BOSTON COLLEGE
THEATRE
2017-2018
Guide for Freshmen, Transfers, and Newcomers

Important BC Theatre Resources:

Email: theatre@bc.edu | Theatre Listserv: theatre_majors@listserv.bc.edu
Theatre Dept Website: bc.edu/theatre | RTAC Box Office: bc.edu/tickets
Facebook: Search "Boston College Theatre Department"
Twitter: @TheatreBC | Instagram: bc_theatre
Pinterest: BC_TheatreDept | YouTube: Boston College Theatre
WELCOME TO BOSTON COLLEGE!

We are happy to welcome you to the BC Theatre community and hope this guide will ease your transition. Whatever you may bring to the BC Theatre Department—be it your technical expertise, creative design, or performance talent—read on! Welcome to Boston College and we hope you will join us in the Theatre Department. We’re glad you’re here.

Theatre Department Mission

The Boston College Theatre Department seeks to understand theatre not only as a means of artistic expression and a form of entertainment, but as a window onto history, a method of inquiry into all things human, and as a vehicle of social change.

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Get Information On:

- Auditions for shows
- Production labs
- Stage management
- Design
- Backstage opportunities

Curious about performing in productions at BC? Interested in job opportunities? Questions about the Theatre major or minor? Or maybe just want to meet other creative people? Meet the Theatre faculty and RTAC staff in an informal setting!
The Arts at BC

There are a number of ways to get involved in the Arts while at Boston College. Here are a few things you may be interested in and want to learn more about:

The Arts Council

The mission of the Boston College Arts Council is to make the experience of art available and meaningful to both the Boston College student body and the wider university community, and to share this with the greater Boston and international communities.

Keep an eye out for their annual fall event, Career Night for the Arts. To get more info about Arts Council events, visit bc.edu/artscouncil and click on “Join Our Mailing List.”

Arts Festival (aka ArtsFest)

Sponsored by the BC Arts Council, the annual Arts Festival brings the Boston College and surrounding communities together to celebrate the arts. In 2017, the 19th annual Arts Festival committee will once again invite the community to experience the variety of arts at Boston College firsthand. A talented group of more than 1,000 student and faculty artists will present music, theater, dance, poetry, film, painting, sculpture, and more. Visit bc.edu/artscouncil and click on “Arts Festival” for the full events schedule.

19th Annual Arts Festival
April 26-28, 2018 | Noon - 11:00 p.m.
O’Neill Plaza - Stokes Lawn - Gasson Hall

2017-2018 Theatre Department Season

Chicago
Music by John Kander
Lyrics by Fred Ebb
Book by Fred Ebb & Bob Fosse
Directed by Michelle Miller ’98
Oct 18-21 at 7:30pm | Oct 22 at 2:00pm

The Cherry Orchard
by Anton Chekhov
Adapted by Paul Schmidt
Directed by Patricia Riggin
Nov 16-18 at 7:30pm | Nov 19 at 2:00pm

No Exit
by Jean-Paul Sartre
Adapted by Stuart Gilbert
Directed by Kylie Fletcher ’18
Jan 25-27 at 7:30pm | Jan 28 at 2:00pm

Peter and the Starcatcher
A Play by Rick Elice
Based on the Novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson
Music by Wayne Barker
Directed by Luke Jorgensen
Apr 25-28 at 7:30pm | Apr 29 at 2:00pm

Tickets for Theatre Department productions go on sale about two weeks before the show opens. The best way to purchase tickets is to buy online at bc.edu/tickets or by visiting the Robsham Theater Arts Center Box Office, Monday through Friday 9:00am—4:00pm.

Tickets for BC students are $12.
Getting Involved

The theatre community at Boston College offers a myriad of ways to get involved—on or off stage, in the class room, at a workshop, etc. Here are some opportunities to consider:

Audition for a show -- Auditions are open to the entire BC community. You do not need to be a Theatre Arts major or have previous performance experience to audition. See page 5 for more information.

Take a course -- Acting, directing, design, playwriting, dance—we offer introductory (as well as advanced level) courses in all these areas. It’s a great way to get your creative juices flowing and to put some variety into your schedule. See the curriculum page http://www.bc.edu/theatre for suggestions.

Do a Lab -- You can get one credit if you work behind the scenes on a department production, either helping to build the sets, props, and costumes or working backstage during the run of a show. You’ll need to sign up in the first week of the term. See page 8 for more info.

Join the Listserv -- The Listserv, the Theatre Department’s e-mail service, is an excellent way to stay up to date on upcoming shows, auditions, workshops, courses, and other theatre-related events and opportunities. To sign up, contact theatre@bc.edu and let them know of your interest.

Help out Backstage with CT or DS -- Contemporary Theatre and Dramatics Society are independent student producing groups. They produce 3 or 4 shows a year and need help during build and tech week. It’s a fun way to volunteer, befriend other theatre students, and gain valuable tech experience!

Be an ASM -- Every production has two or more assistant stage managers. These students help the stage manager to run rehearsals and keep the production moving forward. ASM-ing for department productions also counts as a Lab. While it takes a little more time than other labs, you learn a lot more about how all the theatrical pieces fit together. Reach out to professor Liz Bouchard if you’re interested in becoming an ASM.

Attend a Production -- Once the semester gets rolling, there is a production (theater, dance, cabarets, acapella, cultural events, etc.) of one sort or another nearly every weekend. There is a lot of talent on this campus, so grab a friend and come see a show! Go to bc.edu/tickets or visit the Robsham Theater Arts Center Box Office to buy tickets.

Be in a Directing Scene -- This is a great way to get started with performing at BC. Students in the Directing I and II classes need volunteer actors for their scenes to be presented in class. Sign up sheets will be on the Back Hallway Boards mid-September and announcements are also made on the Listserv.

Attend a Workshop -- A few times each semester, BC theatre alumni and/or other arts professionals visit to run workshops with our students. Audition techniques, singing for department productions, acting for department productions, and stage combat are some of the topics that have been explored in recent workshops. Check our website, Facebook page, the Callboard, or the Back Hallway Boards for workshop announcements & info.

For the contact info of anyone mentioned here, or to find a faculty or staff member who matches your interests, see page 13!

Faculty and Staff Contact Information

Theatre Department Main Office: (617) 552-4012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
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Robsham Theater Arts Center Main Office: (617) 552-4610

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<tbody>
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<td><a href="mailto:kier.byrnes@bc.edu">kier.byrnes@bc.edu</a></td>
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<td>Technical Supervisor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:george.cooke@bc.edu">george.cooke@bc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>McDonald, Ellen</td>
<td>Marketing &amp; Operations</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ellen.mcdonald.12@bc.edu">ellen.mcdonald.12@bc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principi, Kim</td>
<td>Box Office Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kim.principi@bc.edu">kim.principi@bc.edu</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Council of Majors & Minors

The Council of Majors & Minors (COMM) is a group of Theatre majors and minors who volunteer their time to help plan and staff departmental events, welcome new members into the department, provide feedback and perspective to the Chair and the faculty about matters of shared concern, and take on other tasks and roles that will help to strengthen the community of learning in the Theatre Department and the Robsham Theater Arts Center. Check out the Callboard in the back hallway of the Robsham for contact information of COMM members.

President………………………………………………………………..…Erica Fallon ’18
Vice Presidents...........Samuela Nematchoua ’18 & Nick Swanscott ’19
Secretary………………………………………………………………….. Taylor Badoyen ’19
Theatre Buddy Coordinators............Kylie Fletcher ’18  & Meg Ellis ’20
Social Media Coordinators........................……Olivia Painchaud ’19,
                                        Michael Mazzone ’19, Marissa Caraballo ’20
Audition Tables Coordinator....................Elizabeth Koennecke ’19
Additional Members..............Ryan Gardner ’19, Christine Schmitt ’20,
                              Ed Fogarty ’20

Sign up sheets will be available in the rear hallway of the Robsham along with audition information. If you have a headshot and resume, bring it. If not, no problem! Interested performers are encouraged to audition for all Theatre Department productions, regardless of experience. After preliminary auditions, a callback list will be emailed to every applicable person.

The first round of auditions will be held Aug 31—Sept 4, 2017 for the following productions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHOW</th>
<th>PERFORMANCES</th>
<th>STAGE MANAGER</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>October 18-22, 2017</td>
<td>Ryan Gardner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gardnery@bc.edu">gardnery@bc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cherry Orchard</td>
<td>November 16-19, 2017</td>
<td>Kayla Causey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:causeyk@bc.edu">causeyk@bc.edu</a></td>
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The second round of auditions will be held November 3-5, 2017 for the following productions:

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<th>STAGE MANAGER</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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<tr>
<td>No Exit</td>
<td>January 25-28, 2018</td>
<td>Meg Ellis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ellismp@bc.edu">ellismp@bc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Voices 2018</td>
<td>February 15-18, 2018</td>
<td>Olivia Painchaud</td>
<td><a href="mailto:painchao@bc.edu">painchao@bc.edu</a></td>
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The third round of auditions will be held January 19-21, 2018 for the following productions:

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<th>CONTACT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stop Kiss</td>
<td>March 22-25, 2018</td>
<td>Monica Vitzoski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vitzoski@bc.edu">vitzoski@bc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter and the Starcatcher</td>
<td>April 25-29, 2018</td>
<td>Taylor Badoyen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:badoyent@bc.edu">badoyent@bc.edu</a></td>
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</table>

Need audition material? Check out some of the plays in O’Neill library or visit the Green Room to read or borrow a script. You can also speak to a member of the Council of Majors or any stage manager or director for advice. Keep an eye out for the September audition workshop led by acting Professor, Patricia Riggin. You may bring a piece to run with her if you wish (memorized or not), or just feel free to sit and watch, learn audition etiquette, and other helpful tips.

STUDENT SHOW AUDITIONS: While student board-produced shows are separate from Department shows, they audition during the same weekends, and often require similar types of material: monologues, song cuts, etc.
Theatre Arts Major

The Theatre Department offers one degree, a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. To receive a BA in Theatre from Boston College, a student must complete:

a) six required foundation courses:
   1. THTR 1172: Dramatic Structure and Theatrical Process. Students unable to register for this class may substitute for a section of THTR 1170: Intro to Theatre.
   2. THTR 1103: Acting I: Fundamentals of Performance
   3. THTR 1130: Elements of Theater Production I
   4. THTR 1140: Elements of Theater Production II (Pre-Requisite THTR 1130)
   5. THTR 2275: History of Theater I
   6. THTR 2285: History of Theater II

b) a minimum of six elective courses:
   Majors will also complete a minimum of six additional courses. Two of these must be in the area of Performance and Production (3000-level or above). Two must be in the Dramatic Literature, Criticism and Theater History category (3000-level or above). The remaining two General Electives can come from either category. Students who study abroad and transfer students may petition to have one General Elective fulfilled by a course taken elsewhere.

c) a minimum of six production labs.
Production Labs involve direct work on Theatre Department productions as a member of a preparation crew or a run crew. Majors will complete a total of six labs. Most labs are worth one credit, though some do earn two credits. For more information please see page 8.

Suggested course sequence in the first two years:

**FRESHMEN YEAR**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dramatic Structure &amp; Theatrical Process</td>
<td>Elements of Theatrical Production I</td>
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<td>History of Theatre I</td>
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**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

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<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elements of Theatrical Process II</td>
<td>History of Theatre I</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of Theatre I</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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We also recommend completing at least three lab credits by the end of your sophomore year, in a way that best fits your schedule.

The Kresge - The outer lobby of the Robsham. Where the bathrooms are. A space used ad-hoc for classes, meetings, rehearsals, and special events.

Listserv - In effect, an electronic bulletin board. This is probably the best way to stay up to date on all Theatre department happenings. Sign up by e-mailing theatre@bc.edu to express your interest. You'll get emails about everything: auditions, courses, shows to see, job opportunities, and more.

Lower - Food glorious food! Next door to Robsham. They want you to call it Corcoran Commons, but everyone calls it Lower. The best place for a meal or snack before, during, or after rehearsal.

Mainstage - Not the Bonn. The BIG theatre. The Department does three shows a year here and it gets used for a lot of other things. Like Orientation. You were there, remember?

Monan - The Reverend Donald J. Monan, S.J. Professor in Theatre Arts. “The Monan” for short, this is a visiting artist residency in which professionals come to BC to work on a show, do special workshops, teach a class, etc.

MTWing (Musical Theatre Wing) - A student organization that produces musical cabarets, staged concerts, and volunteer performances each semester. To find them, search “Boston College Musical Theatre Wing” on Facebook, or just follow the sounds of belting, that usually works too.

Robsham Theatre Arts Center (RTAC) - The building we never leave. People call it “ARR-TACK” or just “Robsham.” Home of the Theatre Department and many University events.

Ruby – Short for the Rubenstein Annex. Home of the Theatre Department conference room, Design Studio, the “Middle Room” (a small rehearsal space), and the BC Arts Council.

Theatre Showcase & Senior Awards - An end-of-the-year, semi-formal event for the BC Theatre community. We salute graduating seniors, celebrate the past year, and hype the upcoming one.

The Slice—Once the Game Room in Vanderslice Hall. Now an annex room appropriated by the Department for classes, rehearsals, auditions, and meetings. On the opposite side of Lower from the Kresge.
BC Theatre Glossary

**After Hours** - Once a semester, a late-night slate of original ten-minute plays written, directed and performed by BC students. Sometimes silly, sometimes serious, but always entertaining.

**The Back Hallway** - A set of bulletin boards in the rear hallway of the Robsham (the one you walk into when you come in from the Mod Lot). Information central! Look here for audition info, callback and cast lists, rehearsal schedules, performance information, faculty contact info, or just to swing by some of the department offices.

**The Bonn** - BC Theatre’s black box space. Used for classes, performances, workshops, cabarets, pretty much everything. Learn to love the Bonn because you’ll probably spend a lot of time there.

**Brighton Dance Studio** - The home of dance at BC. A converted gym on the Brighton campus used as a dance studio and rehearsal space for dance classes and student dance groups.

**CT (Contemporary Theatre)** - A student organization that produces one or two contemporary shows each year. Find them on Facebook by searching “Boston College Contemporary Theatre.” Cooler than DS.

**COM (Council of Majors)** - A group of Theatre Majors who serve as a liaison between the students and Department faculty. Learn about the Council members and what they do by checking out the Callboards.

**DS (Dramatics Society)** - The granddaddy of them all. Oldest student club on campus (1865!). A student theatre organization that produces one or two shows a year. Find them on Facebook by searching “Boston College Dramatics Society.” Cooler than CT.

**The Design Room** - Studio in the Rubenstein Annex for all theatre design classes. A great place to do student design work.

**The Green Room** - On show night, the place actors wait backstage to go on. By day, a hangout for all theatre students. A theatre student’s home away from home.

**Theatre Arts Minor**

The Theatre Arts Minor is intended for students with a serious interest in theatre who, for one reason or another, are not able to commit to fulfilling the requirements for the Theatre Major. To earn a Theatre Minor from Boston College, a student must complete:

- THTR 1172: Dramatic Structure and Theatrical Process. Students unable to register for this class may substitute for a section of THTR 1170: Introduction to Theatre.
- THTR 1103: Acting 1: Fundamentals of Performance
- THTR 1130: Elements of Theatre Production 1
- THTR 2275: History of Theatre I OR THTR 2285: History of Theatre II
- One upper-level Literature, Criticism, History course
- One upper-level Production/Performance course
- Three one-credit Production Labs (including at least one Prep Lab)

For Theatre Department courses with limited enrollments, Theatre Minors will be given access to a course after Theatre Majors but still before non-majors/minors.

If you need assistance choosing classes, would like to be assigned a Theatre Department academic advisor, need credits transferred from another program, or are interested in studying abroad, please contact the Theatre Department’s Assistant Chair, Luke Jorgensen at luke.jorgensen@bc.edu.
Production Labs

Production labs are both a requirement for the Theatre Arts Major and Minor as well as a great opportunity for thespians and technicians of all backgrounds to get a glimpse of the behind-the-scenes magic of theatre productions at BC. There are many types of labs that cater to students’ varying interests and abilities. Note: some production labs require permission from the professor.

**Prep Crew (1-credit)**
If you register for a prep crew, you will be expected to complete 26 hours of work in your designated area over the course of the semester (usually two hours per week). These labs are used to create the materials needed for a Theatre Department production in the following categories: scene shop, props and paint, costumes, electrics, and sound.

**Run Crew (1-credit)**
If you register for a run crew, you are required to be at all technical and dress rehearsals as well as every performance and strike (approximately 10 days in all). Run crews for scenery involve helping with the set changes, working the flies, and other tasks while costume run crews help with quick changes, keeping track of costumes, and assisting actors with hair and makeup. Light, sound, and projection board operators control the technical cues that the stage manager calls during a show.

**Assistant Stage Manager (1-credit)**
There are generally two-three ASMs per show and they help run rehearsals with the Stage Manager. During performances ASMs are the main contact backstage and assist run crew members.

**Advanced Lab Opportunities**
Once students become more involved in Department productions and complete some of the above labs, they may advance to 2-credit labs which include Stage Managing or designing a Department production (in light, set, costume, or sound). There are also opportunities for advanced 1-credit labs including Dramaturgy and Assistant Directing.

Visit bc.edu/theatre for information on how and when to register for production labs, reach out to the Theatre Department’s Production Manager, Russ Swift at swiftru@bc.edu with specific questions.

Dance

Dance takes many forms at Boston College, both within and outside of the Department. The Department offers a variety of courses in dance technique including ballet, jazz, modern dance, dance for musicals and more!

BC also has many dance groups, including: Dance Ensemble and Dance Organization (jazz, contemporary, ballet, etc.); Synergy, Uprising and Phaymus (Hip-Hop); V.I.P. and Fuego del Corazon (latin); Sexual Chocolate and F.I.S.T.S (step); Irish Dance (Irish step); Full Swing (swing); and On Tap (tap).

Student Groups 2017-18 Season

In addition to producing special events, cabarets, showcases and more, BC student theatre groups also produce full-length plays and musicals each year in the Bonn Studio.

**Contemporary Theatre**

- **Sexual Perversity in Chicago**
  By David Mamet (A staged reading)
  Directed by Michael Joseph ‘18
  November 10-11, 2017

- **Beyond Therapy**
  By Christopher Durang
  Directed by Erica Fallon ‘18
  February 1-4, 2018

**Dramatics Society**

- **Venus in Fur**
  By David Ives
  Directed by Michael Quinn ’19
  October 26-29, 2017

- **The Addams Family**
  Book by Marshall Brickman
  Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
  Directed by Meg Ellis ’20
  April 12-15, 2018