Theatre Arts

Director, Division of Performing Arts
  • Alan M. MacVey

Chair, Department of Theatre Arts
  • Mary Beth Easley

Undergraduate major: theatre arts (B.A.)
Undergraduate minor: theatre arts
Graduate degree: M.F.A. in theatre arts
Faculty: https://theatre.uiowa.edu/people
Website: https://theatre.uiowa.edu/

Facilities

The University of Iowa has one of the finest educational theatre complexes in the country. The Theatre Building offers four theatres and up-to-date facilities for classroom, laboratory, shop, and performance work.

The E.C. Mabie Theatre, a continental-style, 457-seat proscenium playhouse, is one of the finest theatres of its type in the United States. The David Thayer Theatre is a "black box" production space; its flexible seating units accommodate from 140 to 225 people and allow modification of space and audience relationships. The Alan MacVey Theatre, which seats 137, is an open-stage theatre dedicated primarily to the production of new and experimental works.

In addition to classrooms for acting and directing, several spaces are designed for teaching particular aspects of dramatic studies. The Cosmo Catalano Acting Studio is for study of movement and motion by acting students. It also serves as an intimate theatre for readings. The Arnie Gillette Design Studio serves as classroom and studio workshop for design students.

To support its production schedule and to provide students with an appropriate range of experience, the department maintains shops for building, painting, maintaining, and storing scenery, costumes, and properties. Using these shops, students learn to work in metal, plastics, canvas, and wood.