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SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Dance
Design & Production
Drama
Filmmaking
Music

It's heart.
Not a hobby.
It’s work. Not a whim.
It’s grit. Not a given.

IN 1963, UNCSA WAS FOUNDED AS AMERICA’S FIRST PUBLIC CONSERVATORY.

Five dynamic arts schools on a single campus create a unique community and a one-of-a-kind experience. In the company of fellow artists, you’ll feel at home from the very start.

Within this inspiration-filled environment, you’ll learn from professionals and collaborate with fellow student-artists. And, you will thrive in Winston-Salem, NC, a historic Southern city rich in the arts.

Come to UNCSA and pursue your passion. Find your voice. Grow into the successful, professional artist you hope to become.
YOU WILL FOCUS, WORK AND EVOLVE AS A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST.

A CONSERVATORY EXPERIENCE
You’ll intensely and rigorously pursue your art. Our classes are small. Our work is professional-caliber. Here, your talent will be nurtured. Your goals will be understood. And every day, your fellow artists will challenge, encourage, and push you to achieve more.

RENNOWNED FACULTY
UNCSA faculty are accomplished artists who serve as dedicated mentors. You’ll work closely with these experienced professionals, benefiting from their significant knowledge as well as their many industry connections.

ARTISTIC COLLABORATION
Working in an interdisciplinary environment of dancers, actors, filmmakers, musicians and designers, you’ll learn to collaborate as a professional – a critical skill you’ll carry into your career.

“‘It’s a very inspiring place. Everyone has a similar goal and is committed to it. I feel like I’m among my people and we understand each other.’

Chessa Metz – Senior, School of Drama

Students, faculty, and alumni of UNCSA’s School of Design & Production helped create a themed experience for the annual White House Halloween party.
EDUCATING THE WHOLE ARTIST

UNCSA provides a balance of intensive arts training with rigorous academic programs. Our comprehensive liberal arts college curriculum and high school academic program are taught by distinguished faculty, many of whom are artists themselves. This approach ensures that you will graduate not only as a trained artist, but also as a well-rounded citizen who thinks critically, creatively, and collaboratively.

“Both in their arts training and their liberal arts classes, our students think on their feet, collaborate with others and execute projects on a timeline. They are motivated. They are doers.”

Dean Wilcox – Dean, Division of Liberal Arts

EXPERIENCE: THE GREAT TEACHER

To learn your craft, you must practice your craft. At UNCSA, there are more than 300 public performances, recitals and screenings each year, as students take center stage with peers, faculty and guest artists.

WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES

Our state-of-the-art theatres, concert halls, shops, studios, sound stages and editing suites are comparable to the best in the industry.
“I enjoy empowering dancers – teaching them the skills to move with clarity, musicality, and refinement – helping them discover their unique expression and full potential.”

Susan Jaffe – Dean, School of Dance

The School of Dance is an intensive program focused on preparing talented young dancers for careers in professional companies and productions around the world. Students concentrate in classical ballet or contemporary dance, yet cross-train in both disciplines. Dancers work closely with world-class faculty, guest artists and choreographers.

With four major productions each year as well as a range of workshops and interdisciplinary collaborations, our dancers perform a diverse, challenging repertory – from classical to the cutting-edge.

UNCESA is the exclusive educational affiliate of the American Ballet Theatre.
SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION

UNCSA’s theatre design and tech programs are ranked #7 in the United States by OnStage.

HIGH SCHOOL UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

Costume Design
Costume Technology
Lighting
Production and Project Management (Fall 2018)
Scene Design
Scene Painting
Scenic Art
Scenic Technology
Sound Design
Stage Automation
Stage Management
Stage Properties
Technical Direction
Visual Arts
Wig & Makeup Design

"We have a job fair every year where more than 50 companies come to campus to recruit and literally compete for our graduates. There will be opportunities when you graduate. They’ll find you!"

Michael Kelley – Dean, School of Design & Production

OUR STUDENTS ARE HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER: MORE THAN 95% HAVE A JOB LINED UP WHEN THEY GRADUATE.

The School of Design & Production is the only stand-alone conservatory of its kind and one of the top programs in the world. Unlike other schools that incorporate design and production within a theatre studies program, our conservatory is independent and able to quickly adapt to advances in the industry.

Our students are involved in designing, mounting, and producing several fully-staged dance productions, plays, musicals, operas, and films each year. This volume of work and interdisciplinary exposure is unmatched anywhere in the country.
Acting

"Our intensive studies in voice, speech, singing, dancing, combat, movement, Shakespeare, mask, and clown, coupled with a demanding production program, push our students to discover all they are capable of."

Carl Forsman – Faculty, School of Drama

STUDENTS PERFORM CONSTANTLY, IN MAJOR PRODUCTIONS, STAGED WORKSHOPS AND STUDENT FILMS.

With concentrations in acting and directing, our School of Drama offers a rigorous conservatory training grounded in classical values and technical skills that prepare students for careers on stage and on screen. Experience in genres from comedy to musical theatre shape versatile, captivating actors that are in-demand today.

Our Keys to the Kingdom program offers students the chance to develop their own work and explore creative entrepreneurship, while our New York and Los Angeles showcases provide students invaluable exposure to industry professionals.

Working with other disciplines – design & production, filmmaking, music, and dance – our students benefit from developing skills and knowledge of other artistic disciplines.

The Hollywood Reporter ranks UNCSA #5 for best undergraduate drama schools in the world.
The School of Filmmaking trains talented individuals for careers in the film and television industries. Starting day one, our students are exposed to every aspect of filmmaking and receive hands-on training in facilities that exceed most professional standards.

Working with accomplished faculty, our students learn to become consummate filmmakers: storytellers who are skilled in all components of the cinematic arts and new media.

An annual trip to Los Angeles gives seniors access to leaders in film and television, culminating in a screening of their thesis films for industry professionals.

“In any situation, our graduates offer something of significance – not merely technical skills, but also intellect, passion, and the ability to tell a story well.”

Susan Ruskin – Dean, School of Filmmaking

UNCSA PROVIDES FULL FUNDING FOR ALL STUDENT FILMS.
A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute
Chrysalis Chamber Music Institute
Brass
Collaborative Piano
Composition
Guitar
Harp
Orchestral Conducting
Organ
Percussion
Piano
Strings
Voice
Woodwinds

The Hollywood Reporter ranks UNCSA #5 for music schools in the United States.

HIGHSCHOOL UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

“Our Music faculty are extremely invested in each student, going above and beyond not just in their teaching, but in their mentoring and support.”

Brian Cole – Dean, School of Music

The School of Music offers a highly individualized program to prepare talented students for professional careers in music. Time in the studio with your major teacher is enhanced by visits from notable guest artists and classroom training across a wide range of musical genres. Each year, UNCSA musicians perform in more than 200 recitals, concerts and operas in a variety of venues, often collaborating with artists from other UNCSA conservatories. This performance experience, combined with career development opportunities and studies in music theory, literature and style, provide a comprehensive set of skills to help young musicians grow as artists and professionals.

WE OFFER INTENSIVE, ONE-ON-ONE PRIVATE INSTRUCTION WITH ARTIST MENTORS COMPLEMENTED BY UNMATCHED PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES.

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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

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: uncса.edu
Then schedule your visit to campus.

APPLY & AUDITION
Learn more about audition schedules, locations and the application process at: uncса.edu/apply or call: (336) 770-3290.