



CAREERS FOR THEATRE GRADUATES

THEATRE AT UCC

Our graduates are adventurers, disrupting, creating, forging new paths through the world. Theatre is about storytelling, and at UCC it's the student who tells the story. Our students make, invent, critique, and refine new work from the ground up, using all of their senses. They cultivate unique intellectual, vocal, physical, and artistic skills that enable our graduates to go out and make their own distinctive, artistic marks in the world - not just as performers, but as producers, as people who work in social intervention, and as people who re-imagine the future of business, communication and workplace design.



UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Department of Theatre

Roinn na hAmharclannaíochta

WHAT CAN THEATRE GRADUATES OFFER EMPLOYERS?

Our graduates are dynamic self-starters, creative thinkers, and excellent communicators. They speak confidently. They light up the room. They bring cohesion to teams. They are brave. They can lead, they can facilitate, they can collaborate. They are artists, with a practical outlook. They understand relationships. They have deep empathy. In the theatre, and the cultural sphere, our students:

- Go beyond received notions and practices.
- Think creatively and bring new ideas into the room.
- Have excellent knowledge and industry expertise, backed by internships, networks, and placements.
- Have a rigorous, intelligent passion for theatre and performance.



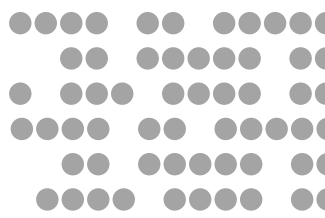
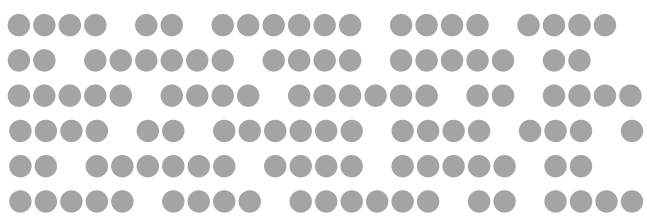
In the wider sphere of work, our students:

- Can think across disciplines.
- Are socially connected and skilled, and experienced in incorporating diversity constructively.
- Are naturally design-led, artistic and creative thinkers, who can lead teams and innovate within workplaces.
- Are superlative communicators and ambassadors.



GRADUATE OUTCOMES FOR THEATRE

From 2015-17, 100% of our graduates were in employment or further study. Some become actors, some establish their own companies, or work in other arts industry roles. Many teach or work in community intervention. Post-graduate study areas include Acting, Directing, Digital Media Design, Occupational Therapy, PR, and many more. Theatre is a portfolio-career field with an exciting range of career path options for graduates.



GRADUATE STUDIES

Our graduates pursue a dynamic range of further study options. The Department of Theatre at UCC offers two Masters programmes, the MA in Theatre & Performative Practices and MA in Arts Management & Creative Producing. We support graduates to apply for study in areas from acting to design, technical theatre training, directing, and devising practices. Graduates also pursue creative writing, professional writing, visual arts, sound and music, and digital arts, and other postgraduate options. Some become researchers. Our graduates understand people and are in demand for further study in business experience design, education, social work, drama and occupational therapy, and similar disciplines.

AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THEATRE GRADUATES




Our graduates work in the arts, media, business and creative industries. Some take up salaried positions, while others freelance or start companies, developing a portfolio of income sources from their range of skills and expertise. Our alumni work in theatre, social intervention, commerce, communications, and expanded artistic practices:

Theatre graduates are skilled theatre professionals and are employed as actors, dramaturgs, directors, production managers, literary managers, technicians, designers, writers and more.

01

Our applied theatre strand gives students workshop-leading experience, leading to jobs in youth theatres, social intervention, applied theatre, and arts outreach services.

02



Local authorities and government agencies employ arts and community intervention specialists to fund, develop, deliver, and assess art funding, services, and projects.

03

Vocal and physical presentation, creative thinking, writing, and editing skills mean theatre graduates are in demand for jobs in media and PR.

04

Creative and group work skills make our graduates excellent employees in the new field of experience design for business. Graduates work in roles solving problems in retail and customer service environments, and collaborating to develop products and services in the experience economy.

05

Festivals, arts centres, and venues in Ireland and abroad, including Cork Opera House, The Everyman Theatre, The Gate and The Abbey Theatre, employ graduates to work in administration, education, sales and technical supervision roles.

06

Many of our graduates are highly entrepreneurial and start their own theatre companies, consultancies, or training programmes for education, business, or communities.

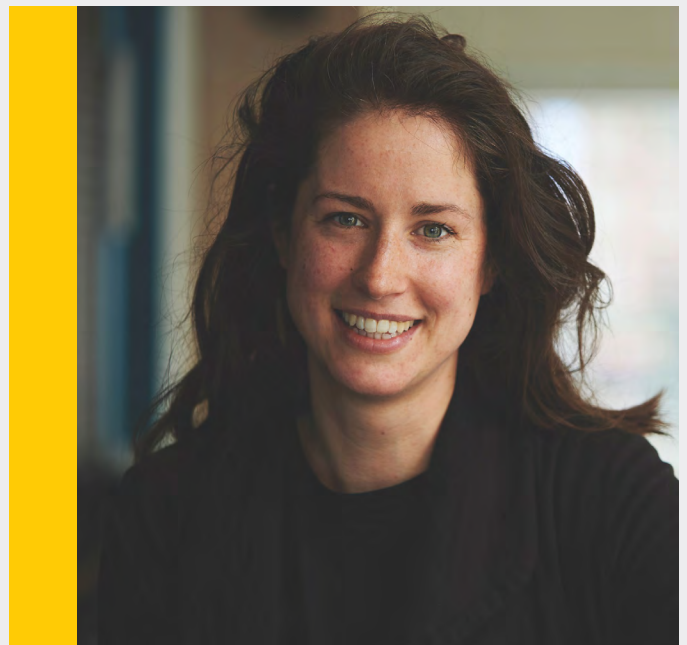
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Graduate Profile 1

CAROLINE BYRNE

I'm a theatre director based in London. I graduated from UCC Department of Theatre in 2005 and moved to London for an MA at Central School of Speech and Drama. My degree at UCC really pushed me out of my comfort zone. We had to make work together under pressure, problem solve and critique. It was daunting at the time but has proved invaluable in my profession. Career highlights include directing Letitia Wright in *Eclipsed* at The Gate Theatre, directing Teresa Deevy's work at The Abbey and directing an all Irish production of the *Taming of the Shrew* at Shakespeare's Globe. In 2020, I'll direct Ruth Negga in her *Young Vic* debut.



Graduate Profile 2

LOCHLAINN MCKENNA

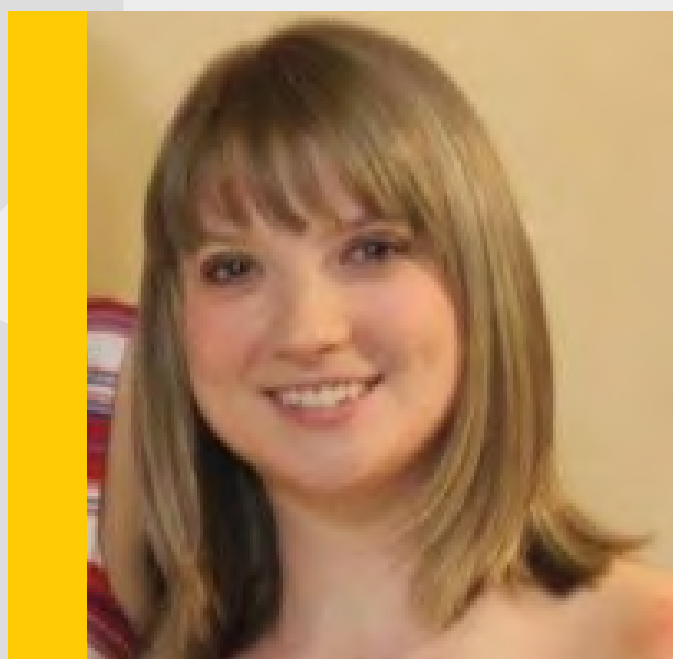
I graduated from UCC with a BA in Drama and Theatre Studies, and went straight into acting. I acted professionally for Druid Theatre Company, and starred in a short film and a HSE ad campaign. Between auditions, I started working for the Irish film and video production company StormLight. My first music videos won awards, which led to more commercial work. Now, I work as a music video and TV commercial director. I directed the video for Westlife's single *Better Man*, written by Ed Sheeran, in 2019. It has now clocked up more than 14 million views on YouTube.



Graduate Profile 3

REBECCA MURPHY

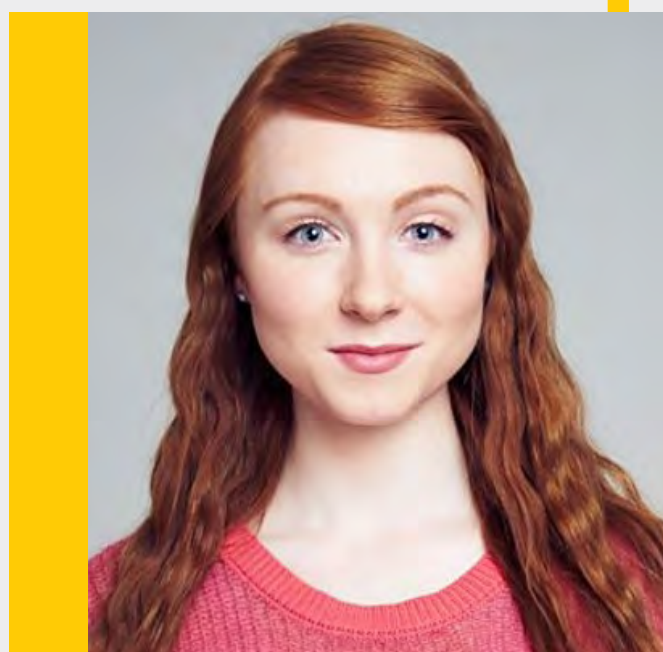
I am the Education and Training Co-ordinator at Jigsaw, the National Centre for Youth Mental Health. After my degree in Drama and Theatre Studies I completed an MA in Public Health Education and Promotion, also at UCC. My presentation skills, the sense of fun I bring to my work, my ability to work with people and to pull programmes and workshops together are all skills I learned during my undergraduate degree. Dr Roisin O' Gorman introduced me to feminist theory and really challenged us to look at things from a different perspective - an approach I still try to practice to this day.



Graduate Profile 4

MICHELLE FOX

I'm an actor. I graduated from Drama & Theatre Studies in UCC in 2013 and went on to Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. I always knew I wanted to act. My degree at UCC and my heavy involvement in Dramat (drama society) helped me gain confidence that it was a profession worth pursuing. I learnt such a lot, from basic skills on diction and use of language, to performance styles and how to command an audience. My first television appearance was on the BBC's Overshadowed. I now have a longer running stint as a doctor on Casualty. Don't be scared to do a degree in drama! If it's your passion, you won't be happy doing anything else.



WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

**UCC
DEPARTMENT
OF THEATRE**



TWITTER



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



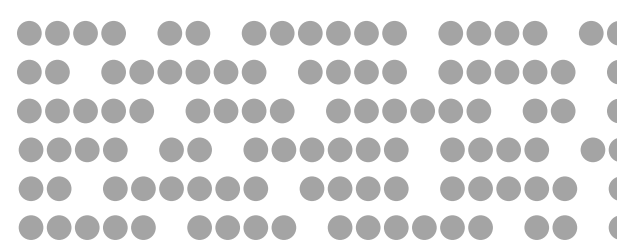
UCC SCHOOL OF FILM, MUSIC AND THEATRE



THEATRE FORUM



CREATIVE CAREERS



THE STAGE (UK)



**IRISH THEATRE
INSTITUTE**



**ARTS
MANAGEMENT
IRELAND**



**YOUTH
THEATRE
IRELAND**



12 WAYS TO PUT YOUR THEATRE DEGREE TO WORK

01

Explore the world of theatre as much as you can. Go to shows. Attend festivals. Learn what's happening in Cork and in the country.

02

Develop a taste for the kind of theatre you like most. Learn what makes you tick. Hang out at arts venues and talk about it.

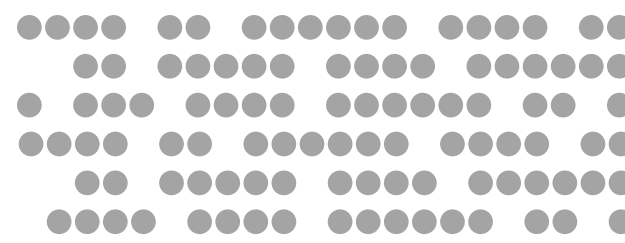
03

Gain relevant skills and experience through the "UCC Works" award.

04

Go to see other kinds of work too - visual art exhibitions, music concerts. The arts all cross disciplines these days - it's always useful to have connections to other fields.





05

Choose an internship during your degree. Make connections that matter. It's all about meeting people.

06

Work on your writing as hard as you work on your performance skills. All employers - even casting directors - need good writers today!

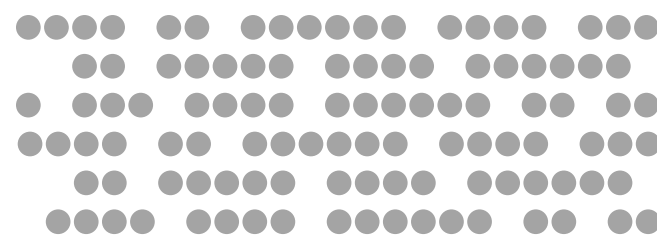
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Watch other student shows.

08

Take advantage of international opportunities. Employers see international connections as a sign you're independent and adventurous.





09

Volunteer at a local venue or festival to understand how theatre works.

10

Watch the Theatre Forum website for new developments and opportunities.

11

Experiment. Use your creativity.

12

Develop a fantastic-looking, trustworthy CV and show off your transferable skills.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are 60 Youth
Theatres in Ireland
delivering 4000 hours of
theatre activity per year.



CONTACT US



**UCC Career Services,
3 Brighton Villas,
Western Road, UCC**



**021 4902500
021 4903202**



Email Careers



**Email Graduate
Recruitment**



**Book an
appointment
to meet a
careers advisor**



**Work
Placement**





UCC Works Award Programme



**Connect with
your job**

UCC Careers



MyStudentJob



Employability Events

**Careers Fairs, Roadshows,
Employer Presentations**



Volunteering Opportunities

