



## ACTING (MFA) AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

### TRAINING OVERVIEW

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 or less), therefore the audition process is highly selective and competitive.

We look for actors who are diverse, multicultural, and come from a variety of experiences: the more variety our student body brings to the program, the more exciting and informed the work created will be, in class and on stage. We are interested in the personal story of each individual as well as developing an ensemble in each class.

We seek individuals who are socially conscious, committed to a disciplined practice, and hungry for a new and unique experience; individuals who desire a guided opportunity to look into themselves through varied techniques and skills that form the foundation for the acting craft; individuals ready to acknowledge, confront, and release the physical, emotional, and psychological tensions and holding patterns that inhibit the full creative potential of the actor's imagination, impulses, and truth.

**The emphasis of our training is on the journey of the actor toward self-discovery:** only then can they grow artistically and professionally. Our training is rooted in the work of Stanislavski and Michael Chekhov, but special attention is given to the development of a deep mind-body awareness in each actor and a nurturing of each actor's individual process.

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 engage the audience fully by being human on stage and screen, achieved through the heightened awareness, release, and practice of the Active Breath
- 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 meeting at the end of each semester.

Our essential belief is that depth and range of imaginative performance ability and breath are learned both through ongoing and challenging classwork 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 to 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.

## **CONTACT**

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