

## Teaching Theatre

If you are interested in teaching theatre with young people of all ages, you are advised to major in Theatre at KU and to take the following junior/senior level courses:

THR 404 Children and Drama

(Create and lead drama plans with local children in grades 1-6)

THR 445 Teaching Theatre in Middle and Secondary Schools

(Create curricula in acting, devising, and stagecraft for grades 6-12)

THR 603 Theatre for Young Audiences

(Study professional TYA company programs to prepare as an Education Director)

## Teaching Careers in Theatre

### Teaching Artist or Intern and Education Director at Professional Theatre Companies

You can teach a wide array of theatre classes with young people of all ages at many TYA companies across the country that offer extensive preK-12 educational programs. For example, KU theatre students have worked at the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis, CLIMB, Omaha Theatre for Young People, and Seattle Children's Theatre. Read articles in the *Teaching Artist* journal for examples of artists-in-residence in schools and other performing arts centers.

Locally, you can practice teaching theatre classes as an undergraduate student at the Lawrence Arts Center and Theatre Lawrence and through summer programs at the Coterie Theatre in KCMO, Topeka Civic Theatre Academy, and Theatre for Young America.

After graduating from KU, you may also obtain an M.F.A. degree in Theatre for Youth (e.g., Arizona State U, U of Texas at Austin, Eastern Michigan U, U of North Carolina-Greensboro, U of Central Florida, Emerson College, etc.).

### Teaching Theatre in Public (or Private) Schools

In order to teach in public schools, you are required to obtain a teaching license through an accredited university program in Education. The State of Kansas does not offer teaching licenses in K-12 Theatre (unlike visual art and music), but does offer licenses for grades 6-12 in Theatre *connected with* Speech Communication. However, KU's School of Education discontinued its Theatre/Speech program in 2006.

Therefore, you are advised to graduate from KU with a Bachelor's degree in Theatre and then take additional Education courses at another university (e.g., Baker, Emporia State, Kansas State, etc.) in order to obtain a Kansas teaching license. See Speech/Theatre licensure (pp. 130-132) in *Regulations and Standards for Kansas Educators* or apply for the Restricted Teaching License Alternative Pathway at <http://www.ksde.org/>.

You may also take Education courses in one of 16 other states that license K-12 (or 6-12) Theatre (*without* requiring Speech). For example, see respective State Departments of Education in AZ, IL, MN, NC, NY, OH, PA, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, etc.

You don't necessarily need a teaching license to teach theatre in *private* schools, but you may be required to obtain at least a Master's degree in Theatre (at KU or elsewhere).

### Drama Therapy (<http://www.nadta.org/what-is-drama-therapy.html>) or Applied Theatre

At the graduate level, Sally Bailey at Kansas State U offers summer-intensive and semester courses in drama therapy, or see Educational or Applied Theatre programs at NYU, CUNY, and other colleges.