Theatre for Youth, MFA

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MFA Theatre (Theatre For Youth)

The internationally recognized theatre for youth MFA program at ASU features distinguished faculty, excellent facilities, comprehensive coursework and practical experiences in all areas of theatre, educational theatre, community cultural development and theatre for youth. The faculty provide students individualized attention and focused mentorship in a challenging and supportive atmosphere designed to educate future leaders in the field.

Students enrolled in the Master of Fine Arts program in theatre for youth complete their course of study equipped to be engaged and innovative leaders in artistry, scholarship, education and activism. Graduates are prepared for careers that include teacher of artistry, directing and education directing; specialist in arts and civic organizations; teacher in elementary, secondary and tertiary education systems; and careers in social profit organizations and in arts entrepreneurship.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

60 credit hours including the required applied project course (THP 693), a written comprehensive exam and an oral comprehensive exam

This is a three-year program. Required core courses are supplemented by elective courses in an emphasis area. The emphasis areas prepare students for careers in professional theatre, as artists or education directors, specialists in arts organizations, or as teachers in elementary or secondary education. An internship with a professional theatre company, school or arts organization and a final applied project complete the program.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor’s degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. current curriculum vitae
4. statement of purpose
5. curated arts portfolio
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

A highly competitive program, this degree accepts only a small number of students each year in order to provide highly individualized attention.

The statement of purpose should clearly explain the applicants aesthetic and educational philosophies and future career goals. After reading the statement, the faculty should understand not only the applicant's current passions but also why the theatre for youth program at ASU would be an appropriate fit to meet the student's educational, practical and scholarly goals. The program accepts thoughtful, well-informed artists, scholars, educators and citizens.

The applicant's portfolio should highlight previous work accomplished. Online portfolios are preferred.

The three letters of recommendation should be from professionals familiar with the applicant's work.
High-ranking applicants are invited to a group interview date, normally scheduled on the first Friday of February.

Applicants should see the program website for application deadlines.

Contact Information

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