New Student Welcome for Theatre Majors & Minors   
**AY 2020-2021**

**“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”   
- Aristotle**

# Crews & Auditions

## ****Stage and Costume Run Crews****

There are a few ways you can get involved in the Theatre & Dance Department in your first semester. The first way is to sign up for a stage or costume run crew. These are generally 3-week commitments for a particular show. You may sign up during the first week of classes with Connie Lane for stage ([connie.lane@colorado.edu](mailto:connie.lane@colorado.edu)) or Ted Stark for costumes ([theodore.stark@colorado.edu](mailto:theodore.stark@colorado.edu)). You can also email them prior to the start of the semester.

## ****Auditions for Season and Directing Scenes****

The next way to get involved is to audition for the season shows or directing scenes for the directing course. Auditions for directing scenes are announced through the theatre listserv (see Communications, below). Subscribe ASAP to stay informed!

Typically, season show auditions are held before the start of fall and spring semesters to cast all theatre season productions. Auditions are open to any currently enrolled CU Boulder student. Due to COVID-19 impacts on campus the season is still under construction and audition announcements will be made soon.

**Tips for audition monologues:**

* Choose a character in your age range
* Avoid dialects, accents, sitting in a chair (we need to see you move)
* Resis talking to an imaginary character who is sitting in a chair
* Choose a monologue from a play, not from a film or one you have written

Monologue and/or singing requirements will be specific for each audition. Check the requirements posted online when signing up for a slot. Detailed audition information and updates can be found on the [Theatre Auditions webpage](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/theatre/theatre-auditions).

# Getting Involved

## ****CU Onstage****

CU Onstage is a dynamic student performing arts group. Its goals are to create opportunities that are otherwise not available to students, to emphasize both process and product-oriented works, and to foster an accessible, inspiring, and diverse performing arts community on campus. Funds are used for facility and design costs for student performances, guest artists and workshops, and producing the annual Fringe Festival in April. Email [cuonstage@gmail.com](mailto:cuonstage@gmail.com) for more info!

## ****Performers Without Borders (PWB)****

Performers Without Borders (PWB) is a student group housed in the Theatre & Dance Department that is open to all CU students interesting in using performance to illuminate social issues and ignite positive social change. PWB traveled to the Navajo Nation to perform an original shadow puppet/live-action musical entitled *Clean Energy Access: The Musical* and also performed this at the Performing the World conference in New York City at the Castillo Theatre on 42nd Street.

PWB hosts monthly theatre games at the local mental health clubhouse and welcomes anyone to drop in and participate. PWB presents workshops on the use of applied theatre to enhance community participation for the CU student chapter of Engineers Without Borders and is working to strengthen its partnership with them so students could collaborate on their projects in Rwanda, Nepal or Peru. In the past Performers Without Borders has also organized the first professional 3-day long playwriting workshop and an evening of spontaneous collaborative performance making on campus. Email [cupwb@colorado.edu](mailto:cupwb@colorado.edu) for more info!

**CU Playback Ensemble & Critical Conversations Project**

CU’s Playback Ensemble, made up of faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students from several different departments, performs for a wide array of campus and community events. The Ensemble also runs the [Critical Conversations Project,](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/community-engagement/cu-playback-ensemble-critical-conversations-project) which uses Playback Theatre to facilitate conversations in areas of rural Colorado that are experiencing rapid and destabilizing change (social, economic or environmental). Email [thdnoutreach@colorado.edu](mailto:thdnoutreach@colorado.edu) for more info!

For additional opportunities, please check out [our Community Engagement webpages.](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/community-engagement)

# BFA Concentrations

If you are interested in learning more about our BFA degree programs, please read the information on our website and reach out to the following faculty:

**BFA in Acting**

* Associate Professor Chip Persons, [chip.persons@colorado.edu](mailto:chip.persons@colorado.edu)
* Auditions typically happen during your second semester

**BFA in Design, Technology, & Management**

* Senior Instructor Ted Stark, [theodore.stark@colorado.edu](mailto:theodore.stark@colorado.edu)
* Interviews typically happen during your first or second semester

**BFA in Musical Theatre**

* Professor Bud Coleman, [bud.coleman@colorado.edu](mailto:bud.coleman@colorado.edu)
* Auditions typically happen in the senior year of high school simultaneously with CU Admissions, but students may also audition during the first semester

# Communications

## ****Faculty Mentors****

All theatre majors are paired with a faculty mentor upon arrival to the department. Faculty mentors are in place to help students answer any questions that come up along the way, in or out of the department, and on or off campus. When a mentor can’t answer a questions they will connect their mentees with resources that can.

## ****Listservs****

[Email listservs](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/theatre/theatre-listservs) are the department’s main method of communication. We **highly recommend** all undergraduate majors and minors subscribe to be in the loop about important updates, event notices, and opportunities.   
To subscribe to the undergraduate theatre email list:

* Address a message from your preferred email to [sympa@lists.colorado.edu](mailto:sympa@lists.colorado.edu)
* Leave the subject line blank
* In the body of the message type: **Subscribe theatre first name last name**
  + For example: subscribe theatre John Doe

To send a message request to the undergraduate list:

* Compose your message to subscribers and include a descriptive subject line
* Address and send your message to [theatre@lists.colorado.edu](mailto:theatre@lists.colorado.edu)
* Once you send the email it will go to an administrator for moderation
* Allow at least one business day for the message to be sent out if it’s approved

## ****Undergraduate Theatre Resources****

A section of the THDN website is dedicated to providing information and resources specifically to undergraduate theatre students. [Click here to access.](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/theatre/undergraduate-theatre-resources)

## ****Department & Campus Resources****

[Click here for another online list](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/resources/current-student-resources) of resources for current students; there are links to the Office of the Registrar, the Office of Financial Aid, the Office of Information Technology, Health & Wellness services, and more.

# Main Office Support

The Theatre & Dance Main Office will have modified office hours due to impacts of COVID-19. This schedule will be posted on our website soon. You can reach the Administrative Assistant, Ciera Barrow, for general questions by one of the following methods:

* Messaging or calling through [MS Teams](https://oit.colorado.edu/services/messaging-collaboration/microsoft-office-365/help/teamsv) (user ciba9892)
* Emailing [ciera.barrow@colorado.edu](mailto:ciera.barrow@colorado.edu)
* Calling 303-492-7355

# Enrollment & Advising

Part of our adaptation to working remotely is providing online tools to students and instructors for enrollment needs, including departmentally controlled\* courses, independent study and practicums, and internships. Please [click here to access instructions](https://www.colorado.edu/theatredance/enrollment) on our website!

\*Typically, classes with an 800-section number (801, 802, etc.) require department consent to enroll. Please email the listed instructor for permission.

For questions regarding class scheduling, registration, and degree audits please contact the appropriate advisor:  
Dance majors: Jessica Baron, [Jessica.baron@colorado.edu](mailto:Jessica.baron@colorado.edu)  
Dance minor: Greer Mckeown, [greer.mckeown@colorado.edu](mailto:greer.mckeown@colorado.edu)

# Theatre Program Meeting

Contact Ted Stark at [theodore.stark@colorado.edu](mailto:theodore.stark@colorado.edu) for the meeting day and time (this will also be sent out on the theatre listserv). Typically, this meeting is held on the first Friday of classes at noon.

# covid-19 impacts

* Building access: by Buff OneCard only
* Follow flow patterns, queues, and other signage posted throughout the building
* Remember to take the daily health questionnaire when you come to campus
* Changing rooms: TBD
* Plan to meet with instructors during office hours remotely
  + If in-person is necessary, mask and distancing policies apply
  + Ideally in-person meetings will be held outdoors