

# INTERNATIONAL THEATRE ACADEMY

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# WELCOME TO THE INTERNATIONAL THEATRE ACADEMY

Performing arts venues and theatres around the world are experiencing change and rapid growth. This has resulted in a demand for skills development at every professional level.

The British Council and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama have collaborated to launch the International Theatre Academy – a suite of professional development short courses in Arts Management, Stage Management and Technical Theatre.

The mission of the International Theatre Academy is to provide arts professionals from around the world with the skills and knowledge necessary to increase the sustainability and growth of performing arts venues worldwide.

Courses will be taught at the state-of-the-art Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, Wales' national conservatoire.

Participants will benefit from a unique learning experience, gaining the best of UK expertise within an international context. Courses are designed to combine theoretical and practical sessions, opportunities for best practice exchange as well as visits to leading industry partners.

As a result of the course, alumni of the International Theatre Academy will join an international network of arts and theatre professionals, providing long-term benefits for years to come.

We look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff for a truly memorable experience.



**Simon Dancey**  
Director  
Cultural Skills Unit  
British Council



**Hilary Boulding**  
Principal  
Royal Welsh College  
of Music and Drama

# COURSE PROGRAMME

Each of the five modules has been designed with an international audience in mind and will provide participants with a range of skills tailored to today's global arts industry.

All courses will be taught at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama campus, which is located in the centre of Cardiff and within walking distance of major theatres and arts venues.

Courses will typically run from 9:30am to 5:30pm each day. Throughout the course, there will be opportunities to network with UK sector experts and participants attending other courses.

## **By the end of the course, participants will have:**

- developed new ways of thinking and working in live performance settings
- increased their technical skills and expertise in their subject of study
- experienced first-hand best practice in the UK live performance sector
- developed an international network of peers working across the sector

ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE  
OF MUSIC & DRAMA  
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# ARTS MANAGEMENT (INTERMEDIATE)

Monday 3 – Friday 7 August 2015

£825

Arts Management (Intermediate) is designed for individuals who are new to or wish to enter management roles in the arts and creative industries. The course combines hands-on training sessions on topics related to current arts management practice as well as visits to nearby arts venues.

## Study topics will include:

- Arts marketing
- Venue management and operations
- Touring productions
- Ticketing
- Customer relationship management
- Fundraising essentials

By the end of the course, participants will have expanded their understanding of arts management. This will enable participants to apply their learning within their existing roles as well as encouraging them to develop their practice, providing them with better career prospects.

## Entry requirements

- Awareness of arts management concepts
- No prior experience required, but an active interest in arts management and a willingness to learn is essential
- This course will be delivered in English, therefore a good level of English, both written and verbal, is essential (IELTS Level 6, TOEFL with a score of at least 90, or equivalent)

# ARTS MANAGEMENT (ADVANCED)

Monday 10 – Friday 14 August 2015

£825

Arts Management (Advanced) is designed for individuals that have been working in management roles within the arts and creative industries for at least 3 years and who wish to gain further experience in leadership and management in order to accelerate their career development. Participants will explore the principles of effective management and leadership, gain practical examples of how to build effective teams and work on best practice to develop audiences. Participants will receive expert tuition from course leaders with extensive arts management experience. The programme comprises visits to nearby arts venues to observe best practice and to share knowledge with industry experts.

## Study topics will include:

- Building effective teams
- Leadership
- International networking and collaborations
- Audience development
- Digital strategies
- Fundraising strategies
- Strategic business planning

By the end of the course, participants will have gained a sound understanding of current arts management practice and be able to apply this to their own working contexts. We expect participants to be equipped with the core skills required for them to become confident managers and effective leaders.

## Entry requirements

- Currently employed in an arts management role
- Arts experience of 3 years or more
- This course will be delivered in English, therefore a good level of English, both written and verbal, is essential (IELTS Level 6, TOEFL with a score of at least 90, or equivalent)

# STAGE MANAGEMENT (INTERMEDIATE)

Monday 3 – Friday 7 August 2015

£825

Stage Management (Intermediate) is designed for individuals with a passion for theatre and a desire to acquire the necessary competencies to become stage managers. Participants will learn the foundations of stage management from experienced professionals. Participants will have the opportunity to undertake the roles of an assistant stage manager and stage manager, and to work on small and large scale productions.

## Study topics will include:

- Stage management principles
- Roles and responsibilities
- Where stage managers work
- Production processes
- Propping
- Assistant Stage Management
- Deputy Stage Management
- Blocking and cueing
- Being the Stage Manager
- Health and Safety
- Running the show

By the end of the course, participants will have a sound understanding of stage management practice and be able to apply this to their own working contexts. We expect that participants will be equipped with the core skills required within the industry in order to further their careers and become stage managers.

## Entry Requirements:

- No stage management experience necessary, but an interest in the theatre/entertainment industry is vital
- This course will be delivered in English, therefore a good level of English, both written and verbal, is essential (IELTS Level 6, TOEFL with a score of at least 90, or equivalent)



# STAGE MANAGEMENT (ADVANCED)

Monday 10 – Friday 14 August 2015

£825

Stage Management (Advanced) is for individuals wishing to study the roles of Deputy Stage Manager and Stage Manager in more detail. The course will provide opportunities to practise cueing for plays, musicals and operas. The programme examines the differences and commonalities between stage and event management, and the process of transferring stage management skills to other areas of the entertainment industry.

## Study topics will include:

- Overview of stage management roles
- Being the Deputy Stage Manager
- Advanced prompt copies
- Working in opera and musical theatre
- Score reading
- Being the Stage Manager and Event Manager
- Advanced Health and Safety for Stage Managers

By the end of the course, participants will have consolidated their existing knowledge of stage management practice through participation in a range of practical activities and tutorials. We expect participants to be able to identify their own learning objectives from the course and understand how these can be applied within their own professional contexts.

## Entry requirements

- At least one year's experience working in a stage management environment or completion of Stage Management (Intermediate) course
- This course will be delivered in English, therefore a good level of English, both written and verbal, is essential (IELTS Level 6, TOEFL with a score of at least 90, or equivalent)



# TECHNICAL THEATRE: SOUND AND LIGHTING (ADVANCED)

Sunday 2 – Thursday 6 August 2015

£1050

Technical Theatre: Sound and Lighting (Advanced) is for individuals wishing to gain a deeper understanding of sound and lighting design depending on their specialism. Combining lectures and practical sessions, the course will culminate in a team-run *son et lumières* (sound and light show) using state-of-the-art digital equipment.

## Study topics will include:

- Health and Safety in theatre
- Introduction to theatre and concert hall systems
- Introduction to advanced lighting equipment and systems
- Introduction to advanced sound equipment and systems
- Introduction to the art of light
- Introduction to the art of sound
- Exploration of relationship between sound and light
- Work from a brief, in groups, to produce lighting and sound designs
- Visit to local theatres

By the end of the course, participants will have gained an in-depth understanding of advanced techniques across a breadth of technical theatre disciplines, allowing them to apply their learning to their own professional contexts.

The opportunity to work on live briefs alongside international practitioners and using world-class facilities will enable confidence in participants' future lighting and sound designs.

## Entry Requirements (general)

- One year's experience or more of working with relevant technical equipment, in a theatre or similar environment
- Basic understanding of analogue sound and lighting systems
- This course will be delivered in English, therefore a good level of English, both written and verbal, is essential (IELTS Level 6, TOEFL with a score of at least 90, or equivalent)
- Meet the entry criteria for Sound or Lighting

## Entry Requirements (Sound)

- Understanding of the difference between Mic and Line level signals
- Understanding of controls on an analogue mixing desk, including auxiliary and group outputs
- An awareness of basic sound chain - source - mixer - amps and speakers
- Understanding of crossovers

## Entry Requirements (Lighting)

- Understanding of lighting chain, desk, dimmers and lanterns
- Understanding of Patching
- Previous use of DMX512
- Basic principles of Fresnel/PC and profile lanterns
- Understanding of lighting rigging

# ELIGIBILITY

All applicants will be required to complete an online application form, which can be found at the following link: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/cultural-skills/projects/International-Theatre-Academy>

The applications deadline is 17:00 GMT on Friday 22 May 2015. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Friday 29 May.

Each course will be limited to a maximum of 20 participants.

Please note that applicants who speak English as a second language may be asked to join an informal telephone interview to confirm their level of English.

## Fees

Arts Management (Intermediate) 3 – 7 August 2015	£825
Arts Management (Advanced) 10 – 14 August 2015	£825
Stage Management (Intermediate) 3 – 7 August 2015	£825
Stage Management (Advanced) 10 – 14 August 2015	£825
Technical Theatre (Advanced) 2 – 6 August 2015	£1050

Course fees cover course participation, off-site visits, learning materials, and lunches during the course.

The payment deadline for course fees is 1 July 2015.

Participants will be responsible for covering the cost of their accommodation, travel and UK visa (if applicable). Upon request, the British Council can provide a UK visa invitation letter.

Accommodation can be booked and paid for in advance through the Royal Welsh College. Facilities are self-catering and close to where courses are taught. Rooms are priced at a standard rate of £150 per person, per week.

## Certification

At the end of each course, participants will be presented with a certificate of completion and recognition of learning signed by the British Council and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

## Help and Support

For advice about applications or any questions about the courses, please email [CulturalSkillsUnit@britishcouncil.org](mailto:CulturalSkillsUnit@britishcouncil.org)

# ABOUT CARDIFF

Cardiff, the capital city of Wales has a city-region of 1.4 million people. It is one of the most popular student destinations in the UK, boasting 65,000 undergraduate students, 12,000 graduate students, 6,000 overseas students from over 100 countries and 9,000 academic staff.

While offering everything you would expect from a thriving city, it is also relatively compact and easy to get around on foot. In addition to being one of the safest cities in the UK for students, it also offers excellent value for money, with food, entertainment and accommodation costs significantly lower than in most major UK cities.

- 1 Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama
- 2 Millennium Stadium
- 3 Cardiff Castle
- 4 New Theatre
- 5 National Museum & Gallery of Wales
- 6 St David's Hall
- 7 Sherman Cymru
- 8 No Fit State Circus
- 9 Wales Millennium Centre\*
- 10 BBC Drama Village\*\* & Centre for Creative Industries

\* Home of Welsh National Opera, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and National Dance Company Wales

\*\* Home of Doctor Who, Sherlock, Casualty



# BRITISH COUNCIL

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We create international opportunities for the people of the UK and other countries and build trust between them worldwide. Our 7,000 staff in more than 100 countries work with thousands of professionals and policy makers and millions of young people every year through English, arts, education and society programmes. We are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter. All our work is in pursuit of our charitable purpose and creates prosperity and security for the UK and the countries we work in all around the world.

The Cultural Skills Unit's purpose is to build sustainable cultural skills programmes that will ensure the cultural sector of the UK and other countries is equipped with highly skilled workers who can contribute to economic, social and cultural benefit.

The image shows a low-angle view of a classical building facade with ornate architectural details like columns and cornices. A semi-transparent pink overlay covers the left and center portions of the image. In the bottom right corner, the British Council logo is visible, consisting of four white circles arranged in a 2x2 grid, followed by the text 'BRITISH COUNCIL' in white capital letters on a dark background.

BRITISH  
COUNCIL

# ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC & DRAMA

The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama is based in Cardiff, the capital city of Wales, UK. As the National Conservatoire of Wales and one of the UK's leading drama schools, we provide specialist vocational training within technical theatre, design and performance.

Collaborations with organisations and visiting practitioners from TV, film, theatre and live events, mean that our students gain invaluable experience of professional working conditions and make vital contacts within the industry. The focus is always on the future and we take immense pride in the world-class talent of our students. Graduates of the College have since moved into roles working with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal Opera House and The National Theatre and the 2012 opening and closing ceremonies of the London Olympics.

The College also operates as an arts centre with 300 public performances and events each year, has regular performances in London, plus a month-long residency at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The opportunities for those studying at RWCMD are endless.



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