

Prospectus

# Perform Teach Create

Making Talent Tangible



**WATERFRONT**  
THEATRE SCHOOL  
EST 1992



**South Africa's premier training facility  
of excellence in the performing arts!**

Offering access to courses accredited by Trinity College London  
and the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, London.\*

**#HIGHER**

\*Please note: The qualifications accredited by Trinity College London and the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, London are not currently recognised by SAGA. They are not authorised or recognised in South Africa. These qualifications are internationally registered by OFQUAL and range from a NQF level 4 to a NQF level 6 within the international qualifications framework.

# The Offer

Develop a **diversity of skill**; ensure a **sustainable** career in the creative economy through a **personalised training program** rooted in practice and aligned with global trends.



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## WHAT'S ON THE BILL



### Orientation Week

Start your creative journey!

- Welcome and introduction
- Individual Interviews
- Setting goals for the year
- Timetabling

Join our WTS family and find your tribe!

### Festival of Creativity

Choreographic Competition, One Act Play Festival and Devised Projects.



### Productions - The Annual Musical and the Dance Show

Create, collaborate and showcase your unique artistry.



### International Tours

Be part of the global network in our annual BRICS Drama Festival held in Moscow. Join our yearly London Theatre Tour and experience live performances and workshops from leading West End professionals.

## WTS FAMILY VALUES

These core values are what we seek to instill in our students:

# Passion

# Humility

# Self-discipline

# Compassion

# Respect



Set your

# Creative vision



- To **study varied aspects** of the performing arts under one roof
- To identify and pursue a **personal vision for success**
- To complete **internationally accredited** qualifications in teaching and/or performing.\*
- To be **empowered** with competitive and professional skills
- To be part of an international **network of alumni**
- To contribute significantly and consistently to the **creative economy**

Define your  
**Creative**  
destination



The Waterfront Theatre School offers access to a range of courses accredited by the [Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing](#), OFQUAL UK and [Trinity College, London](#). The courses are available those aspiring to teach and/or perform professionally.\*



### Drama and Musical Theatre\*

To see the range of qualifications facilitated by the Waterfront Theatre School visit [Trinity College, London](#).

### Dance\*

To see the range of qualifications facilitated by the Waterfront Theatre School visit [Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing](#)



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Your creative process

# Drama and Musical Theatre



The Waterfront Theatre School Drama and Musical Theatre department serves to provide access to a **range of vocational training programmes**, (internationally accredited\*) for people wishing to work within the professional creative industry.

The training approach is based on adult experiential learning. This means that students play an integral part in the learning process and the student-educator relationship is one of mutual respect. The program aims to develop the individual in all aspects of performance. These aspects have been identified as **intellectual, vocal, physical and emotional**.

The courses facilitated by WTS have been specifically designed to introduce **key concepts, teach key techniques and develop, through practice, skills relevant to each performance aspect**.

## Educational Aims

- Develop the student's intellectual and emotional aspects of performance
- To develop the students vocal and physical aspects of performance.
- To provide a comprehensive work process for the development of performance, teaching and theatre-making.
- To develop the ability to work independently.
- To give confidence to work in a broad range of styles across a broad range of genres.
- To develop an analytical and critical awareness of the individual's creativity.
- To cultivate a collaborative attitude to the creative process.

## Course Objectives

- Practical techniques for the construction and development of performance from any given script.
- Defining acting tasks by analysing text and character.
- Practical application of technique to make dramatic choices that are bold and specific.
- To teach the student how to manifest intellectual and emotional aspects of performance through vocal and physical expression.
- Practical application of the processes for preparing performance within a professional context
- To teach the student how to maintain the health and safety of their vocal and physical instruments through regular practice.
- To develop the student's assurance and confidence.
- To develop an ability to perform across a range of performance genres and in a range of styles and media
- To give the student a thorough practical understanding of the creative arts industry.

- To teach the student to maintain, as a matter of habit, professional standards of work ethic.
- To teach the student how to respond creatively to a director's instruction.

**The Drama and Musical Theatre course currently offers access to the following modules:**

- Acting Technique
- Emotional Technique
- Improvisation
- Physical Resources
- Vocal Resources
- Musical Theatre Repertoire
- Music Theory
- Television Presentation
- Musical History
- Context and Repertoire
- Singing Technique
- Performance Class
- Open Class
- Industry Preparation
- Principles of Teaching

**In addition to these core modules, students have access to a range of modules in dance.**

**These include:**

- Jazz
- Modern Theatre Dance
- Ballet
- Tap
- Street Dance



The Drama and Musical Theatre course at the Waterfront Theatre School aims to transform students from being unskilled to being unconsciously skilled. It is assumed that all our students enter the college-irrespective of their previous experience-as unskilled.

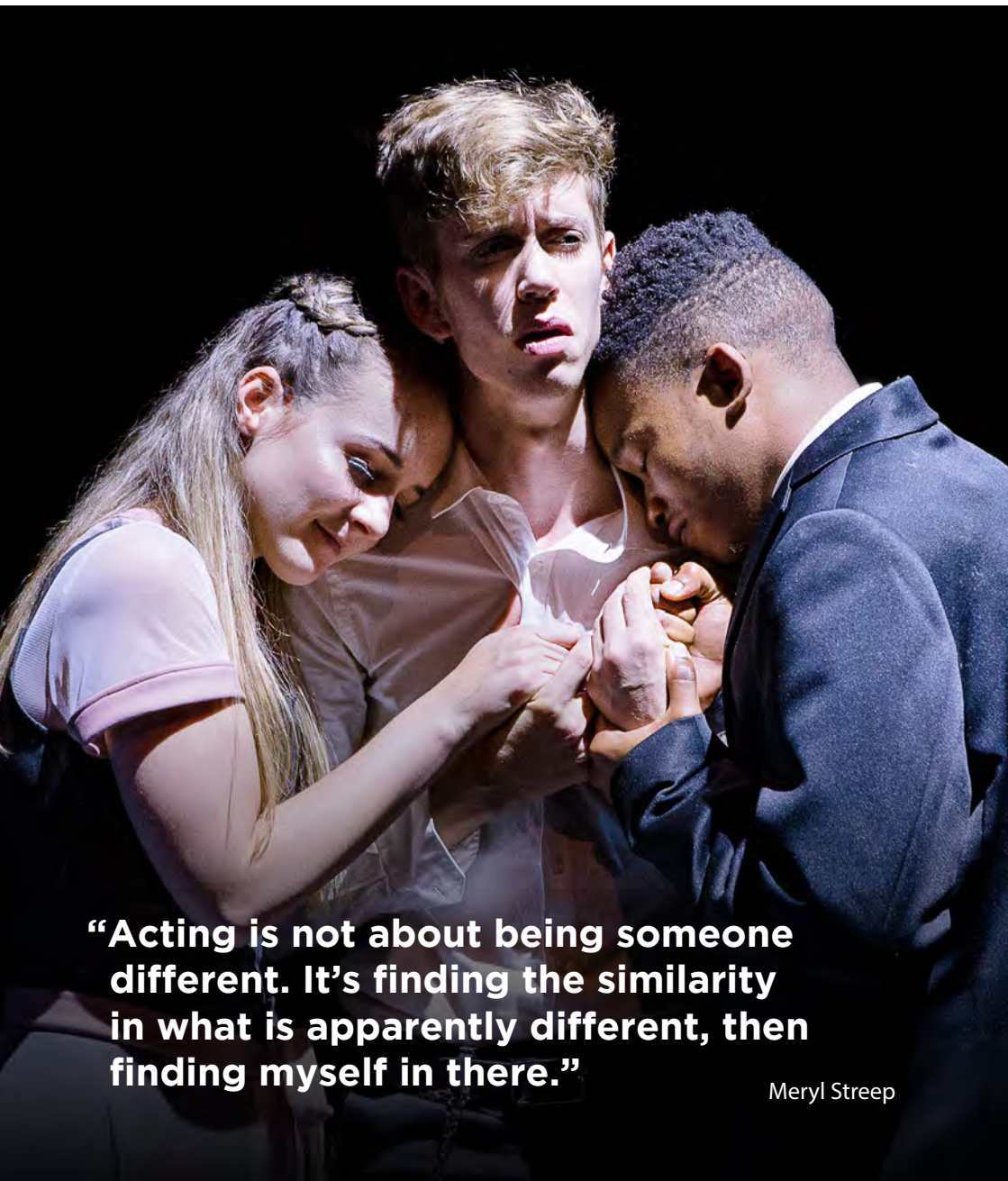
Through the **Foundation Year** we aim to make the students conceptually and technically aware of the process connected to constructing a performance. We also aim to unlock certain conditioned behaviour to increase the range of expression emotionally, physically and vocally.

As students progress through the program (**2nd Year**), they are offered a range of practical opportunities to implement the concepts and techniques taught during the foundation year and to process self-awareness and self expression more effectively. This process of practice enables the students to shift from being unskilled to being consciously skilled.

By **3rd Year** the students have clarified a process of work and this process is automatically applied in their approach to their preparation. They now begin to consider 'the other' in their expression and begin to move into a deeper understanding of character. Students move towards being unconsciously skilled.

It is at this point that the focus of the program shifts to developing the final product (**4th Year**). In 4th Year the focus is on transitioning into the industry as a viable and effective product. It is recognised that the professional demand for students is to be able to present their skills as a finished product. A performer's ability is determined exclusively from the proficiency of presentation and so-as students move towards graduation-the emphasis shifts away from developing

process to assessing and developing final performance. The aim of the program is to develop an effective process of preparation with the understanding that once this preparation is effective – the performance is greatly improved.



**“Acting is not about being someone different. It’s finding the similarity in what is apparently different, then finding myself in there.”**

Meryl Streep

Your creative process

# Dance



The Waterfront Theatre School Dance department serves to provide access to a range of vocational training programmes, (internationally accredited\*) for people wishing to work within the professional creative industry.

We offer training in a broad range of dance genres including Modern Theatre Dance, Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Street Dance and Contemporary. All dance modules are offered at Foundation, Vocational and Professional level.

The courses facilitated by WTS have been specifically designed to introduce key concepts, teach key techniques and develop, through practice, relevant skills to the development of each dance genre.

**Certification**



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## Educational Aims

- To provide an assessment scheme which forms the basis for measurement of the individual's progress and development in preparation for a professional career, as either as a dance performer, teacher or creative.
- To develop the range of movement within the individual's natural capabilities.
- To gain comprehensive technique.
- To promote the understanding and use of appropriate dance terminology.
- To develop the ability to work independently.
- To give confidence to work in a broad range of styles across a broad range of genres.
- To develop an analytical and critical awareness of the individual's creativity.
- To cultivate a collaborate attitude to the creative process.

## Course Objectives

- To teach correct posture
- To develop a strong sense of line through the physical body.
- To understand rhythm, its development and application.
- To appreciate various styles of music and their interpretation through movement.
- To develop acute spatial awareness.
- To develop an awareness of an audience and a sophisticated sense of performance.
- To encourage and develop a sense of self-expression.
- To promote self-confidence in performance.
- To teach the analysis and understanding of technique at all levels.
- To develop understanding of teaching methods.

- To develop observational skills.
- To understand different physiques and anatomical corrections.
- To appreciate an application of emotional expression.
- To arrange creative sequences of movement to develop choreographic skills.
- To develop the skills to respond to instruction within the professional creative context in a range of dance genres and styles.

### Dance modules include:

- Classical Ballet
- Ballet Repertoire
- Modern Theatre Dance
- Jazz
- Contemporary
- Musical Theatre/Broadway
- Tap
- Street Dance
- Partner Work
- Horton
- Stretch and Flexibility Training
- Anatomy and Physiology

Dance Majors are required to do Acting and Singing classes as part of their programme in order to ensure versatility.





### Foundation Level

**The Foundation Dance program** offers a range of learning opportunities and enables participants to enjoy physical expression as well as develop intellectual sensibilities. The students learn about co-operation and develop an understanding of the shaping of movement into artistic forms of expression. The program is concerned with progressive mastery in the defined stages within the context of safe dance practice.



### Professional Level

**The Professional Dance program** seeks to increase the skills, analysis and understanding of the genre in order to communicate and instruct these aspects in a range of creative contexts. At this level, the focus shifts to a more theoretical study of dance, which supports practical application for those wishing to pursue teaching and or choreography.



### Vocational Level

**The Vocational Dance program** develops the student's expertise in such a way as to provide the basis for either professional employment as a dancer or further training as a dance teacher. Throughout the study of the syllabus, students are following a vocational path, requiring a high level of commitment and with an increasing emphasis on safe dance practice. Students at this level should show virtuosity in performance, a high standard of technique and a sound knowledge and understanding of the genre, including an understanding of reference and context.

Students should display a sense of self-awareness and be self-motivated in terms of their personal development. A greater degree of personal interpretation is encouraged and the student is expected to show the potential to communicate effectively with an audience. Students need to show qualities of professionalism, commitment and focus with the ability to manage a greater workload.



**“Great dancers are not great because of their technique, they are great because of their passion.”**

Martha Graham

## What to expect

You will be entering Higher Education for the first time and will be wondering how it is different from your previous educational experience. You will also probably have expectations that studying performance is just about performing. The focus of our course is on preparing you for the rigour of a rehearsal room process – for this you must be adequately prepared technically.

Most of our program therefore focuses on the development of specificity in the art of performance which you will be expected to develop in a rehearsal room environment. Performance is an added bonus and whilst we recognise your desire to perform we must balance it with effective practice and relevant exercises if you are going to be ready for your professional journey.

At the Waterfront Theatre School you will find yourself in classes that are run by different departments in the school. Each department has evolved its own method of teaching and you will be taking modules that run on varied lines. Our faculty are experts within their field and have been drawn from the industry specifically for the reason of giving you a professionally relevant experience.

Learning to work productively within the full range of teaching styles utilised by tutors is an invaluable lesson for your future and we encourage you to find coping mechanisms within each teaching situation to achieve your potential. This ability to adapt must be seen as part of your training. The range of learning environments that exist within our curriculum include workshops, performance classes, technique classes, tutorials, rehearsals, lectures, seminars and screenings.

# Lets get Technical



Monitoring

Assessment

Accreditation

Certification

## Monitoring

The college's monitoring system tracks student attainment and monitors progress more carefully. This should enable timely intervention and ensure that all students have the greatest likelihood of maximising potential.

The data collected is reported to students by way of written reports. These reports are communicated to students twice a year

## Assessment

The assessment of student learning can be regarded as a process during which:

- The expectations of and standards for performance are clarified and made available.
- Evidence is gathered on how an individual's performance compares to these expectations and standards.
- The evidence is analysed and interpreted; and
- The information that is gathered is used to document, explain and to improve performance.

Assessments can be diagnostic (the strong and weak points of the student's performance are determined in order to make possible suitable remedial actions); formative (serves the learning process by offering students an opportunity to develop the desired knowledge, skills and attitudes with the aid of timely feedback); and or summative (serves to evaluate the progress of students and for promotion or accreditation).

## Accreditation

Successful completion of the course is determined by both informal and formal assessment. Accreditation is through **Trinity College, London** (Drama and Musical Theatre), the **Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, London** (Dance).

The accreditation serves to confirm that the student has attained, to some degree, the learning outcomes of the learning program and demonstrates a degree of professional proficiency.

## Certification

At the end of their study period, students receive a transcript of the modules they have completed.

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**“You can’t use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.”**

Maya Angelou



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# The World is your Stage

with WTS

We've got the globe covered. See where

our alumni have made their mark.





# The WTS Hall of Fame



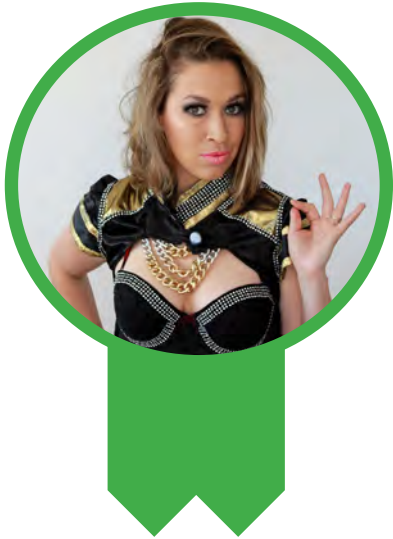
## Trix Vivier

Trix Vivier graduated from the Waterfront Theatre School in 2008. She has worked extensively in the professional industry as a dancer, actress and voice artist. Her film and television credits include: **Sterlopers, Die Boland Moorde, Fynskrif, 7de Laan, Suidoorster, Vernsel, Waterfront, Die Spreeus, Cowboy Dan, American Monster** as well as in the role of 'Flea van Jaarsveld' in Deon Meyers critically acclaimed crime thriller series, **Trackers**.

## Germandt Geldenhuys

Germandt Geldenhuys is a well-known actor, singer, voice artist and MC who has starred in a vast range of stage productions including **Sister Act, Sweeney Todd** and **Sneeuwitjie**. He is most well known for his role of 'Louis Koster' in KykNET's **Binnelanders**, for which he won the 'Huisgenoot Tempo Award' for "Soap Actor Of The Year". He made his film debut in the critically acclaimed South African film, **Kanarie** and was awarded "Best Supporting Actor" at the kykNET Silwerskermfees.





### Vanessa Harris

Vanessa Harris is a renowned theatre impresario who is most well known for her role as the manager and creative director of the eclectic Kalk Bay Theatre and Restaurant. Together with her husband, Vanessa established her own production company, 'Followspot Productions'. They have written and produced award winning entertainment, including **Love at First Fight, Big Girls, the Big Boys trilogy, Face the Music, Van & Ash Exposed** to name a few.



### Thalia Burt

Thalia Burt is a singer, dancer and actress who has toured Internationally in a range of critically acclaimed productions such as **Cats, Singin' In The Rain,** and **The Little Mermaid,** as well as **Aladdin** in Birmingham, UK. Thalia made her West End debut in **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat** at the London Palladium and was promoted to Dance Captain and Assistant Choreographer in 2020.

### Lucy Tops

Award nominated actress, singer and producer Lucy Tops has been seen in wide range of productions over the years. Her stage credits include: **Bar None, Bon Soir, Big Girls, Another Day, Funny Girl, Shakespeare In Love, Significant Other, Rock Horror and Kinky Boots.** Due to her versatility of skill, Lucy has worked consistently in the industry as a session singer, voice artist and television and film actress. She released her solo album and can be seen in the international feature film, **Black Beauty.**



### Alex Tops

Alex Tops is a highly acclaimed actor, writer, director and producer. His stage credits include: **Taming of the Shrew, The Merchant of Venice,** Stephen Sondheim's **Assassins, Bar None, The Sound of Music, Fatal Attraction, Shakespeare in Love,** as well as in the international tour of **Showboat.** Aside from his extensive performance credits, Alex was the Resident Director for the Fugard Theatre's production of the **Rocky Horror Show** and **Kinky Boots.** He has also appeared in a wide range of films and mini series.





### Owen Lonzar

Owen Lonzar is a sought after choreographer and creative director who has earned his title as an international brand with 26 international productions to date. With nearly three decades of experience in the corporate sphere, Owen has conceptualised, staged, choreographed and directed over 400 corporate entertainment events. He was also the resident choreographer at the university of Johannesburg Art Centre for 6 years as well as the Artistic Director of the UJ Dance Company.

### Rushney Ferguson

Rushney Ferguson, is a triple threat performer who started her illustrious theatre career with David Kramer's **District Six: Kanala, Amper Famous** and **Langarm** as Angelina, for which she received a Fleur du Cap nomination. Rushney also Dance Captained the revival of **King Kong: Legend of A Boxer** and performed in various films and commercials. She is also a sought after choreographer and event co-ordinator.



**“Allow your passion to become your purpose, and one day it will become your profession.”**

Gabriel Bernstein



# The Casting Call

## Admission

### Do I qualify?

Admission into the school is done through an audition process. The audition requirements are determined by the applicant's intended major but are designed to determine the level of ability in three specific genres: singing, dancing and acting. There is no required prior learning (RPL).

In the audition a student should demonstrate a degree of natural ability and a facility for training. The audition is conducted by a panel of faculty members and includes an interview, presentation, workshop and discussion. Decisions are final.

The Waterfront Theatre School is looking for students with potential for development within the vocational arena. The college is not necessarily looking for excellence from a student but rather facility, accompanied by a genuine desire on the part of the student to learn, develop and maximise his or her innate talents.

Literacy is determined through a written submission, which supports the audition process. The Waterfront Theatre School accept students from a wide range of abilities and enables students to pursue their respective levels of excellence through a personalised programme. The college conducts four local audition sessions throughout the latter part of the academic year, as well as a national tour.

Successful applicants are notified within a week of their audition.

Book your audition today at [www.wtschool.co.za](http://www.wtschool.co.za)

Students are encouraged to explore, discover and present work independently so as to achieve a greater degree of proficiency. This, along with other aspects of college life, contributes to a community of learning where all students are empowered to develop professionally.

## Location

Nestled at the foothills of Table Mountain and Signal Hill, in the prestigious V&A Waterfront District, the Waterfront Theatre School is situated in the recently restored historic Mission to Seaman building.

WTS is situated in the Canal District of the Waterfront, a stone's throw away from the popular shopping and entertainment hub as well as the CBD; offering easy access by public transport from all areas. The newly opened Battery Urban Park adjoining the campus, offers a 1-hectare recreational space for our students to explore, innovate and create.

Find us at the: **CNR Port Road & Alfred Street,**



## BUT WAIT, THERES MORE...

### Fees

Fees for the Full Time Course are as per the website. This excludes international examination fees, which vary according to genre and grade.

WTS is associated with a financial aid service, Student Hero, which partners with various funding providers in order to assist with financing your education.

Any student requiring financial assistance may contact them directly for pre-assessment and support through the application process. Please email [jude@studenthero.co.za](mailto:jude@studenthero.co.za) or call **072 948 6965** for more information.



### Student Accomodation

The Waterfront Theatre School can accommodate 28 students in self-catering residences on campus.

Students wishing to live on campus are advised to register early as rooms are allocated on a first come first serve basis.



**“Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.”**

Amy Poehler

# Contact Us



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Director/Owner

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Partner

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021 418 4600

## **Accounts Administrator**

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021 418 3114

## **Applications**

[apply@wtschool.co.za](mailto:apply@wtschool.co.za)

## **I.S.T.D**

[ISTD@wtschool.co.za](mailto:ISTD@wtschool.co.za)

## **The Galloway Theatre**

Theatre Manager

[thegallowaytheatre@wtschool.co.za](mailto:thegallowaytheatre@wtschool.co.za)

060 533 0534

## **Casting & Events**

[agency@wtschool.co.za](mailto:agency@wtschool.co.za)

## **Financial Assistance**

Student Hero

[hello@studenthero.co.za](mailto:hello@studenthero.co.za)

061 229 8829

# #Higher



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