

International Theatre Program

► The International Theatre Program has great depth and diversity and builds on the passion for excellence for which the University of Rochester is known. Here students can have exceptional hands-on theatrical experiences while pursuing academic activities in the social and natural sciences or in other areas of the humanities.

As part of the Department of English, the program stages four cutting-edge productions every year, directed and designed by professionals of international standing and reputation. These include American artists as well as those from Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Russia, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. Smaller productions and workshops offer additional opportunities for public performance. With each production, Todd Theater comes to life with performances that never fail to enrich, engage, and entertain. Productions have toured internationally and been invited to the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

“No other university can offer what we offer at this level: a rigorous academic experience enhanced by an unparalleled theatrical program. For students who have a passion for theater and love of learning irrespective of major, they can come to Rochester and do it all.”

—Nigel Maister, Russell and Ruth Peck Artistic Director,
International Theatre Program

Rochester’s student actors, backstage crews, and technicians thrive with the one-of-a-kind experiences they get here. And, even better, they get academic credit, with much of the context framed through rigorous, credit-bearing academic courses. Along the way, theater teaches students about discipline, confidence, creativity, collaboration, presentation skills, goal setting, time management, and teamwork. These skills will serve them well regardless of their career paths. Graduates have gone on to professional careers in the theater and performing arts as well as into almost every other professional sphere of life.

Points of Pride

Enhanced Student Life

The University’s theater programs feature performances not only by, but also for, the student body. Theatrical productions—along with those in music and dance—serve as great introductions to the performing arts and provide entertainment and enrichment for the entire campus community.

A Full Repertoire

Established in 1990, the International Theatre Program has produced more than 85 dramas and musicals, including nine world premieres and numerous national and Rochester-area premieres.



“The International Theatre Program has taught me how important it is to take risks and trust yourself, to have an open mind and a big imagination, and to work together and always rise to the occasion. The experience here has been so profound. Because of it, I know I will be doing theater forever.”

Devin Goodman '15

English major with a concentration in theater



Making a Difference

The Sloan Fund for Enrichment of Campus Life: In 2009, University Trustee Tom Sloan '65, '67 (MS) and his wife, Linda Sloan '67, made a significant gift focused on improving campus life through theater and the performing arts. In 2013, their support enabled enhancements to Todd Union, including the construction of a rehearsal studio and upgrades to the public space.

Diverse Student Body

Those who participate in theater represent nearly every academic major and reflect the diversity of the student body. Participating in theater provides a creative outlet within an intense academic environment.

Acclaimed Productions and Artists

The program has commissioned new work from Obie Award-winning playwrights. Work originally

developed at Rochester has been seen around the world. Guest artists have included directors, designers, and playwrights working on and off Broadway and include Pulitzer Prize nominees and Tony and Lortel Award winners. In 2013, the program produced the U.S. premiere of acclaimed French playwright-director Joël Pommerat's version of *Cinderella*.

How Your Gift Can Help

Gifts to the International Theatre Program help nurture and develop students who have a passion for the arts, performance, and theatrical expression and who strive for excellence in all they do. Consider any of the following funding opportunities:

- Sponsor guest artists, directors, and students
- Commission a new work
- Fund a theater prize
- Fund a student summer internship
- Underwrite a production or a season of productions
- Support capital improvement efforts, including those for a new theater and/or to upgrade Todd Theater
- Contribute general funds to support equipment, set design, and staffing needs

Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—And Make the World Ever Better

www.rochester.edu/theater