



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS: SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Carnegie Mellon University's College of Fine Arts, a community of internationally recognized artists and professionals organized into five schools, has set its sights on being known as the definitive international hub of arts, architecture and design education, research and practice in the 21st century. We welcome visionaries and creative thinkers to study alongside our world-class faculty, staff and students to produce new culture, knowledge, techniques and technologies in architecture, art, design, drama and music.

— Cultivating an Inclusive Drama Community

The School of Drama attracts students who strive to become leaders in the entertainment arts. Here, you'll learn by doing — on stage and in the classroom. You'll gain professional experience within Pittsburgh's vibrant theater community, participate in a visiting artists program that provides highly individualized attention and thrive in classes with an 8:1 student to teacher ratio. You'll experience interdisciplinary learning across the colleges of Carnegie Mellon — expanding your concentrated conservatory setting into a comprehensive, eye-opening opportunity for growth.

You'll join a supportive community that encourages diversity of opinions, voices, perspectives and experiences while honoring personal identities. You'll grow intellectually,

artistically and practically as you prepare for a career on the stage, in film, television or within new media. And you'll have plenty of opportunities to practice your skills.

You'll participate in Playground, a week-long festival of student-produced work. Classes are placed on hold as you dive into new work, incorporating innovation and risk-taking to create musicals, plays, dance performances, films, light shows, installations and murals. Additionally, the School of Drama's active alumni give back to our students through campus visits, virtual meet-and-greets, internships and more. Hearing from alumni working in the field — behind the scenes or on the stage — will help you learn more about the industry at large and provide you with some terrific connections.

Programs

Acting

Design/Production

- Costume Design
- Lighting Design
- Production Technology
- Scenic Design
- Sound Design
- Stage & Production Management
- Technical Direction
- Video & Media Design

Directing

Admission to the undergraduate directing program is currently on pause.

Dramaturgy

Music Theater

FIRST-YEAR CLASS

FALL 2023

57

— Did you know?

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI have won a total of **60 Tony Awards**.

UNDERGRADUATE DRAMA STUDENTS are encouraged to study abroad and have completed coursework in various locations, including **Australia, England, South Africa and France**.

THE ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY CENTER'S MISSION is to provide students with the opportunity to become **entrepreneurs who combine technology and fine arts** to create new processes, tools and visions for storytelling and arts entertainment.

THE FRANK-RATCHYE STUDIO FOR CREATIVE INQUIRY is a laboratory for **atypical, anti-disciplinary and inter-institutional research** at the intersections of arts, science, technology and culture.

THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN SOCIETY is dedicated to **energizing research and teaching** that links the College of Humanities and Social Sciences with the College of Fine Arts.

THERE ARE A VARIETY OF SPECIALIZED STUDIO AND PERFORMANCE SPACES FOR STUDENTS:

The Philip Chosky Theater, the Helen Wayne Rauh Theater, the John Wells Video Studio, the Scene Shop, the Costume Shop, the Brown Movement Studio, the Morie Dance Studio, the Design Studios, the Light Lab, the Production and Technology Classroom, the Sound Lab and the Skinner and Wagner Voice and Speech Rooms.

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– Curriculum Overview

Our school's curriculum is built upon the philosophy that theater as an art form has never been more influenced by technology, economics and larger cultural developments. We know that to be successful, tomorrow's artists must engage in compelling discourse about society, science, history and culture from varied perspectives.

You'll begin your studies with foundational courses that connect you to fellow students, inspire creativity and broaden your world view. Required courses include Anti-Racist and Culturally Competent Practice, Interpretation and Argument, Computing, Global Perspectives and Foundations of Drama. Production studies jump-start group collaboration, building your training and experience in all areas of theatrical production.

Additional opportunities for growth include internships, study abroad, research and extracurricular activities that reinforce the business and people skills that you'll need when you take that next step into the entertainment arts industry.

– Alumni Accomplishments

Fifteen alumni received 22 nominations for Primetime Emmy Awards in 2023.

Four School of Drama alumni were nominated for a total of seven 2023 Tony Awards:

Christian Boyle (1995), **Nikki Crawford** (1993), **Jamie deRoy** (1967) and **Josh Groban** (2003).

Siân Heder (1999) won the Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for her film "CODA," which also won Best Picture at the 94th annual Academy Awards in 2022.

Jessica Kender (1997) is the Emmy-nominated production designer for the Amazon mini-series "Daisy Jones and the Six." Her team includes School of Drama alumni **Brian Grego** (2010) as supervising art director, **Shengxin Jin** (2016) as art director and **Jamie Phanekham** (2019) as art department coordinator.

Michelle J. Li (2019) is costume designer for the hit mockumentary film "Theater Camp." She also designed season three of Comedy Central's "Awkwafina is Nora from Queens" and the 2022 Sundance Film Festival short "Chaperone," starring fellow School of Drama alumnus **Zachary Quinto** (1999).

John Wells (1979) is a six-time Emmy winner and the creative force behind "ER," "The West Wing," "Third Watch" and "Shameless."

Billy Porter (1991) was the inspiration for a floral fashion exhibit at Pittsburgh's renowned Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens. School of Drama students, faculty and alumni **Damian Dominguez** (2020) and **Daniele Mathews** (2015) were among the show's designers.

Leslie Odom Jr. (2003) returns to Broadway, starring in "Purlie Victorious," following his Tony Award-winning performance as Aaron Burr in "Hamilton."

PigPen Theatre Co. – **Alex Falberg, Ben Ferguson, Curtis Gillen, Ryan Melia, Matt Nuernberger, Arya Shahi** and **Dan Weschler** (all Class of 2011) formed as a band in the School of Drama's Playground Festival. Now, they are headed to Broadway as the songwriters for "Water for Elephants."

Noah Mitz (2005) won his first Emmy Award in 2022 for Outstanding Lighting Design/ Lighting Direction for a Variety Special. He has a whopping 27 Emmy nominations.

Professor Susan Tsu (1973), Bessie F. Anathan Professor of Design, heads the School of Drama's Costume Design program, cited by The Hollywood Reporter as one of the world's top 10 programs.

GRADUATE SUCCESS

97% Employed or in grad school (2023 graduates)

DATA AS OF JANUARY 2024
90.6% OF GRADUATES RESPONDING

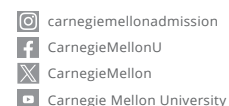
RECENT EMPLOYERS

Cirque du Soleil	Signature Theatre Company
Dreamworks	Sundance Institute
Manhattan Theatre Club	TAIT
NBC Universal	The Scenic Route
New York Musical Festival	Universal Television
Oregon Shakespeare Festival	Walt Disney
Pittsburgh CLO	William Morris Endeavor
Roundabout Theatre Company	Williamstown Theatre Festival
Second Stage	Woolly Mammoth Theatre



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