

Career options: Theatre

A Theatre or Drama degree at Griffith provides graduates with knowledge and skills within the broad theatre arts field. The degree aims to develop articulate practitioners who are capable of applying theatre in a variety of fields including the arts and entertainment industries and also in a range of other settings. Graduates will be skilled in:

- arts and leisure management
- arts and leisure policy development
- audience management
- community education
- performance management
- theatre and screen production and associated skills, such as performing and directing
- youth and community leadership

In addition to knowledge and skills directly related to your program of study, you have also developed a range of other skills (e.g. teamwork, analytical, communication) through academic study, employment, voluntary work, sporting activities and life experience. These are often referred to as transferable skills because they can be utilised in different environments. Recognising the value employers place on these skills is an important factor in your graduate job search.

Occupations and industries

Theatre graduates find employment with:

State and Local Theatre Companies	Commercial Film Studios
Television Broadcasters	Film Festival Organisations
Film and TV Production Companies	Casting agencies
Arts and Leisure Funding Bodies	Advertising
Community Arts Centres	State & Federal government departments
Performing arts organizations	Local Councils
Schools & universities	

Positions and employers

It is important to note that employers often do not specify a particular major or specialisation when recruiting. Some are even quite flexible about the degree applicants have studied, for example, some major employers recruit “any degree”. Such employers often indicate an interest in a broad range of

graduate skills together with passion, commitment and a strong work ethic rather than specific program content. Your Theatre degree may be appropriate to a wide range of positions many of which may not seem obvious at first glance.

Examples of positions and employers include:

Actor	Grin and Tonic Theatre Company
Casting Agent	Lucas Management
Freelance Actor	Self employed
Festival Coordinator	Mackay City Council
Marketing Assistant	Qld Performing Arts Centre
Radio Presenter	TAB Radio Network
Workshop Director	V Management
Lighting/Sound Operator	Gig Power Theatrical Rigging Company
Theatrical Agent	Lucas Management
Performer	Omniac Productions
Breakfast Announcer	Sea FM Radio
Casting Assistant	Mullinars Agency
Theatre Technician	Griffith University
Production Designer	International Film Effects Company
Producer/Writer	Promo Technics Production Company

Some sample job advertisements

Graduate – Theatre, Performing Arts

Entertainment Services Theatrical is the largest supplier of entertainment lighting, audio and staging in Queensland. EST markets both locally and internationally and has significant projects in the United States, India, China and the South Pacific region. The company is currently experiencing strong growth and a challenging opportunity has arisen for a Sales Consultant . This position will require regular travel within South East Queensland and will involve a high level of contact with Educational Institutions and Theatre Groups.

The successful candidate will currently be working in the theatre industry or have completed a relevant tertiary qualification. In addition they will be a self-starter with excellent communication skills, attention to detail and competent computer skills.

Development Officer – Out of the Box Festival - Queensland Performing Arts Council

QPAC is seeking a Development Officer to assist in the coordination of the “Out of the Box” Festival of Early Childhood at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC). The Festival caters for children aged 3-8 years with the aim of fostering their engagement in the arts. Out of the Box is a child-centred festival that supports children's development by creating and presenting high quality, innovative and creative activities and events.

Assisting the Events Coordinator the successful candidate would be:

- Qualified in or have a background in theatre/the arts
- An excellent communicator with the ability to communicate with stakeholders, staff and external clients.
- Able to source contributors to the festival and build and maintain networks with these contributors.
- Highly organised with the ability to work to deadlines
- A creative thinker who uses initiative
- A strong team player who is also able to work autonomously.

Vacancies on-line

Useful sites include:

- [Auditions Australia](#)
- [ArtsHub Australia jobs](#)
- [Brisbane Auditions](#)
- [Encore Magazine film & television production vacancies](#)
- [Inside Film - films in production listing](#)
- [Jobs and auditions for performers in Australia and New Zealand](#)
- [Queensland Film Production Directory](#)
- [Showcast film casting agency](#)
- [Theatre Australia auditions listing](#)
- [Upcoming productions - Film & TV](#) (Australian Film Commission listings)
- [Australian Defence Force Recruiting](#)
- [Australian Job Search](#)
- [Australian Public Service recruitment](#)
- [Brisbane City Council vacancies](#)
- [Graduate Opportunities](#) (the major directory of graduate recruitment in Australia)
- [Mycareer](#)
- [New South Wales Government jobs](#)
- [ProBono Australia](#) (Skilled professionals voluntary positions in not for profit organisations)
- [Queensland Government Jobs](#)
- [Recruitment Consultants in Australia](#) (Searchable by Industry sector)
- [Seek Campus](#) (specialist Australian graduate recruitment)
- [Teach for Australia](#) recruits outstanding, well-rounded graduates from all disciplines who have the distinguished academic performance, leadership experience, and communication and empathy skills to succeed in teaching in disadvantaged schools.

- [Unijobs](#) (Vacancies of all types in Australian universities)

International

- [Academic careers](#) (Academic vacancies worldwide)
- [Alpha-Maps](#) (specialist Asian graduate recruitment)
- [ArtsHub United Kingdom](#)
- [ArtsHub United States](#)
- [Contact Singapore](#)
- [Eurograduate live](#) (specialist European graduate recruitment)
- [Going Global](#) (Over 10,000 job vacancies listed across Europe, Asia-Pacific, UK, US. Global key employer directories, work permits & visa regulations, country specific cultural & interviewing advice & more)
- [Gradireland.com](#) (specialist Irish graduate recruitment)
- [Idealist.org](#) (paid & voluntary positions in non-profit organisations globally)
- [Malaysia: Graduan](#) (specialist Malaysian graduate recruitment)
- [Off-shore Employment Links for Australian Professionals](#) (Provides links and information for vacancies within international government and non-government organisations)
- [Prospects Web UK](#) (specialist UK graduate recruitment)
- [Quintessential Careers](#) (specialist US graduate recruitment)

Targeting potential employers

Many work opportunities are not advertised. It is common practice for jobseekers to search out these opportunities. When approaching potential employers, conducting research to identify links between your selling points (your skills, experience, interests and qualifications) and an employer's needs, increases your chances of success. Research will also reduce the number of approaches you need to make, saving you time in the end. Developing and using your personal and professional networks is also a valuable tool in finding these 'hidden' opportunities.

- [Australian Government Departments & Agencies](#)
- [Australian Music Industry Directory](#)
- [Australian Universities](#)
- [Brisbane festivals](#)
- [Casting agencies](#) (Australia & international)
- [Community radio stations directory - Australia](#)
- [Cultural & recreational organisations in Australia](#)
- [Film festivals - Australian & international](#)
- [Arts festivals in Australia](#)
- [Live theatre companies in South East Queensland](#)
- [Local governments in Australia](#)
- [Marketing, advertising & media directories](#)
- [Not for Profit organizations in Australia](#)
- [Pacific Film & Television Commission](#) (PFTC)
- [Performing arts organisations in Australia](#)
- [Puppet theatres & agents in Australia](#)

- [Queensland Government Departments](#)
- [Radio Stations directory - Australia](#)
- [Recording studios in Queensland](#)
- [Theatre companies in Australia](#)

Freelancing

Financial management & networking are important aspects of freelancing. Those considering freelance work may find these links useful:

- [Applying for an ABN \(Australian Business Number\)](#)
- [Business.gov.au](#)
- [Brisbane media map](#) (A guide to Brisbane's print, broadcast, audiovisual & new media)
- [Registering a business name in Queensland](#)
- [Enterprise and small business](#)
- [Managing / growing your business](#)
- [Small Enterprise Association of Australia & New Zealand](#)
- [Enterprise Network for Young Australians](#)

Professional associations

Joining a professional association is a great way to meet people in your field, who can assist you to explore your career options and potentially find employment opportunities. These associations exist in every field of employment and hold regular professional development and networking events. Students are welcome to join, and membership often costs as little as \$50 per year.

- [Australasian Performing Right Association \(APRA\)](#)
- [Australian Association for Circus and Physical Theatre](#)
- [Australian Performing Arts Centres Association](#)
- [Australian Screen Editors](#)
- [Australian Writers Guild](#)
- [Cinema & Theatre Historical Society](#)
- [Drama Australia](#)
- [Drama Queensland](#)
- [Educational Theatre Association](#)
- [Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance](#)
- [Qld Filmmakers Centre \(QPIX\)](#)
- [Youth Arts Queensland \(YAQ\)](#)

Other career-related links

- [Arts Queensland funding information](#)
- [Australia Council grants information](#)
- [Getting started in film, TV & interactive digital media](#)
- [Cinema & Theatre Association links](#)
- [Ontour Inschools](#) (Queensland Arts Council's performing arts schools touring program)

- [Ontour Onstage](#) (Queensland Arts Council's performing arts regional touring program)
- [Jump](#) (Australia Council / YAQ mentoring program for artists under the age of 30)