

Hey there,

THEATRE LOVER!

Majoring in theatre lets you keep doing what you love while earning a degree that can prepare you for careers in acting, directing, design, technical production, arts administration — or even in fields beyond theatre. Here's what to know:

TRUST THE PROCESS

As a theatre major, you'll study creative and practical sides of the craft while you gain hands-on experience in productions. From performing to backstage work, you'll learn by doing alongside faculty, classmates, and guest artists.

MANY ROUTES TO CAREERS IN Theatre and Performing Arts

Colleges and universities have different pathways leading to theatre careers. Here are some popular ones:

1 UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES:

- ➔ **B.A., Theatre:** Build a strong foundation in performance, directing, design, theatre history, and production. You'll develop your craft both on stage and behind the scenes while exploring how theatre brings stories and cultures to life.
- ➔ **B.S., Musical Theatre:** Combine acting, singing, and dance in a program designed for the stage. Along with core acting classes, you'll train in music and dance.
- ➔ **B.S., Expressive Arts in Mental Health with Theatre Concentration:** Learn to use theatre and the arts to support mental well-being. This hands-on program blends creative expression with psychology, giving you practical skills for careers in mental health and related fields.

2 GRADUATE DEGREES:

- ➔ **Master of Fine Arts:** An MFA is an optional advanced degree that will help you deepen your practice and stand out as a performing artist, educator, or other theatre professional. Like BFAs, MFAs allow you to specialize in specific areas like acting, directing, playwriting, or set design.
- ➔ **M.S., Art Therapy:** This is the kind of graduate degree to pursue if you want to become licensed as a creative arts therapist who uses the dramatic arts to help people express themselves and improve well-being.



HOT TIP

Look for a college that will give you a chance to perform a lot!

The Theatre Institute at Russell Sage College does a half-dozen shows a season!

HOW DO YOU PREPARE in high school?

As you research performing arts degrees, keep these tips in mind:

- When you are deciding what to major in, think about what you like to do and what you would like to learn more about. Talk to your high school teachers, and meet some faculty members and current students at colleges and universities you are considering. And check out campus resources, like theatre companies, performance facilities, and theatre-focused clubs!
- If you prefer to start at a community college, look for one with articulation agreements with four-year theatre programs. These agreements make it easier to transfer credits and keep your course sequence on track.
- Many theatre programs require auditions as part of the application. It's important to know this early so you can prepare. Your teachers and college admissions counselors can give you advice on this important step.

CAREER opportunities

With a theatre degree, you can explore a wide range of careers — performing on stage or screen, working behind the scenes in design or production, or pursuing roles in arts administration. The skills you develop, like storytelling, collaboration, and public speaking, can also help you succeed in fields beyond the arts, including education, law, and business.

SO WHY PICK RUSSELL SAGE FOR THIS?



New York's Capital Region is alive with professional and community theater groups, filmmakers, and performance venues. As one Russell Sage College alum said of the area, "You can go from Acting I and Acting II with Professor of Theatre David Baecker on a Tuesday and Thursday and work on the weekend with another theatre company. What a great way to spend your college years, doing as much art as possible!" It's a great place to immerse yourself in a thriving theatre scene that extends well beyond the classroom.



CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ADMISSION

518-292-1730 | admission@sage.edu

← sage.edu/apply

