

ACTING (MFA)

Professor Judylee Vivier, Program Director

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Brooklyn College Department of Theatre offers a two-year **Master of Fine Arts Program in Acting** to candidates committed to mastering the craft of this discipline in a professional, challenging, and uniquely collaborative environment. Our personal and supportive approach to acting training and our belief in the individual process of each student demands a limited number of successful applicants each Fall (10 candidates), therefore the audition process is highly selective and competitive.

Brooklyn College Department of Theatre is a member of URTA (University Resident Theatre Auditions).

The goals of the **MFA Program in Acting** are: to encourage the actor to confront the **self** and thereby work from a place of **truth**; to embrace and nurture the uniqueness of the **individual**; to develop the **skills, craft,** and **professional attitude** to prepare students for a **life in the business of acting**. Each actor's progress is evaluated through direct consultation with faculty in a conference at the end of each semester.

Our essential belief is that depth and range of imaginative performance ability are learned both through ongoing and challenging class work and through production. Consequently, rigorous and specific process-oriented **classroom and workshop exploration** under the guidance of artist/teachers is integrated into the many **performance opportunities** offered students. **The Department of Theater produces two to three main stage productions a year in the Tow Performing Arts Center and three to four MFA Directors' thesis productions in the flexible New Workshop Theater.** MFA Acting students audition for every production presented by the department and accept each role as cast (rehearsals for productions may take place during scheduled academic breaks).

Due to the intensity of the MFA Acting Program, the acting student may not accept an outside job of any kind without specific permission of the Head of the Graduate Acting Program. A variety of departmental Fellowships and Awards, as well as College Scholarships, are available by application to second-year students. There are a limited number of Assistantships and partial tuition waivers available to first-year students.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present evidence of previous experience, high professional promise, and achievement in acting: the applicant must offer at least 18-21 credits in undergraduate theater courses which can include acting, directing, dramatic literature, theater history, and stagecraft.

**Applications for the fall semester must be submitted by January 15th.
(January 1st for international students.)**

Applicants must meet Brooklyn College requirements for admission to the Division of Graduate Studies.

*****URTA candidates: Application deadline is January 15th*****

For an online application please visit: <http://applytograd.brooklyn.cuny.edu> and submit your application to the Graduate Admissions Office. Be sure to include the following materials in your application packet:

- *the application form*
- *a headshot and resume*
- *three letters of recommendation*
- *official transcripts*
- *a typed statement of purpose, 3-5 pages in length*
- *a typed description of your current acting process: how do you approach the text?*

Please note: As soon as your application materials are submitted, please notify **Professor Judylee Vivier**, Program Director of MFA Acting via email (jvivier@brooklyn.cuny.edu) so that an audition/interview

appointment can be made. The “in-house” auditions are held in the Theater Department in late January/early February of each year. Performance of two short monologues, one classic and one contemporary, is required to demonstrate the range of the applicant's ability. Total audition should not exceed 2 minutes. The applicant should bring copies of their resume/headshot to their audition.

International applicants must also demonstrate an ability to speak English without their native accent. **A TOEFL score of 600 is required.** The necessity for our students to work within an acceptable range of American English pronunciation is crucial to the cohesiveness of our training and is a major factor in our evaluation of non-American applicants. Please consult the College website for further information.

REQUIRED CORE OF COURSES:
(60 credits required for the degree)

- Improvisation for the Actor I (7311X)
- Acting I, II, III, IV (Scene Study: Contemporary & Classic Plays) (7321X, 7322X, 7323X, 7324X)
- Kinetics I (7360X)
- Alexander Movement Technique for the Actor I, II (7331X, 7332X)
- Voice Production for the Actor I, II, III, IV (7341X, 7342X, 7343X, 7344X)
- Acting for the Camera (7325X)
- Diction and Dialects for the Actor I, II, III, IV (7351X, 7352X, 7353X, 7354X)
- Movement for the Actor III, IV (7333X, 7334)
- Audition Techniques & the Business of Acting (7326X)
- An Actor’s Approach to Shakespeare (7345X)

- Thesis Production/Project: Each graduate acting student must fulfill a thesis project: this is comprised of developing a major role in a department production during the second year of the program. The academic thesis, which consists of a 30-page paper, is based on the development of the role and the actor’s process. (7742X)

- Theater Practicum (various techniques/skills classes for the actor offered at the discretion of the Program Head) (7722X, 7723X, 7724X)

PARTICIPATING FACULTY:

Tom Bullard	Professor & Program Director, Directing
Judylee Vivier	Professor, Program Director, Acting; Voice Production & Acting

PROFESSIONAL ADJUNCT FACULTY:

Mark Blum	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Acting
Michael Chin	Adjunct Associate Professor, Fight Master/Hand-to-hand Stage Combat
Richard Crawford	Adjunct Lecturer, Clown/Mask/Le Coq
Liz Hayes	Adjunct Lecturer, Diction & Dialects
Katie Knipp-Willis	Adjunct Lecturer, Lucid Body Technique
Patrick Mulryan	Adjunct Lecturer, Acting
Laura Smith	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Alexander Technique
Ian Wen	Adjunct Lecturer, Movement for the Actor/Butoh
Welker White	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Acting for the Camera

*All Faculty members in the MFA Acting Program at Brooklyn College are experienced professional New York theater practitioners, who continue to work in their specific areas.

*Frequently, additional or visiting faculty teach for a semester or a year.

Please visit our web page at:

http://depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater/programs_grad_mfa_acting.html

Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you!