

*Roanoke College*  
*Department of Fine Arts*  
*Degree in Theatre Arts*  
 Career Advising Guide

Following are some of the jobs typically open to Roanoke College graduates with a major or minor in theatre. The list is by no means exhaustive, so think of it as a starting point—a source of ideas from which you can branch out and discover some of the things that you would most enjoy doing. Why you chose theatre as your field is as important as the degree itself. Equally important are the non-academic experiences and skills you acquire outside the classroom—part-time or summer jobs, volunteer work, special training, extracurricular activities. If you have questions about any of the occupational fields or need other information, talk to a faculty member in the Department of Fine Arts or a staff member in the Office of Career Services.

GENERAL OCCUPATION FIELD	SAMPLE JOB TITLES	EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
Performing Arts	Actor, director, playwright, set designer, lighting design, costume design, technical director	Limited openings; keen competition	Typically must have extensive experience in performance and evidence of outstanding ability. In most instances, as advanced degree of or further training is expected. Adaptability (ability to sing, dance, and other performance-like skills) is crucial.
Arts Administration	Arts administrator, artistic director, performing arts center coordinator/director	Moderate openings; pay at entry level is not outstanding	Business courses, strong communication skills (written and oral), thorough grounding in all aspects of theatre production as well as other performing arts, particularly music.
Teaching	Secondary or elementary school teacher, college professor	Limited openings; stiff competition	For secondary or elementary teaching, must meet state certification requirements (unless at private school). For college teaching, typically must have master's or doctorate degree plus experience and exceptional skill. Helpful to have done extensive performing.
Theatre applied in social services	Arts therapist, activities director (such as at nursing home, hospital, or children's home)	Moderate openings	Jobs in art therapy frequently require certification. For other positions, typically must have courses in sociology, psychology, and possibly recreation and art. Useful to have paid or volunteer work in service capacities. Multiple talents in music, art, crafts and recreation are helpful

Bachelor of Arts: Theatre Arts  
Minors: Dramaturgy, Performance, Design

For additional information, contact:  
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