

Undergraduate Internship Opportunities in Theatre

INTRODUCTION

Professional internship programs are an excellent opportunity to gain career-related work experience, network with professionals in the field, integrate knowledge from coursework into a real-world setting, and help define your career path. In addition, course credit for an internship is one way to fulfill the Experiential Learning requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre.

On the following page is a list of theatre-related internships compiled by the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts. While these represent some well-known companies and established internship programs that you are encouraged to explore, it is not an exhaustive list. When looking over the list, and as you search for other internship opportunities, keep the following in mind:

- Internships have a defined beginning and end, and include supervision by a professional with expertise in the field of the experience.
- Arts internships are often (but not always) unpaid - if you are considering an unpaid internship, you should familiarize yourself with Fair Labor Standards Act guidelines.
- Theaters may adjust the areas of specialization in which they offer internships, so be sure to check their website for the latest information.
- On this handout, the "Production" category includes design-oriented internships.
- Sometimes the words "apprenticeship" or "fellowship" are substituted for "internship." But most commonly, "apprenticeship" or "fellowship" denotes a program of longer time-commitment (sometimes a year or more) that is geared toward recent graduates and young professionals. In other words, if you're graduating soon, apprenticeships or fellowships might be exactly what you're looking for.
- Acting and Directing internships are less common, but don't let this discourage you! Many internships contain elements of acting or directing, or allow you to develop skills that can be hugely beneficial to your acting or directing. Contact Tom Dugdale (dugdale.3) if you have further questions about this.
- Internships do vary in focus and intensity from theater to theater. The most important advice we can offer you is to read the theater's website carefully. If you know someone who has worked with the organization before, ask about their experience. If a contact person is listed for the organization, do not hesitate to reach out!

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INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Organization	Location	Directing Acting	Production	Stage Management	Dramaturgy Lit. Management	Administration Marketing
CATCO	Columbus, OH		X			X
Columbus Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA)	Columbus, OH					X
Shadowbox Live	Columbus, OH		X			X
Short North Stage	Columbus, OH	X	X			X
Cleveland Playhouse	Cleveland, OH	X	X	X		X
Oberlin Summer Theatre Festival	Oberlin, OH		X	X		
Clubbed Thumb	New York, NY					X
NY Theatre Workshop	New York, NY		X		X	X
Playwrights Horizons	New York, NY	X	X	X	X	X
Primary Stages	New York, NY				X	X
Roundabout Theatre	New York, NY					X
Second Stage Theatre	New York, NY		X	X	X	X
Signature Theatre	New York, NY		X		X	X
The Lark	New York, NY				X	X
The Public	New York, NY		X	X	X	X
Woman's Project Theatre	New York, NY				X	X
Adirondack Theatre Festival	Glens Falls, NY		X	X		X
Chautauqua Theatre Company	Chautauqua, NY	X				

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Organization	Location	Directing Acting	Production	Stage Management	Dramaturgy Lit. Management	Administration Marketing
New York Stage and Film (Powerhouse)	Poughkeepsie, NY		X	X		X
Steppenwolf Theatre	Chicago, IL		X		X	X
Time Line Theatre	Chicago, IL		X			X
Guthrie Theatre	Minneapolis, MN					
Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN	X			X	X
La Jolla Playhouse	La Jolla, CA		X	X	X	X
San Francisco Playhouse	San Francisco, CA	X	X	X	X	X
South Coast Rep	Costa Mesa, CA		X		X	
The Old Globe	San Diego, CA			X		X
Baltimore Center Stage	Baltimore, MD		X	X	X	X
Huntington Theatre Company	Boston, MA		X	X	X	X
Actors Theatre of Louisville	Louisville, KY	X	X	X	X	X
Trinity Repertory Company	Providence, RI		X	X		X
Seattle Children's Theatre	Seattle, WA					
Contemporary American Theatre Festival	Shepherdstown, WV		X			X
Shakespeare Theatre Company	Washington, DC	X	X	X	X	X
O'Neill Playwrights Conference	Waterford, CT	X	X	X	X	X
Weston Playhouse	Weston, VT		X	X	X	X
Williamstown Theatre Festival	Williamstown, MA	X	X		X	X

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When do I need to start thinking about internships?

It's never too early to start thinking and planning for opportunities! Application deadlines vary based on the organization and the dates of the internship. Generally, many application deadlines for summer opportunities fall in March. Allow at least two months prior to the application deadline to begin making connections with the organization, request references, and complete the application materials. This means you are most likely identifying possible summer opportunities in the late fall / early winter.

Do I need to be enrolled in the internship course in order to complete an internship?

Generally, student does not need to be enrolled in an internship course at Ohio State in order to take advantage of an internship opportunity. HOWEVER, it is important that you consider the benefits and implications of enrolling in course credit, in order to make the best decision for your unique situation. Do not hesitate to discuss this with an advisor! Some things to consider include the following:

- You must be enrolled in course credit in the term in which your internship takes place in order for the internship to fulfill a degree requirement.
- You are responsible for the tuition costs and fees associated with enrollment in any course at The Ohio State University, including Theatre 4191 Internship in Theatre.
- Some internships may require that the student earn course credit at their institution. Confirm this with the organization offering the internship.
- If you have a continuous enrollment requirement (for financial aid, health insurance, program requirements, etc.) that requires enrollment in the term of your internship, you may need to enroll in an internship course to maintain your status as an active student.
- In addition to Theatre 4191, there are internships in other departments and the College of Arts and Sciences that may be available to you, including zero-credit hour courses.

How do I enroll in Theatre 4191 and earn course credit for an internship?

Set up a meeting with your faculty advisor or contact theatreandfilm@osu.edu to be directed to the Theatre faculty internship advisor to discuss the opportunity. Once we've identified the instructor of record for your course, you will work together to determine the appropriate number of credit hours and check-in points for the internship. The expectations for the course will be outlined in a syllabus prior to the start of the internship. Keep in mind that the university's published deadlines for enrollment will apply.

How do I put together a good application?

First, allow plenty of time to craft a stellar application! The best way to ensure your application is the best it can be is to start early and to ask for feedback from advisors and faculty that you've worked with. Have your resume reviewed and meet with a Career Coach in the ASC Center for Career and Professional Success. In addition, be sure to give your references at least a few weeks' notice to write a letter of recommendation if required for the application.

Are there scholarships or grants available for my experience?

Competitive funding is available at the department, college and university level. Visit theatreandfilm.osu.edu/undergraduate/scholarships-funding for more information about how to apply for internship funding from the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts.

OTHER RESOURCES

[Handshake](http://handshake.osu.edu) (handshake.osu.edu)

[College of Arts and Sciences Center for Career and Professional Success](http://artsandsciences.osu.edu) (artsandsciences.osu.edu)