jobs

<http://offstagejobs.com/>

A US website designed to help the behind-the-scenes people in the performing arts and live entertainment industry find employment. Worldwide listings including Canada.

Playbill

<http://www.playbill.com/>

Offers industry information on US and Canadian productions. Try Casting & Jobs for job listings.

CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

Beyond Talent: Creating a Successful Career in Music

- Actor's Guide to Auditions & Interviews
- The Actor's Survival Kit
- The Art of Voice Acting
- Breaking into Television
- The Business of Theatrical Design
- Career Opportunities in the Music Industry
- Career Opportunities in Theater and Performing Arts
- Careers in Education
- Careers in Entertainment Panel Discussion (DVD format)
- Careers in Technical Theater
- Directing for Film and Television
- Great Jobs for Theater Majors
- Is There Life After Film School?
- Job Descriptions for Film, Video & CGI
- Jumpstart Your Awesome Film Production Company
- Opportunities in Acting Careers
- Resumes for Performing Arts Careers
- Secrets of Performing Confidence: For Actors, Musicians,
- Performers, Presenters and Public Speakers
- The Sitcom Career Book
- The Spotlight's On: Careers in Live Performing Arts

**CON'T. – CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER
CAREER RESROUCE CENTRE TITLES**

- What I Really Want to Do Is Direct
- Writing Magazine & Newspaper Articles
- You Got the Part!