theatre arts
Pathways to Careers in Theatre Arts

The Theatre Arts program at LMU gives students strong comprehensive course work, training and experience in acting, directing, design, theatre technology, playwriting, history and criticism. Our intimate classes allow for close working relationships with the faculty. Students get a diverse theatre experience with classic, contemporary and new works that are multicultural, political and progressive. Students also have opportunities to pursue individual research and creative projects as well as participate in a highly-exclusive study abroad program with the Moscow Art Theater. Our program focuses on professional preparation to enter the industry and world of professional theatre, the development of new work alongside a grounding in the classics, and theatre for social justice: how one can use one’s art to make the world a better place for others.

Through the Theatre Arts program, students can train for a variety of careers in film, television, theatre, producing, casting, playwriting, event planning, arts management and promotion, stage management, law, public relations or teaching. Theater Arts majors will also develop practical communication and leadership skills and apply them in a humanistic context. In addition to preparing students for a wide range of professional careers, the LMU theatre program lays the foundation for students to pursue graduate work in academic as well as conservatory programs.

Courses Designed to Be Stepping Stones to Success: In their senior year, students may take “Career Development,” which offers an overview of current trends in casting toward professional work in theatre, television and film with visits from professional artists such as agents, managers, actors, and casting directors, and “Surviving as an Artist,” which builds an understanding of the unique requirements and challenges that life as an artist in our society presents, including but not limited to personal finance, unions, professional conduct and how to develop and sustain career opportunities. Students carry out a senior thesis designed to create a body of work that leads to post-graduation opportunities. Students may also pursue one of numerous internships with local theatre, production companies and industry organizations.

Industry Showcase: Every Spring, Loyola Marymount University produces an industry Showcase for graduating seniors who have successfully completed the Career Development class. The showcase is held at the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles for an invited audience of industry professionals, such as theatrical and commercial agents, casting directors, studio casting executives, and personal managers. Over the past several years, the showcase has helped graduates secure commercial and theatrical representation, and has launched the careers of many new actors. We are proud to say that the showcase has achieved a “must-see” status among industry professionals.

The Office of Career and Professional Development (CPD), located in Von der Ahe 135, provides a wide range of career counseling services, information on internships and employment opportunities. For more information contact CPD at (310) 338-2871.

LMU Graduates work as:
- Actor
- Voiceover Actor
- Casting Director
- Costume Designer
- Lighting Designer
- Scene Designer
- Sound Designer
- Master Electrician
- Technical Director
- Choreographer
- Fight Choreographer
- Scenic Artist
- Director
- Dramaturg
- Theatre Manager
- House Manager
- Playwright
- Literary Manager
- Publicist
- Stage Manager
- Arts Administrator
- Company Manager
- Road Manager
- Theatre Critic
- Professor
- Teacher
- Box Office Manager
- Wardrobe/Dresser
- Makeup Artist
- Production Hair stylist
- Theme Park Coordinator/ Event Designer
- Comedian
- Usher
- Drama Coach
- Technician
- Scenic Carpenter
- Box Foreperson

Internship Opportunities
- Actor’s Art Theatre/Co-op
- Attic Theatre
- Casa 0101
- Center Theatre Group
- JAMA Theatre Company
- Knightsbridge LA Theatre
- LA Kings
- Latino Theatre Company
- Lexicon Public Relations
- Los Angeles Theatre Center
- Miramax
- MTV
- Nickelodeon Animation Studio/ Games Group
- Open Fist Theatre
- Pasadena Playhouse
- Pacific Resident Theatre
- STAR Theatre
- Theatre of Note
- Theatre Raymond Kabbaz
- Tohubohu Extreme Theatre
- Viacom
- Westside Comedy Theatre

LMU Graduates Attend Graduate Schools at:
- CalArts
- Circle in the Square Repertory School
- Columbia College
- DePaul University
- George Washington University
- The Juilliard School
- London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts
- New York University
- San Francisco State University
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Chicago
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- University of Southern California

See the alumni profiles on our website in order to learn about our alums’ success stories in careers as actors, writers, directors, technicians and artists: http://cfa.lmu.edu/programs/theatrearts/alumni/