

**School of Drama**  
Purnell Center for the Arts  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh PA 15213  
412.268.2392 phone  
info@drama.cmu.edu  
www.drama.cmu.edu

# Carnegie Mellon **DRAMA**

## THE ACTING/MUSIC THEATRE OPTION

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**We prepare you for immediate entry into the acting profession. Our 4-year conservatory training systematically introduces and reinforces your skills, leading you to mastery.**

### **CURRICULUM**

#### **Year 1: Discovery**

**An introduction to basic skills**

#### **Year 2: Transformation**

**Skills are solidified and deepened by delving into more sophisticated, verbally complex scripts**

#### **Year 3: Interpretation**

**Expansion of technique by working in many different and more challenging and demanding styles. This is the year you begin performing in CMU productions**

#### **Year 4: Performing**

**You are prepared for your transition into a professional and will attend performances in New York and Los Angeles**

**Fourteen experienced theatre artists comprise our faculty in teaching acting, music theatre, voice, dance, and movement. All have worked in professional theatre and are committed to your individual growth as an emerging professional. In addition, distinguished visiting artists from stage, film, and television will train and work with you.**

#### **Other special aspects of our program:**

- **Opportunities to study abroad**
- **Student-initiated projects**
- **The International Artists Residency Program featuring innovative companies from around the world.**

**For further information, please visit [www.drama.cmu.edu](http://www.drama.cmu.edu) or contact Barbara MacKenzie-Wood, Acting/Music Theatre Option Coordinator, at [bmacwood@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:bmacwood@andrew.cmu.edu) or call 412-268-5750.**

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# Carnegie Mellon **DRAMA**

## ALUMNI

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### ACTING/MUSIC THEATRE

**Our distinguished alumni include: Rene Auberjonois, Steven Bochco, Christian Borle, Frank Converse, Stuart Carden, James Cromwell, Ted Danson, Sutton Foster, Robert Foxworth, Ricky Ian Gordon, Ethan Hawke, Martha Henry, Megan Hilty, Holly Hunter, Cherry Jones, Jack Klugman, Judith Light, Rob Marshall, Billy Porter, George Romero, Laura San Giacomo, Sada Thompson, Blair Underwood, Paula Wagner, Loudon Wainwright III.**

### Credits of selected recent graduates:

**Broadway: Altar Boyz—Michael McElroy '05, Stephen Schellhardt '05; The Color Purple—Renee Elise Goldsberry '93; 42nd Street—Will Taylor '04; Jersey Boys—Matt Scott '04; Les Miserables—J.D. Goldblatt; Mamma Mia—Aaron Staton '04; The Putnam County 25th Annual Spelling Bee—John Gold' 03; Oklahoma—Patrick Wilson '95; The Producers—Will Taylor '04; Spamalot, Legally Blonde: The Musical—Christian Borle '95; Wicked—Sara Ford '04, Telly Leung '02, Megan Hilty.**

**Off-Broadway: Actor's Playhouse—Ryan Kelly '00; Roundabout Theatre—Pablo Schreiber '00; New York Public Theatre—Audra Blaser '04, J.D. Goldblatt '04; Irish Repertory Company—Tessa Klein '04; Manhattan Theatre Center—Aaron Staton'04; New York Shakespeare Festival—Bridget Berger '99, Shakin Evans '99, Renee Elise Goldsberry '93; Snapple Theatre Center (The Fantasticks)—Sara Ford '05.**

**Regional Theatre: Alabama Shakespeare Festival—Tessa Klein '04; Alliance Theatre, Atlanta—Matt Scott '04; Arizona Theatre Company—Sarah Roberts '97; Bay Street Theatre—David Larsen '02; Center Stage (Baltimore, MD)—Danny Sandoval '00; LaJolla Playhouse—Chris Hoch '94; Oregon Shakespeare Festival—John Tufts '03, Laura Monache '03; Royal Shakespeare Festival—Ryan Young '04, Braden Moran '01; Shakespeare Theatre (Washington, DC)—Ryan Young '04; Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre—Lea Coco '03, Braden Moran—'01.**

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**Television: Gray's Anatomy (ABC), Boston Legal (CBS)—Kali Rocha '93; Angels in America (HBO)—Patrick Wilson '95; The West Wing(NBC)—Ramon deOcampo '98; NCIS(CBS)—Cote Depablo '00; Prison Break (Fox TV)—Braden Moran '01; Traveler (ABC)—Matthew Bomer '01; Heroes (NBC)—Zach Quinto '02; Entourage (HBO), Ugly Betty (ABC)—Rhys Coiro '02; As the World Turns (CBS)—Van Hansis '04; The Bedford Diaries (Warner Brothers TV)—Alex Cedenese '04; The Book of Daniel(NBC)—Audra Blaser '04, Alex Candese '04; 7th Heaven (CW TV), Mad Men (AMC)—Aaron Staton '04; Cold Case (CBS)—Chuck Hittinger '05; E.R.(NBC)—Ethan Hova '05; Friday Night Lights (NBC)— Gaius Charles '05.**

**Film: Little Children, Running with Scissors, The Alamo, American Gothic, The Phantom of the Opera, My Sister's Wedding—Patrick Wilson '95; Bad Blood—Chuck Hittinger '05; By the Beautiful Shore—Alex Candese '04; The Manchurian Candidate, Manuscript, Sin—Pablo Schreiber '00; The Good Shepherd— Will Reynolds '05, Gabriel Macht '94; Happy Endings, State of the Union—Ramon deOcampo; The Nanny Diaries—Aaron Staton '04; Over the Mountains, Push Cart—Danny Sandoval '00; Pleasure of Your Company—Audra Blaser '04.**

## **DESIGN**

- **58th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards: Art Director—Matthew Russell '05**
- **2007 Grammy Awards: Art Director—Alana Schmidt '04**
- **2005 and 2006 Tony Awards: Assistant Lighting Designer—Noah Mitz '05**
- **Comedy Central; Drawn Together: Foley mixer—Kyle Billingsley '04**
- **Curtis Institute of Music, The Kennedy Center: Scenic designer—Nicholas Vaughan '05**
- **Lincoln Center: Tom Stoppard's The Coast of Utopia: Asst Lighting Designer—Kathleen Dobbins '05**
- **The Metropolitan Opera: Special Events Coordinator—Juliet Brown '05**
- **New York City Opera: Assistant Lighting Director—Evan O'Brien '04**
- **Williamstown Theatre Festival: Print and Graphics Manager—Michael Goldsheft '04**
- **The Today Show, Assistant Production Designer – April Bartlett '07**

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## ALUMNI

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### PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

- **American Conservatory Theatre: Stage Manager—Sarah Deutsch, BFA'02**
- **Baylor University: Technical Director—Mike Schmalz, MFA'03**
- **Center Theatre Group (Los Angeles): Associate Production Manager —Celeste Santamassino MFA'05**
- **Chicago Scenic Studios: Assistant Project Manager—Katy Kelsey, BFA'04**
- **Hamptons Shakespeare Festival: A Midsummer Night's Dream: Stage Manager;**
- **In the Moment Productions (New York) La vida en jira : Director; Sightlines Theater Company (New York): Tough: Director—Renee Blinkwolt, BFA '04**
- **The Kennedy Center: Production Manager—Chuck Andres, MFA'01**
- **La Jolla Playhouse: Associate Technical Director—Chris Kennedy, BFA'02**
- **LCS (Los Angeles): Product Specialist—Ellen Juhlin BFA'04**
- **The Lighting Design Group (New York): Production Coordinator—Adrienne Wells, BFA'05**
- **Magic Theatre (San Francisco): Technical Director—Rachel Hospodar, BFA'02**
- **Mission Impossible III; Mr. Woodcock (films) Jimmy Kimmel Live (ABC-TV): Production Assistant; Enchanted, The Kingdom (films): Production Secretary—April Novak, BFA '04**
- **Philadelphia Theatre Company: Associate Production Manager—Lindsay Krieg, MFA'03**
- **Pook Diemont & Ohl (New York design and build company)—Assistant Project Manager—Nick McDermott, BFA'04 • The Scenic Route (Los Angeles): Project Manager—Mike Goglia, BFA'01**
- **The Studio Theatre (Washington): Associate Production Manager—Rebecca Baillie, MFA'05.**

### ALUMNI NETWORK

The School of Drama has the most active theater alumni organization in the country, with large chapters in Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago:

- **West Coast Drama Alumni Clan: [www.wcdac.org](http://www.wcdac.org)**
- **New York Drama Alumni Clan: [www.nydac.org](http://www.nydac.org)**
- **Third Coast Network: <http://thirdcoast.alumni.cmu.edu/>**

For further information, see the Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama website at [www.drama.cmu.edu](http://www.drama.cmu.edu).

## THE DESIGN OPTION

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From surreal dreamscapes to realistic interiors, theatrical designers build new worlds on stage with sets, lighting, costumes, and sound. The renowned Design Option at Carnegie Mellon University prepares you to be a leader in the industry, exploring and developing new, creative pathways in live storytelling with forward-looking professional grounding in all aspects of design. We offer BFA and MFA degrees in drama with concentrations in costume, lighting, scenery, and sound design.

Classes include a hands-on technology curriculum, in-depth training in computer design tools and hand design, classes in process and collaboration, coursework in professional preparation, as well as master-classes by guest experts and artists.

Our undergraduate program instills the art of collaboration through flexible, creative problem-solving and design history so that you can make history. We explore a myriad of techniques and investigate the past while looking to the future, actively applying learned skills in classroom projects, workshops, and full productions. Involvement includes a large array of collaborators: cutting-edge international companies, installation artists, professional theaters, roboticists, and celebrated professionals.

CMU's graduate program offers experienced designers opportunities to further their creative growth and skills in a fast-paced, stimulating environment. Our highly focused curriculum combines advanced design techniques and collaboration on multiple levels of productions at our three performance spaces as well as in numerous venues off-campus.

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# Carnegie Mellon **DRAMA**

## THE DESIGN OPTION

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### FACULTY

Twenty artists/working professionals comprise our outstanding faculty:

- 2 in sound and properties design
- 2 in lighting design and technology instructors
- 6 in costume design and construction
- 6 in scenic design providing instruction in drawing, painting, construction, and management
- 2 in overall technical direction
- 2 in overall stage production and management

### CAREERS

One-hundred percent of our graduating students find jobs in their field. Our alumni are leaders in the entertainment industry on Broadway, in feature films, regional theater, experimental theater, sitcoms, and industrial productions.

In the last three years, CMU design graduates have won positions in the following areas:

- designing and assisting designers on Broadway
- working in major New York costume shop
- costume shopping for New York productions
- working in art departments on feature films
- designing for experimental theaters
- assisting in regional theater designs
- designing for commercial design firms
- working in art departments for television sit-coms, news programs, and awards shows.

For further information, contact Anne Mundell, Design Option Coordinator, at [amundell@andrewcmu.edu](mailto:amundell@andrewcmu.edu) or call 412-268-7218

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# Carnegie Mellon DRAMA

## THE DIRECTING OPTION

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**“Love Art in yourself, not yourself in Art,” said the legendary director, Kostia Stanislavsky. And more than a century later, we still follow that philosophy by immersing you in cutting edge contemporary training and the values of enduring traditions.**

**Our distinguished directing faculty encompasses a broad variety of expertise, from avant-garde theatre to children’s television to Eastern European theatre to opera. Students will study with many members of the School of Drama faculty, the artists who will guide you to your future as a director in the art of drama.**

**Our graduates are leaders in the entertainment industry. They are artistic directors at major theatre companies like Primary Stages and The Alley Theater. They have started their own companies, such as Epiphany Theatre in New York. They are in charge of green-lighting scripts at major film studios.**

**We look forward to the day when your mastery and perceptions surpass our own.**

### **DIRECTORS**

- are self-motivated
- lead
- gleam with creative sparks
- have interpretive insights
- cherish teamwork
- work behind the scenes
- admire the act of acting
- have acting talent
- find contemporary relevance in any text
- understand the world’s rich variety
- seek to inspire and be inspired
- dream big dreams

### **YOU WILL LEARN**

- to use directorial tools, techniques, vocabulary
- to tell stories clearly
- to understand actors and to collaborate with them

**For more information please visit our website at [www.drama.cmu.edu](http://www.drama.cmu.edu).**

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# Carnegie Mellon **DRAMA**

## THE DRAMATURGY OPTION

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**Dramaturgy is the number-one growth field in the entertainment industry. Dramaturgs are theatre insiders who thrive on the process of being behind living theatre events. They love reading, writing, and thinking and believe in the power of theatre to enlighten, stimulate and entertain audiences.**

**Through Carnegie Mellon University's new and innovative Dramaturgy Option you'll become an expert on historical practices and aesthetic theories behind any text, whether in production or waiting to come alive on stage. You will have the insights to reveal playwrights' intentions and the ability to communicate them to producers, directors, performers, and audiences.**

### THE DRAMATURG

- adapts traditional, historical, and classic texts for the modern stage
- aids directors, designers, and performers in clarifying their insights
- collaborates with artistic directors in choosing exceptional repertory
- finds social relevance in every work
- links audiences with the ideas behind the productions in program notes, lectures, and talk-backs

### YOU WILL RECEIVE

- rigorous, highly structured academic and artistic training
- broad and deep historical research
- intensive study of aesthetic and critical theories
- practical, professional-level experience in full scale theatre productions
- opportunities to develop diversity by studying with Carnegie Mellon University professors in other arts as well as in the sciences and humanities
- opportunities to study abroad
- opportunities to work with professional companies in the US, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and Europe

### YOUR CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Literary management
- Story editing for films and television
- Production dramaturgy
- Teaching: developing the talents and insights of students at educational institutions

**For further information visit our website at [www.drama.cmu.edu](http://www.drama.cmu.edu) or contact Michael M. Chemers, Dramaturgy Option Coordinator, at [chemers@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:chemers@andrew.cmu.edu); phone 412-268-2399.**



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# Carnegie Mellon DRAMA

## THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA FACILITIES

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Your experience at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama is guaranteed to be a time of discovery, transformation, adventure, excitement, and personal growth. We'll challenge your assumptions and lead you in exploring the new. The merging of your natural talent and instincts with the disciplines you'll acquire will point you towards fresh and wonderful experiences in your career. The School of Drama is committed to providing an environment in which creativity and risk-taking flourish. We'll help you find the courage to experiment, to grow, and to speak with your own voice.

Upon graduation, you will find yourself at the center of numerous events, being introduced to the profession in New York and Los Angeles. In addition, Carnegie Mellon has one of the strongest alumni networks in the world, making for a smooth transition from school to professional life.

### FACILITIES AT THE STATE-OF-THE-ART PURNELL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

- The Philip Chosky Theatre, configurable as a proscenium or thrust stage
- The Rauh Studio Theatre, a flexible black box
- The Wells Video Studio, a flexible black box that also functions as a working video recording studio
- flexible shop & studio facilities working in carpentry, metals, paints, and CNC fabrication
- costume shop with additional craft and fitting rooms
- digital sound and recording studio
- lighting laboratory
- intelligent lighting package
- drafting and design studios
- computer cluster with CAD capability
- offices for technical production and stage management
- student spaces: student lounge, storage for personal items, work spaces
- easy access: all faculty offices, theatres, shops and all departmental classrooms are on-site.

### PITTSBURGH

Carnegie Mellon University, one of the world's leading institutions of learning, is located in Pittsburgh, PA. The city has much to offer, including five theatres that engage members of Actors' Equity Association, four other companies with full seasons, plus several semi-professional summer theatres. The city also has a major symphony orchestra, two opera companies and a ballet company, plus great museums, parks, professional sports teams, and restaurants. Pittsburgh is beautifully situated in the Allegheny Mountains, nestled at the confluence of three major rivers. Its constantly fascinating topography has resulted in more bridges than any other American city.

For further information, see the Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama website at [www.drama.cmu.edu](http://www.drama.cmu.edu)

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# Carnegie Mellon DRAMA

## **PLAYGROUND**

### **A Festival of Independent Student Work**

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For one unique week each academic year, as a School of Drama student director, designer, actor, technician, or playwright, you are part of more than 40 student-originated productions: plays, musicals, installations, mural projects, and light shows. You experience the joys and thrills of creativity, innovation, and risk-taking. And you thrive on the challenge of exceeding standards set by prior festivals.

This is an intense, 24/7 week of preparation and performance of your own new work or of already existing work. Explore your talent in your own theatre option or in something completely new. Completed projects of no more than forty-five minutes each are submitted to faculty and student representatives who oversee production.

The only break? No classes for the week. You have limited rehearsal time. You have no budgets. But you do have all the performance venues available to you in the Purnell Center for the Arts.

Projects developed by students for Playground have gone on to venues across the country. Recently Colin Acock's *Life in Plastic*, a look at the idealization of women in American culture, was selected to be performed at the Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Play Festival in New York City. And *The Salesman*, a loving homage to classic American silent films, was performed in Los Angeles.

Elizabeth Bradley, Head of the School of Drama originated this idea several years ago. "Students move beyond ongoing training to take on the unexpected," she says. "Design students direct. Actors design. Technical students act. The empowerment and sense of community is exhilarating for everyone who participates. Or attends. We share this special energy with returning alumni who visit campus during Homecoming Weekend. Because of Playground's schedule, visitors can sample many 45-minute shows at almost any time over the weekend. They join us for the adventure."

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## **THE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OPTION**

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### **Technical Direction – Production Management – Stage Management**

Production professionals are interested in every aspect of Entertainment: theatre, film, and television, along with emerging concepts in non-traditional venues. They thrive on organizing and coordinating creative effort and on shepherding production from inception through realization.

Twelve faculty members/theatre professionals provide instruction in Technical Direction, Stage Management, Production Management, Arts Management, Costume Technology, Lighting Technology, Paint Shop Craft & Management, Prop Shop Craft & Management, Scenery & Automation Technology, Sound Technology, and Theatre Management.

### **PRODUCTION PROFESSIONALS:**

- are the bridge between art and reality
- receive fulfillment from working as part of a team
- thrive on meeting unforeseen challenges
- are comfortable working with all kinds of people
- make quick, clear decisions – especially under stress
- pull everything together to produce great art and superior entertainment

#### **Technical Directors**

- enjoy puzzles and problem solving
- crave opportunities build things and work with their hands
- work with designers and creative staff using a variety of technologies and materials in fabrication & installation of scenery

#### **Production Managers**

- think on their feet and enjoy facilitating the success of the team
- adopt overall perspectives for projects
- play a key communication role among artistic & management leaders

#### **Stage Managers**

- coordinate the creation of artistic expression among directors, actors, designers, and technicians
- act as the project's collective memory, monitoring all aspects of the production
- protect the integrity of the work, audience experience, and the well-being of the company

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## **THE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OPTION**

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### **THE PTM CURRICULUM INCLUDES:**

- Hands-on instruction in all areas of Stagecraft
- Foundational Instruction & Discovery within Engineering, Management, Industry Street Smarts, and Problem Solving
- Department Management instruction in Scenery, Props, Paints, Costumes, & Electrics
- Technical Instruction in Scenic Construction, Rigging, and Electrics
- Practical Education & Experience in Production and Stage Management
- Foundation and Context through Dramatic Literature and History
- Collaborative Leadership through Directing
- Mentored Production Assignments in the School of Drama, the School of Music, and elsewhere

### **ADVANCED CURRICULUM IN PTM AREAS INCLUDES:**

- Entertainment Engineering, including: Technical Design, Structural Design, Physics of Stage Machinery & Mechanical Design
- Production Management Workshop
- Stage Management Seminar
- Theatre management
- Experiences in Live Design in all Disciplines
- Elective opportunities in CMU's Heinz School, Tepper School of Business, Entertainment Technology Center, Carnegie Institute of Technology, and the Mellon College of Science – All recognized World Class Programs
- Mentoring and supervision from industry professionals

For further information, contact David Boevers, Production Technology Management Option Coordinator, at [dboevers@cmu.edu](mailto:dboevers@cmu.edu) or call 412-268-2146.

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# Carnegie Mellon **DRAMA**

## SHOWCASE

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**Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama is the oldest actor training program in the country. We support the building of new careers and have prepared an impressive pool of well-known and highly respected talent for entry into the profession since 1914. A vital part of this process is appearing at the New York and Los Angeles Senior Showcases of New Talent.**

**Showcase programs give you opportunities to meet agents, casting directors, producers, directors, designers, playwrights, and other established working professionals. These programs provide invaluable networking, with each presentation attracting approximately four hundred successful people in the industry.**

**It is not uncommon to find yourself signed with agencies immediately, invited to auditions and meetings, considered for New York productions and television projects, or asked to meet casting directors for major television networks and production studios in Los Angeles.**

**The Showcases of New Talent take place every spring when, as a senior, you travel to New York and Los Angeles to connect with the theatre, film, and TV worlds. You prepare your presentation during your senior year, fine-tuning it to display the very best of your gifts and the disciplines you mastered during four years of intense work at CMU.**

**For more information: visit <http://www.cmushowcase.com/>**