It's love.
Not a lark.
TALENT IS A STARTING POINT. TRAINING AND HARD WORK TRANSFORM TALENT.

Ranked among the best drama schools in the world, ours is an immersive experience that prepares talented young artists for successful careers on stage and online and in film and television.

You’ll learn from an outstanding faculty as well as acclaimed guest artists. And, you’ll perform – constantly. You’ll become a technically skilled, creatively inspired artist, ready to turn passion into a successful professional career.

CONCENTRATIONS
Acting
Directing

SPECIFIC TRAINING
Accents and Dialects
Acting
Alexander Technique
Audition Techniques
Combat, Armed & Unarmed
Dance (Ballroom, Modern, Tap and Jazz)
Directing
Film Study
Improvisation
Mask
Meisner Technique
Movement
On-Camera
Physical Comedy
Shakespeare Text
Singing/Musical Theatre
Stanislavski Technique
Voice & Speech
While we work on their acting, body, and voice, we rely on our liberal arts division to provide a backbone of theatrical knowledge and history to supplement our work.

Quin Gordon – Faculty, School of Drama

ACTING DEMANDS AN EDUCATION OF BOTH MIND AND BODY.

A CONSERVATORY EXPERIENCE
The School of Drama provides rigorous conservatory training, where you’ll focus daily on honing your craft. Through intensive production work, coupled with challenging courses, you’ll learn the classical values of acting while developing your unique creative talent.

A COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM
Along with required classes in voice, movement and acting, you’ll train in masks, dialects, stage combat, physical comedy, singing, musical theatre, dance and improvisation. You’ll continue to develop these highly marketable skills throughout your time at UNCFA.

EDUCATING THE WHOLE ARTIST
Our comprehensive liberal arts college curriculum and high school academic program provide a broad education, producing well-rounded artists who think critically, creatively and collaboratively.
A CAMPUS CULTURE UNLIKE ANY IN THE COUNTRY

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts is composed of five conservatories – Drama, Design & Production, Dance, Filmmaking, and Music. As a result, you’ll find artistic passion and inspiration all around you. You will learn by doing. And every day, your fellow artists will help bring out your very best.

ARTISTIC COLLABORATION

Working in an interdisciplinary environment of dancers, filmmakers, musicians, designers and technicians, you’ll learn to effectively collaborate as a professional. Drama students work regularly with Design & Production students, and filled more than 80 roles in student films over the past two years.

"I expected to be able to immerse myself in acting at UNCSA – and I have. What surprised me was the depth of the professional experience I’ve gained. I’ve been in front of the camera in student films, in front of audiences on stage, and behind the scenes with Design & Production. You just don’t get those opportunities at other schools!"

Margaret Gayford – Student, Drama
PERFORMING TAKES CENTER STAGE

At the School of Drama, productions are our most important practicums. You’ll continually perform in both small workshops and major productions, receiving broad experience in works across the classical and contemporary repertory.

PROFESSIONAL FACILITIES

Performance Place is the primary training facility for the School of Drama, housing a 380-seat proscenium thrust theatre, 100- and 200-seat arena theatres, and a black box theatre. The school also offers a drama gym and movement studio. The Stevens Center, a 1,380-seat, magnificently restored neoclassical theatre located in downtown Winston-Salem, serves as a major performance venue for musical theatre productions.

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

This innovative program is an opportunity for fourth-year actors and directors to stretch their entrepreneurial wings by presenting their independent work alongside the school’s major productions.

The Hollywood Reporter ranks UNCSA #5 for best undergraduate drama schools in the world.
They’ve been there… And they’ll help you do that.

Our faculty is comprised of professional artists who bring years of firsthand industry experience—having worked and performed everywhere from Broadway stages to feature films and television. You’ll have the opportunity to work one-on-one with these exceptional mentors, as well as with professional guest artists, including award-winning UNCSA alumni.

Visiting Artists

Notable guest artists and industry professionals from the worlds of theatre, film and television often visit our campus to advise and work with our students. A recent sampling of eminent guests include:

Alumni (Master Classes)
- Dane DeHaan
- Peter Hedges
- Joe Mantello
- Mary-Louise Parker
- Missi Pyle
- Anna Wood

Directors
- José Aranda
- Jesse Berger
- Laura Braza
- Timothy Douglas
- Dan顿
- Gus Kaikkonen
- John Lansing*
- Terence Mann*
- Kent Stephani
- Gaye Taylor Upchurch*
- Nicole Watson

Casting Directors
- James Calleri
- Tiffany Little Canfield*
- Alison Estrin
- Alan Filderman
- Stephanie Klapper
- Bob Mason
- Mark Saks
- Merri Sugarman

Agents
- Samantha Chalk (Gersh)
- Richard Fisher (Abrams)
- Nancy Harden (Harden/Curtis)
- Chris Highland (UTA)
- Danielle Ippolito (Talentworks)
- Mark Redanty (BRS/Gage)
- Mark Schlegel (Cornerstone)

* alumnus/alumna

“You don’t have to go to New York or LA to train with the best. Our world-class faculty has made a conscious choice to be in Winston-Salem because they are committed to our students and to this style of teaching. They will work with you closely to develop your skills and provide opportunities for you to stretch them.”

Carl Forsman – Faculty, School of Drama
OUR ALUMNI INCLUDE:

DYLAN ARNOLD
When We Rise (ABC miniseries)

ERICH BERGEN
“Bob Gaudio” in Jersey Boys (film and national tour), Madam Secretary (CBS)

ANNA CAMP
Pitch Perfect, Good Girls (NBC), The Help

DANE DEHAAN
The Amazing Spider-Man 2, Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets

GUS HALPER
Sundance debut in Goat (opposite Nick Jonas and James Franco)

LUCAS HEDGES
Academy Award nominee for Manchester by the Sea, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri (opposite Frances McDormand and Woody Harrelson) and Lady Bird (opposite Laurie Metcalf and Tracy Letts)

ELIZABETH LAIL
Once Upon a Time (ABC), Dead of Summer (Freeform)

TYLER LEA
Broadway’s Tony Award-winning The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

JOE MANTHELLO
Tony and Obie Award-winning Director, Emmy-nominated Actor. Broadway productions of Wicked, The Humans, Take Me Out and Assassins

MARY-LOUISE PARKER
Golden Globe, Emmy and Tony Award-winning actress. Fried Green Tomatoes, Bed, Head, and Weeds (Showtime). Angels in America (HD)

CHRIS PARNELL
Saturday Night Live and 30 Rock (NBC)

MISSY PYLE
The Artist, Gone Girl, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

J.T. ROGERS
Tony and Obie Award-winning playwright of Oslo, alsoBlood and Gifts, The Overwhelming, and Madagascar

JOE MANTELLO
Tony and Obie Award-winning Director, Emmy-nominated Actor. Broadway productions of Wicked, The Humans, Take Me Out and Assassins

ALLAN K. WASHINGTON
Broadway debut in The Spongebob Musical

MEGAN WEST
How To Get Away with Murder (ABC)

ANNA WOOD
The Good Wife, Madam Secretary and Reckless (CBS), Mad Men (AMC), The Following (Fox)

MARY-LOUISE PARKER
Golden Globe, Emmy and Tony Award-winning actress. Fried Green Tomatoes, Bed, Head, and Weeds (Showtime). Angels in America (HD)

ANGUS MACLACHLAN
Screenwriter of Junebug, Stone, and screenwriter/director of Goodbye to All That starring Paul Schneider and Anna Camp

JOHN ROYAL
The Book of Mormon (Broadway)

BRETT SINGER
Premieres at Sundance Film Festival, including “Sing Me the Songs That Say What I Feel” (opposite Kate McKinnon and Tim Robinson)

MARIE-SOLANGE TOUCHET
The Colby Project (CBS), Ghost (CBS)

JOHN WAGNER
Broadway debut in The Producers

CASSIE WASSINK
Broadway debut in The Book of Mormon

YOUNG WANG
Broadway debut in The Humans

YOU’LL BE READY TO KICK THE DOOR OPEN.

In the spring, graduating seniors visit Los Angeles and New York to present a showcase for agents, casting directors, and producers from all branches of theatre, film, and television. In the past two years, our showcase has resulted in more than 30 actors signing with top agents and many others securing their first jobs right out of school.

“On the day I graduate I’ll be ready to show what I’ve got...not only to perform the work of others, but to create my own work. I have a unique voice, and I’m ready to tell my story.”

Carl Bryant – Student, Drama

SENIOR SHOWCASE

MARQUEE SUCCESS

Professionals in the fields of theatre, film and television recognize and respect the rigorous and comprehensive training of UNCSA School of Drama students. Our graduates enter the profession in a wide variety of roles on- and off-Broadway, in regional theatres, television and film.
WINSTON-SALEM: A FOCUS ON THE ARTS

Known as the City of Arts and Innovation, Winston-Salem is a flourishing arts community – and the ideal conservatory location. Free from the high cost of living and stresses of a large metropolitan center, our artists are able to focus and immerse in their art. In a city like New York, you may see a lot of work. At UNCSA, we’re creating it.

AFFORDABLE QUALITY

UNCSA offers a wealth of opportunities at an unmatched value. As one of the 17 campuses of the University of North Carolina, our tuition is a fraction of that of private arts schools.

GREAT RETURNS

Money Magazine reported that recent UNCSA graduates earn approximately 22 percent more than their counterparts at other schools with a similar focus on the arts.

VISIT UNCSA

To appreciate the UNCSA conservatory experience and our unique artist community, you need to see them firsthand. Get started by visiting our website: uncsa.edu. Then schedule your visit to campus.

APPLY & AUDITION

Because we are an arts conservatory, we conduct in-person auditions and interviews with all of our applicants.

Audition Locations

Learn more about audition schedules and the application process at uncsa.edu/apply or call (336) 770-3290.

ABOUT UNCSA

STUDENTS
263 High school
907 Undergraduate
133 Graduate

FACULTY
141 Full-time
76 Visiting/adjunct
+ Numerous guest artists

RATIO
9 to 1 Student to faculty

FACILITIES
11 Performance and screening venues

PERFORMANCES
300+ Public performances and screenings annually
cow for five beans," his mother fumed. Then, at the height of her exasperation, she threw the five beans out of the window and sent Jack to bed. Jack had no dinner. The next morning, when he stepped out of bed, Jack found an amazing thing. As he stood in front of the house gate, he knew that he was ready to go on the great adventure.