

THEATRE

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



WHAT CAN I DO WITH A THEATRE DEGREE?

Acting students can pursue performance careers in the theater, film, television, radio, voiceover, cruise ship and gaming industries; they also prepare to be directors, playwrights and producers.

Design and Technology students design costumes, makeup, scenery, lights, projections, and sound for theatre, film, and television. Students will gain skill sets in technical direction, carpentry, sewing, props, painting/dyeing, crafts, shop management, sound technology, and special effects.

Theatre Arts Management students gain skill sets in stage management, theatre administration, audience development, publicity, community outreach, and arts advocacy while gaining experience through their internships working with cultural agencies, arts organizations, and performing arts institutions.

Theatre Studies students prepare for unique career paths by merging their studies in Theatre with another major or minor. Examples include Education/Theatre Studies, Communicate/Theatre Studies, Art/Theatre Studies, Psychology/Theatre Studies, and Music/Theatre Studies.

THEATRE AT SRU

Slippery Rock University's Theatre Department prides itself on its commitment to the practical and rigorous pre-professional aspects of preparing for a career in theater. From our intensive, hands-on courses to stage production work and our Professional Theatre Practice capstone course, the faculty strive to provide our students with the tools they will need for a career in the theater. Tailored experiences provide students with skills, professional knowledge, and the contacts they'll need for future job opportunities. An SRU theatre education prepares students for the diverse career opportunities available to theater practitioners, including employment as performers, designers, technicians, educators, administrators and more.

WHY CHOOSE THEATRE AT SRU?

- 1. Renovated facilities:** When renovations are complete in 2020-21, our facilities will include Miller Auditorium, a performing arts complex with a 753-seat proscenium stage, a new 9,500- square-foot scene shop addition and a front-of-house expansion. The Pearl Stoner Complex will have a new 296-seat flexible black box theater, a new costume shop and new acting and design classrooms.
- 2. Dedicated faculty:** Students are taught by full-time, dedicated faculty members who also provide academic advisement throughout each student's program of study.
- 3. Opportunities for hands-on training:** Students are able to audition and assist with productions beginning their first semester and are encouraged to pursue opportunities on the main stage and in our experimental theater lab space.
- 4. Proven excellence:** SRU's Theatre Department has enjoyed a long tradition of excellence. Our students and productions have won many honors and awards.
- 5. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre:** Accreditation means that our program meets or exceeds the industry standards developed by experts in the field. SRU is the only institution in the Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education with all four fine and performing arts accreditations (theatre, art, music and dance).

MAJORS

Bachelor of Fine Arts:

- Acting (BFA) w/ a concentration in Musical Theatre
- Acting (BFA) w/ a concentration in Acting

Bachelor of Arts:

- Theatre (BA) w/ a concentration in Acting
- Theatre (BA) w/ a concentration in Design and Technology
- Theatre (BA) w/ a concentration in Theatre Arts Management
- Theatre (BA) w/ a concentration in Theatre Studies

MINOR

- Theatre

SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Theatre students have completed internships at various locations including:

- City Theatre Company, Pittsburgh
- Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
- Hoyt Center for the Arts, New Castle
- Erie Philharmonic, Erie
- Pittsburgh Public Theater
- American Players Theatre, Spring Green, Wisconsin
- Butler Symphony, Butler
- Pittsburgh Musical Theater
- Civic Light Opera, Pittsburgh

CAREER OUTCOMES

Acting graduates have secured employment as:

- Actor, Prime Stage Theatre, Pittsburgh
- Associate Company Manager, "Hamilton", North American Tour
- Actor, "The Baristas," Comedy web series
- Performer, "Saturday Night Live"
- Show writer, producer and imagineer, Walt Disney World

Design and technology graduates have secured employment as:

- Costume draper, Milwaukee Repertory Theater
- Assistant costume shop manager, American Players Theatre
- Scenic technician, Carnegie Mellon University
- Technical director, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company
- Costume shop manager, University of Toledo

Theatre arts management students will find a wide variety of employment opportunities available to them:

- Associate company manager for the Broadway production of "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812"
- Artistic director, Orphan Girl Children's Theatre
- Assistant company manager, "Elf The Musical" on tour
- Assistant development manager at Harbor Playhouse, Corpus Christi, Texas
- Assistant stage manager at Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Improv Club
- Musical Theatre Society
- SRU Cosplay



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Lyric Beth Sessa, '16

Assistant development manager at Harbor Playhouse, Corpus Christi, Texas

"I learned so much both in and outside of the classroom. I had so much experience to pull from when I was going through my interview process before I accepted my job at the Harbor Playhouse, and that experience was, and still is, irreplaceable. I am using the knowledge that I obtained in and out of the classroom at SRU daily."

Jeff Feola, '07

Associate company manager for the Broadway production of "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812"

"I was set up for success before I even got to New York City, and it's due to my training at SRU."

William Myers, '00

Sound engineer, Sacramento Theatre Company

"The theatre program at Slippery Rock University provided a solid and diverse background, making the leap into graduate school more of a small step onto a well-lit stage. More theaters, academics and professionals alike, should be doing the dangerous and challenging sort of production that is common at SRU."

DEPARTMENT CONTACT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.sru.edu/majors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

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