

Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts / School of Theater, Film and Media Arts

The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts brings the Department of Theater and the Department of Film and Media Arts under the umbrella of the Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts.

Theater

Located on the northern edge of the Avenue of the Arts and just minutes away from the heart of Philadelphia's thriving theater community, the Department of Theater has established itself as one of the finest theater training programs in the nation. Many of our alumni are thriving as actors, directors, playwrights, designers, and technicians. They are working artists with credits on stage, television, and film here in Philadelphia; in major entertainment industry centers like New York City and Los Angeles; and professional theater companies all across the country and internationally.

The Professional Training Program in Theater at Temple University, which awards the Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), has distinguished itself as one of the foremost theater training and performance institutions in the nation, and as an important contributor to the Philadelphia theater landscape. Our M.F.A. actors, directors, designers, playwrights, and technicians collaborate with professional faculty, staff, and guest artists to train and produce exciting contemporary theater, encompassing a broad range of genres and styles, including classics, new plays, and musicals, for a diverse campus and public audience. Our faculty is comprised of a collaborative team of experienced, celebrated working professionals and distinguished scholars from the theater world, who, as both teachers and mentors, generously share their consummate artistry, seasoned expertise, and great passion for practicing the craft of theater.

Film and Media Arts

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) program in the Department of Film and Media Arts (FMA) is the country's foremost program in alternative film, video, and new media. Temple's FMA department is internationally recognized as a center for filmmaking that is socially engaged, activist, diverse, interdisciplinary, and international. With approximately 40 graduate students from diverse communities and countries, the program is large enough to offer intellectual stimulation through a wide range of courses, yet small enough to afford individual attention, maximum access to equipment, and creative control over one's own projects.

The M.F.A. in FMA is viewed as a creative laboratory for producing works of social significance and artistic merit. We are committed to advancing methods that articulate alternative voices, including those of women; people of color; and others who have been economically, politically, or artistically disenfranchised. We look for students with strong creative ideas, experiences, and critical depth, no matter their background. FMA students come from all over the world, including through programs like Fulbright. Situated in Philadelphia's thriving arts scene, diverse communities, and institutions, the program additionally offers students wide-ranging opportunities for collaborations and audiences.

The M.F.A. is a terminal degree comparable to a doctoral degree, with the notable exception that the Temple program stresses a creative synthesis of both production and theory, requiring comprehensive exams and a final creative project instead of a dissertation. Students work with faculty who are international leaders in their fields with awards from Fulbright, Guggenheim, Jerome, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Pew, and Rockefeller as well as major film, art, and publication credits. Temple's M.F.A. in FMA allows filmmakers, videomakers, screenwriters, and media artists to challenge the current practices of Hollywood, commercial television, and global media. With a combination of academic and professional training, the degree qualifies graduates to teach on the university level.

The M.F.A. program at Temple is one of the most recognized graduate programs in the country in terms of national and international film and video awards. Temple graduate students have received nationally competitive:

- University Film and Video Association production grants,
- National Endowment for the Arts media fellowships, and
- Eastman Kodak Scholarships, the nation's most competitive scholarship in cinematography.

Temple graduate students have also received major recognition at:

- American Film Institute FEST, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Asian American International Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival, the Dore Schary Awards, New York Film Festival, Philadelphia Film Festival, San Francisco International Film Festival, and Sundance Film Festival, as well as
- Numerous festivals across the globe in Athens, Berlin, Bonn, Dallas, Houston, London, Melbourne, Montreal, and Paris.

Major professional recognition for student projects includes:

- Hollywood's coveted Academy Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting,
- Several Oscar nominations, and
- Awards from both the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

In addition, Temple M.F.A. productions have been picked up for distribution by such prestigious organizations as:

- Coe Film Associates
- Direct Cinema Limited
- Museum of Modern Art
- New Day Films
- Women Make Movies

and for national and international broadcasts in the United States, Asia, Australia, Canada, and Europe.

Programs

Degree Programs and Certificates

- Documentary Arts and Visual Research, Ph.D.
- Film and Media Arts, M.F.A.
- mediaXarts: Cinema for New Technologies and Environments, M.A.
- Musical Theater Collaboration, M.F.A.
- Musical Theater Studies, M.A.
- Theater/Acting, M.F.A.
- Theater/Design, M.F.A.
- Theater/Directing, M.F.A.
- Theater/Playwriting, M.F.A.
- Theater Instruction, M.A.
- Graduate Certificate: Documentary Arts and Ethnographic Research
- Graduate Certificate: Theater Instruction

Graduate Faculty

Nora Alter, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania.

Maggie Anderson, Associate Professor (Teaching/Instructional), Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

Warren F. Bass, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Columbia University.

Chris Cagle, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., Brown University.

Marie Anne Chiment, Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., New York University Tisch School of the Arts.

Roderick L. Coover, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., University of Chicago.

Peter P. d'Agostino, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.A., San Francisco State University.

Sarah Drury, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.A., New York University Tisch School of the Arts.

Fred Duer, Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Ohio University.

LeAnn Erickson, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., University of Iowa.

Marcus Giamatti, Associate Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Yale University.

Lindsay Goss, Assistant Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., Brown University.

Steven Gross, Associate Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., Yale University.

David Ingram, Associate Professor (Practice), Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., New York University Tisch School of the Arts.

Lynne Innerst, Associate Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., University of Southern California.

Melanie Julian, Associate Professor (Practice), Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Point Park University.

Michael J. Kuetemeyer, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Temple University.

Kartik Nair, Assistant Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., New York University.

Afia Nathaniel, Assistant Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Columbia University.

David A. Parry, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Eran Preis, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.A., Ohio University.

Jeffrey S. Rush, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., University of Iowa.

Donna Snow, Associate Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., American Conservatory Theater.

Elisabeth Subrin, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Paul Swann, Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., University of Leeds.

Rea Tajiri, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., California Institute of the Arts.

Douglas C. Wager, Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Boston University.

Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon, Associate Professor, Department of Theater, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; Ph.D., Temple University.

Lauren Wolkstein, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Arts, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts; M.F.A., Columbia University.