

Dramatic Arts

at Centre College

Centre College's drama program is strongly rooted in the liberal arts tradition. Drama is unique among the liberal arts in that we use art and technology, psychology and literature, sociology and anthropology, to communicate in a form that is as old as history itself. As long as people have had something to say to each other about the human condition, they have used drama.

Who are we?

We are a community of artists and scholars dedicated to using drama as our primary tool. A student can major or minor in drama or can add drama as a second major. Students can gain skills that will equip them for a life in the theatre or a life in the modern world of work.

Communication skills, team-building skills, adaptive technology skills, and media skills are all vital to success in today's work force. So whether you want to be an actor or a banker, a playwright or a lawyer, a designer or a manager, a drama major might be right for you.

What facilities does Centre offer?

The drama program is housed in the College's Norton Center for the Arts, which is one of the premier performance spaces in North America. The Norton Center hosts some of the finest theatre, opera, dance, and music to be seen anywhere.

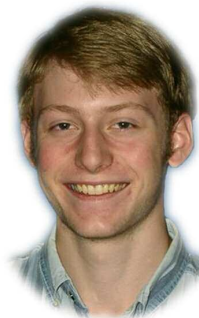
World-class companies as diverse as the Bolshoi Ballet and the Irish National Theatre regularly call the Norton Center home. Students can have the opportunity to work with such Broadway touring productions as *Rent* or *Stomp*. Whenever possible workshops are arranged with visiting performers. The drama program uses both of the main stages of the Norton Center. Dance productions and children's theatre pieces such as *Treasure Island* and *Peter Pan* have been presented in the 1,500-seat Newlin Hall. College productions—including this season's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Major Barbara*—are presented in the 380-seat, thrust stage, Weisiger Theatre.

The Norton Center also houses the program's design studio, an acting studio, rehearsal rooms, and an 80-seat "Black-Box" theatre. This experimental stage is used by students to mount their own productions through the student theatre group, Centre Players. This space is also used by the program to do avant-garde work, student-written and directed pieces, and to teach advanced acting and directing classes.

Does Centre offer a range of productions?

The Centre drama program regularly produces exciting seasons of theatre that are highly regarded by both college and community audiences. Our productions have been praised by regional adjudicators from the American College Theatre Festival and have been invited to participate in regional ACTF events. We try to vary our offerings so that during any four-year period a student will have the opportunity to work with a whole range of theatrical forms from Broadway musicals to the most modern pieces. Plays are selected for their importance as dramatic literature, for their challenging nature, and, of course, for their entertainment value.

All shows are cast from the student body at large and roles are open to all students—with the exception of an occasional guest artist. Students work on all aspects of the production and it is not unusual to find 10 percent of the student body involved in some way or another in a major production. Students may be asked to design a show or to take leadership responsibilities for a production.



Dan Burkey
Centre Class of 2009
Dramatic Arts Major

"The opportunity to work on crews of travelling roadshows at the Norton Center for the Arts is better than almost anything else for learning how professional theatre companies run, and it's something that very few colleges have."

Visit our Web site for a photo gallery of past productions and for more information on drama at Centre:

web.centre.edu/drama

What is the academic side like?

At Centre College students get a great all-around education. First-rate teachers, first-rate facilities, and small classes that emphasize personal attention are the reasons Centre is consistently ranked among the nation's best institutions. A Centre education gives you skills in analysis, critical thinking, and oral and written communication—abilities that are central to any future professional endeavor.

The academic sequence of the drama program stresses this well-rounded approach. Majors begin with classes that look at acting, theatre design and technology, theatre history, and dramatic literature. They then take an advanced course in each area and two other advanced courses of their choice.

Students can gain academic credit for being in productions. The program also encourages students to take up internship opportunities wherever possible.

Internships

Gaining experience within the industry is very valuable for a drama student, and Centre excels at arranging internships, whether it is as a scenic artist for the Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, designing for Lexington Children's Theatre, working backstage at the Glimmerglass Opera Company or the Kentucky Film Commission. We also have ongoing consortial relationships with both the Berkshire Theatre Festival, and the Actor's Guild of Lexington, plus an exciting exchange opportunities with Rose Bruford's College London drama college.

What do Centre drama graduates do?

The drama program boasts alumni who have gone on to successful careers in almost every walk of life, including law, medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, ministry, and business. Others have gone on to careers in acting, costuming, design, theatre and arts management, dramaturgy, directing, and playwriting. If you want to talk to a faculty member, a current student, or an alum, give us a call.

What are the Fine Arts Scholarships?

Drama scholarships are available to qualified candidates. Call, or visit the Web site (www.centre.edu/web/admission/financial/compschol.htm) for the forms. The closing date for applications is Jan 15. Students considering early action should tie their scholarship application and audition to the early action deadline.

Who are the drama faculty?

The faculty at Centre take pride in knowing the student as an individual, and the drama faculty are no exception. Whether it is at a year-opening beach party or at the technical rehearsal, on a trip to the theatre or a trip to the Southeastern Theatre Conference, during a lecture on Greek tragedy or a rehearsal of a musical, the drama faculty are always willing to talk or to listen, to advise, or to support. This faculty is outstanding, both as teachers and as working professional artists.

THERESA BUSH: Graduate assistant in drama and costume shop manager.

MARK DeARAUJO: Technical director and teacher of technology and design.

ANTHONY HAIGH: Director and teacher of acting, theatre history, and dramatic literature.

MATTHEW HALLOCK: Faculty designer and teacher of technology and design.

WILL JOHNSTON: Assistant technical director and scene shop supervisor.

PATRICK KAGAN-MOORE: Director and teacher of acting, directing, and dramatic literature.

REBECCA STEPHENSON: Teacher of dance.

For additional faculty information, see the Centre Web site at www.centre.edu/web/academic/faculty/faculty.html



For further information about drama at Centre, write, call or e-mail

Patrick Kagan-Moore, program chair
600 West Walnut Street
Danville, Kentucky 40422
(859) 238-5432
patrick.kagan-moore@centre.edu

Drama program Web page

www.centre.edu/web/academic/majors/drama.html

To communicate directly with a Centre student majoring in dramatic arts, e-mail

lauren.marx@centre.edu

For general information about Centre, contact

Admission Office
1-800-423-6236
admission@centre.edu
www.centre.edu