

## What can I do with a major in **THEATRE** from Valparaiso University?

### Description of major:

The program is designed to engage students in studies of the rich heritage of theatre arts and dance in Western and non-Western cultures. The study of theatre helps a student to understand basic human qualities and to improve skills of expression, both emotively and intellectually. Students of theatre may fall into two broad categories: 1) those interested in pursuing their personal, creative and intellectual development needed for whatever career they choose, and 2) those interested in pre-professional training for theatre careers in professional and education theatre. Students at Valparaiso University may choose to major in either Theatre & Television Arts or Drama.

### Relevant skills for a THEATRE major:

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|--|---|--|
| ◆ Analyze text                                   | ◆ Illustrate                                    | ◆ Schedule                                       |
| ◆ Apply theory                                   | ◆ Imagine                                       | ◆ See connections                                |
| ◆ Communicate                                    | ◆ Improvise                                     | ◆ Select and train                               |
| ◆ Compose  | ◆ Inform, organize                              | ◆ Show foresight                                 |
| ◆ Continually conceive, develop & generate ideas | ◆ Innovate                                      | ◆ Simplify ideas                                 |
| ◆ Create artwork                                 | ◆ Integrate diverse elements from others' ideas | ◆ Solve problems, lead discussions               |
| ◆ Decorate, design                               | ◆ Keep minutes                                  | ◆ Speak publicly                                 |
| ◆ Edit   | ◆ Love literature                               | ◆ Summarize                                      |
| ◆ Enlighten, guide                               | ◆ Manage  | ◆ Synthesize perceptions                         |
| ◆ Experiment with ideas                          | ◆ Memorize                                      | ◆ Teach, explain                                 |
| ◆ Explain concepts                               | ◆ Organize                                      | ◆ Think quickly                                  |
| ◆ Express self                                   | ◆ Perceive                                      | ◆ Translate                                      |
| ◆ Forecast                                       | ◆ Plan  | ◆ Visualize shapes                               |
| ◆ Form perceptions                               | ◆ Present                                       | ◆ Work independently                             |
| ◆ Generate ideas with commercial possibilities   | ◆ Proofread                                     | ◆ Work with others collaboratively               |
| ◆ Have a good voice/vocal production             | ◆ Publish                                       | ◆ Work with self-direction                       |
| ◆ Have conceptual ability                        | ◆ Read  | ◆ Write – promotional items, publicity, speeches |
| ◆ Have good judgment                             | ◆ Read graphs                                   | ◆ Write vividly & with humor and others!         |
| ◆ Have spatial memory                            | ◆ Relate to abstract ideas                      |  |
| ◆ Help   | ◆ Remember faces                                |  |
|  | ◆ Report accurately                             |  |
|  | ◆ Research                                      |  |

### Potential hiring institutions for THEATRE majors:

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|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ◆ Advertising agencies                 | ◆ Media departments          | ◆ Schools                           |
| ◆ Colleges & universities              | ◆ National radio/TV networks | ◆ State/regional networks           |
| ◆ Consumer magazines                   | ◆ Newspapers                 | ◆ Talent agencies                   |
| ◆ Entertainment organizations          | ◆ Nonprofit organizations    | ◆ Television studios                |
| ◆ Film companies                       | ◆ Photographic services      | ◆ Theatre companies                 |
| ◆ Government agencies                  | ◆ Producers                  | ◆ Trade associations                |
| ◆ Hospitals                            | ◆ Public relations firms     | ◆ Trade books/magazines and others! |
| ◆ Human Resources Departments or Firms | ◆ Publishers                 |                                     |
|  | ◆ Religious institutions     |                                     |
|  | ◆ Retail stores              |                                     |

## Sample work activities for Graduates in THEATRE (some may require an advanced degree)

### Artistic

Actor  
Announcer  
Choreographer  
Comedian  
Composer  
Costume Designer  
Dancer  
Director  
Editor  
Lighting Designer  
Magician  
Model  
Performer  
Puppeteer  
Scene Designer  
Script Writer  
Singer  
Sound Designer  
Voice-over Talent  
and others!

### Production

Cameraman  
Costume Technician  
Editor  
Film Director  
Floor Manager  
Lighting Technician  
Producer  
Properties Technician  
Set Designer  
Sound Technician  
Stage Manager  
Technical Director  
Set Builder  
and others!

### Administration

Audience Developer  
Box Office Manager  
Box Office/Ticket Sales  
Fiscal Developer  
House Manager  
Marketing Associate  
Meeting/Event Planner  
Programming Manager  
Public Relations Specialist  
Artistic Director  
Executive/Managing Director  
Agent  
Casting Director  
and others!

### Education

Dance Instructor  
Dramatic Coach  
Instructor, colleges &  
universities  
Teacher, primary or secondary schools  
and others!

## Area of further education for THEATRE majors:

- Acting
- Business Administration
- Costume Design/Technology
- Dance
- Dance Therapy
- Drama
- Drama Therapy
- Education
- Film
- Film, Television & Video Criticism
- Fine Arts
- Law
- Music
- Music Therapy
- Nonprofit Management
- Photography
- Theater Production
- and others!

## Sources of additional information for THEATRE majors:

- ◆ VU Department of Theatre: <http://www.valpo.edu/theatre/index1.htm>
- ◆ VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/ttva.html>
- ◆ Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- ◆ Actors' Equity Association: <http://www.actorsequity.org>
- ◆ American Association of Community Theatre: The national theatre organization representing more than 1000 member companies, and an advocate for community theatre as a whole. <http://www.aact.org/>
- ◆ American Theatre Works, Inc.: a non-profit corporation for the performing arts. <http://www.theatredirectories.com/>
- ◆ American Women in Radio & TV: national, non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the impact of women in electronic media and related fields. Members have access to job listings. <http://www.awrt.org>

- ◆ Artsedge: From the Kennedy Center - supports the place of arts education at the center of the curriculum through the creative and appropriate uses of technology. ARTSEdge helps educators to teach in, through and about the arts. <http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/artsedge.html>
- ◆ Association for Theater in Higher Education: organization of individuals and institutions that provides vision and leadership for the profession and promotes excellence in theatre education. <http://www.athe.org/>
- ◆ Backstage.com: An online performing arts resource. <http://www.backstage.com>
- ◆ BackstageJobs.com: Theatre Design & Technical Jobs web site. Behind-the-scenes jobs in the live entertainment industry. (Everything BUT acting) <http://backstagejobs.com/>
- ◆ Medialine: A career resource for the television industry. <http://www.medialine.com/>
- ◆ National Association of Broadcasters: full-service trade association that promotes and protects the interests of radio and television broadcasters in Washington and around the world. Site includes a Career Center with job postings, career resources, listings of colleges & universities, scholarships & grants, as well as internship opportunities. <http://www.nab.org/>
- ◆ Performink: An online performing arts resource. <http://www.performink.com>
- ◆ Playbill Online: the same company that designs the theatre magazines that serves as programs on Broadway, Off-Broadway and around the U.S. Includes casting calls & jobs. <http://www.playbill.com/>
- ◆ Screen Actors Guild: <http://www.sag.org/>
- ◆ The Drama League: <http://www.dramaleague.org>
- ◆ TV Jobs.com: An Internet based employment service dedicated to helping you find employment in the highly competitive broadcast marketplace. <http://www.tvjobs.com/>

### **VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <i>Career Opportunities For Writers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Career Opportunities In Advertising And Public Relations</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Career Opportunities In Art</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Careers For Culture Lovers &amp; Other Artsy Types</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Careers In Communications And Entertainment</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Chicago Creative Directory</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Getting On The Air &amp; Into Print: A Citizen's Guide To Chicago-Area Media</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Graduate Programs In Arts And Architecture</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors</i></li> <li>◆ <i>How To Be A Working Actor: The Insider's Guide To Finding Jobs In Theater, Film And Television</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Job Surfing: Media And Entertainment: Using</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Internet To Find A Job And Get Hired</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Opportunities In Broadcasting Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Opportunities In Film Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Opportunities In Performing Arts Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Opportunities In Television And Video Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law &amp; Social Work</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, &amp; Social Sciences</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Resumes For Advertising Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Resumes For Performing Arts Careers</i></li> <li>◆ <i>and others!</i></li> </ul> |
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### **For more information about majoring in THEATRE, contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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