

THEATRE ARTS

pcc.edu/programs/theatre/

DESCRIPTION

The PCC Theatre Arts (TA) program offers a wide variety of courses focusing on performance, design and technical theatre skills. Courses are taught primarily at the Sylvania campus, and occasionally at the Rock Creek and the Cascade campuses. The Sylvania-based program produces three main-stage productions per school year. The plays we produce are selected to offer as many opportunities for our diverse community of students to practice hands-on skill building in all areas of theatre production. Our productions vary from works by Shakespeare, Caryl Churchill, Jane Austen, Thornton Wilder, Lucille Fletcher, Jeffrey Hatcher, Euripides, Mary Zimmerman, Tom Stoppard, Noel Coward, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Stan Sakai and Orson Welles, as well our own devised works among other notable dramatists.

The Theatre Arts program is housed in the Sylvania campus' Performing Arts Center (PAC), which houses a state-of-the-art proscenium multi-use theater and facility, which doubles as PCC's most popular rental facility serving 800+ annual events. The skills taught in TA program tech and design classes (and work in productions) train students to qualify for paid work in the PAC's numerous rentals throughout the academic year, often leading to further employment in the greater Portland metro theatre community and unions.

The Sylvania TA program embraces collaboration, equity, diversity and inclusion onstage, offstage, and in the classroom. Our popular productions utilize students in all roles; actors, technicians, crew and designers, all of whom collaborate with professional staff, faculty and guest artists. The TA courses at Sylvania prepare community college students in the arts of fundamentals and intermediate acting; beginning and advanced improvisation; fundamentals and intermediate scenic, costume, lighting, and make-up design; backstage crew positions; stage management and stagecraft.

Our theatre-centered students often go on to obtain professional employment, are active in many areas of semi-professional and professional theatre, or excel with the hands-on skills obtained here when transferring to four-year academic programs.

The Sylvania TA program follows a two-year cycle, including a bi-annual commitment to Classical, a Musical, Diverse Playwrights, and an American Classic. Students are required to take credit courses when involved in TA productions at all levels, and varying credit options are available. Auditions and crew assignments are open to all, where prior experience is also acknowledged with greater responsibility and the possibilities of crew leadership and assistant design when appropriate.

Theatre Arts courses provide a nurturing atmosphere for exploration of this collaborative and compelling art form. The Theatre Arts Club, when active, also produces short works, occasional original works and staged readings. The popular Improvisation classes (and clubs) have performed regularly in the past and has won local acclaim and competitions.

The emerging TA program at the Cascade Campus has a vital relationship with the PCC Multimedia program and supports recorded video production and may include courses in Acting, Improvisation, Theatre Appreciation, Acting for Camera and paves the way to Multimedia courses (Directing Actors for the Camera, Directing for Narrative).