

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. Theatre Arts courses are taught at the Sylvania, Cascade, and Rock Creek campuses. The Sylvania-based program produces three main-stage productions per school year. Our stage productions are selected to offer the widest range of opportunities for our diverse community of students to practice hands-on skill building in all areas of theatre. Our plays vary from works by Shakespeare, Jane Austen, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Thornton Wilder, Lucille Fletcher, Jeffrey Hatcher, Euripides, Mary Zimmerman, Stan Sakai, Tom Stoppard, Noel Coward and Orson Welles, among other notable dramatists, as well as our own devised works.

The Theatre Arts program is based in the Sylvania campus' Performing Arts Center (PAC), boasting 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 are rooted in hands-on production experiences, and train students to qualify for paid work in the PAC's numerous rentals throughout the academic year. These skills are essentially the foundation of a theatre technician's further employment in the Portland theatre community. Our most experienced and accomplished students have been in demand by our local stage unions.

The TA program embraces collaboration 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; acting for the camera, fundamentals and intermediate scenic, costume, lighting, and make-up design; backstage crew positions; stage management and stagecraft.

Our students often go on to obtain professional employment. They 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.

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.

Our popular Improvisation classes (and clubs) have performed regularly in the past and has won local acclaim and competitions.

The TA program at the Cascade Campus has a vital collaboration with PCC's 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).