



NATIONAL ACADEMY  
OF DRAMATIC ART

# PROSPECTUS 2017



[www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie)



  
Trinity  
College  
Dublin  
The University of Dublin

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS TO THE LIR

**RADA** ROYAL  
ACADEMY OF  
DRAMATIC ART



# THE LIR ACADEMY

Now in its sixth year, The Lir National Academy of Dramatic Art at Trinity College Dublin is Ireland's only drama academy offering international standard conservatoire training at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

A centre of excellence for training in acting, stage management, technical theatre, design, directing and playwriting, The Lir Academy is constantly reviewing the needs within the theatre, TV and film industries and is adapting to provide relevant training to meet those needs. An ever expanding range of short courses now include Junior Academy for 15-17 year olds and an Introduction to Stage Management and Technical Theatre course for students who wish to experience a week of intensive training in these areas.

Partnered with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) in London, The Lir Academy offers three undergraduate courses, three postgraduate degrees and a range of acting, voice, movement and technical courses. All of the teaching staff have extensive professional experience and continue to work in the industry. The depth and breadth

of training is supplemented by professional placements, guest lectures and workshops from leading international figures of stage and screen.

Students at The Lir Academy come from very diverse backgrounds and are accepted on the basis of exceptional natural talent. A series of auditions or interviews form the basis of the admission process with none of the undergraduate courses being part of the CAO/UCAS or other points based systems. Undergraduate and postgraduate courses at The Lir Academy lead to degrees/diplomas awarded by Trinity College Dublin. The Lir Academy students are full-time students of Trinity College Dublin and have access to the full range of service which the University provides.

The Lir Academy is located on Pearse street at Grand Canal Quay, a 15 minute walk from the main Trinity campus. The custom made building is equipped with two black box theatres, a movement studio, four rehearsal spaces, a design studio, a wardrobe studio, a set construction workshop, and a scenic workshop.

*The creative hub,  
nurturing the next  
generation of theatre  
makers in Ireland.*

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# Foundation Diploma in Acting and Theatre

Duration: One year, two semesters

Qualification: Foundation Diploma from Trinity College Dublin

The foundation course is aimed primarily at school leavers who are interested in preparing themselves for three-year actor training at conservatoire level either at The Lir Academy or a similar academy.

An additional focus on broadening students' reading and understanding of plays, as well as of theatre history, prepares students for broader drama degrees and related areas of study and work. The course is taught by a committed team of teachers, including many of The Lir Academy's core acting tutors from the Master of Fine Art programmes. The personal development of the foundation course students is enhanced by regular individual tutorials with the foundation course director, a dedicated member of staff who supervises all aspects of the programme.

The course also encourages students to develop their own individual creativity with a focus on collaboration, improvisation and lateral thinking.

**This course is an NFQ Level 7 Diploma (60 credits)**

As this is only a one year course, it does not attract government funding. All students offered places on the foundation course are required to fund both the annual fee and all living costs privately.

As this course is on the National Framework, it is open to EU and Non-EU students. Non-EU students will be eligible to get a student visa to undertake this course in Ireland.

Ireland and EU fees.....€8,993 (2016)\*

Non-EU fees.....€17,638 (2016)\*



# Bachelor in Acting

Duration: Three years, full time

Qualification: Honours Degree from Trinity College Dublin

**This intensive honours degree will provide students with the training necessary to become a professional actor through a series of skills-based classes including the core subjects of acting, movement and voice. Dramaturgy, text analysis, singing, dance and combat classes will complement this learning.**

Given the practical nature of the course and the principal objective of training the actor's body as an instrument, the training is intense. Students can expect to be in class for approximately 42 hours per week, 36 weeks per year.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Online application forms are accepted between October and the beginning of February each year
- Application forms are available from [www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie)
- Application fee €40 before Christmas, €70 after Christmas
- Students are required to meet the matriculation set out by Trinity College Dublin

## AUDITIONS

First round auditions will take place in Dublin, Belfast, London and New York between December and March during which applicants will perform both a contemporary and a classical monologue of their choosing. Each monologue should last between two and three minutes only.

Second and third round auditions will take place in Dublin and New York only.

## FEES

Undergraduate tuition fees are currently paid by the Irish Exchequer. EU students who qualify for free fees therefore only pay a student contribution fee (€3,000), a sports levy fee (€120) and a USI levy (€8). If a student is awarded a local authority grant the student contribution fee will be paid by the local authority. The sports centre and USI levy must be paid by ALL students.

Fees for students not qualifying for the "free fees" initiative:

Ireland and EU fees.....€9,678 (2016)\*

Non-EU fees.....€20,408 (2017)\*



# Bachelor in Stage Management and Technical Theatre

This three-year honours degree offered for the first time in 2017, subject to academic approval, will replace the existing two-year professional diploma in stage management and technical theatre which has been available at The Lir Academy since 2012.

The degree course will continue to offer practice-based training to students who are interested in a career in professional theatre, TV, film and associated industries. It has been enhanced to increase opportunities in the specialist areas within the course; Stage Management, Technical Theatre and Theatre Production. Classes on production management, design (set, lighting, costume and sound) and managing your own freelance business will be introduced during the final year of the degree.

## YEAR ONE - INTRODUCTION

Year one is designed to introduce students to practice-based training in all technical departments including lighting, sound, prop making, scenic art, costume, set construction and stage management. Theatre skills, theatre technologies and theatre studies will be the core skills-based classes which will be complemented with hands-on learning from in-house productions.

## YEAR TWO - APPLICATION

Year two will see students apply the skills learned from their first year to a series of 5 theatre productions with options to work on film or Opera, directed and designed by professional practitioners. Each student will have the opportunity to become a head of department and work alongside their peers to deliver a full production. A module of theatre studies will provide classes in production management, design and theatre history.

## YEAR THREE - ADVANCED

In year three students will undertake work placements with prominent national theatres, theatre companies, festivals and industry related companies in order to further develop their chosen area of specialism. Research projects will be assigned according to the preferred career choice of each individual student. These projects can be theoretical or practical in nature. Students will also have two opportunities to take on senior roles within a production. Students will be encouraged to keep a journal of reflective practices throughout their final year.

The practical training during the degree course will

Duration: **Three years, full time**  
Qualification: **Honours Degree from Trinity College Dublin**

be complemented with a range of classes including theatre history, principles of stage management and principles of theatre technology. Led by dedicated and experienced theatre technicians and stage managers, these classes will reflect best practices in professional theatre.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Online application forms are accepted between October and the beginning of February each year
- Application forms are available from [www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie)
- Application fee €50
- Students are required to meet the matriculation set out by Trinity College Dublin

## INTERVIEWS

Selection is by interview. Although experience is recommended, it is not essential.

## FEES

Undergraduate tuition fees are currently paid by the Irish Exchequer. EU students who qualify for free fees therefore only pay a student contribution fee (€3,000), a sports levy fee (€120) and a USI

levy (€8). If a student is awarded a local authority grant the student contribution fee will be paid by the local authority. The sports centre and USI levy must be paid by ALL students.

Fees for students not qualifying for the "free fees" initiative:  
*Ireland and EU fees...€9,678 (2016)\**  
*Non EU fees.....€20,408 (2017)\**

\* Annual Review of tuition fees and other charges by Trinity College Dublin

Please note, tuition fees and other charges are subject to annual review by Trinity College Dublin which may result in a fee increase each year. All students (undergraduate and postgraduate, EU and Non-EU) on courses/programmes of study of more than one year should be aware that tuition fees and other charges (commencement/graduation fee, Sports Centre Charge and USI levy) may be subject to increase annually. The annual revision is approved by Trinity's Committee and College Board and typically increase by approximately 3% per annum or more in any given year.





## MFA Playwriting

**Duration:** One year full time or two years part time

**Qualification:** Master in Fine Art from Trinity College Dublin

This masters degree is designed to encourage, nurture and promote the individual voice of the student writer.

Through a series of skills-based writing workshops and tutorials with professional playwrights, directors and dramaturges, the student will become equipped with professional practices and creative approaches to writing for performance.

**Modules include:** Contemporary theatre practice, dramaturgy, writing workshop and individual supervision for the writing of a full length play.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the information required on the online form, students are also required to submit the following:

- A letter that outlines your theatre education and writing experience to date
- A statement of purpose that refers to your ambitions in terms of writing style, form and medium
- A CV (résumé)
- A sample of writing in the form of a play (minimum 45 minutes reading time)
- Two references/testimonials from those familiar with your writing

## MFA Theatre Directing

**Duration:** One year full time or two years part time

**Qualification:** Master in Fine Art from Trinity College Dublin

The Master in Fine Art in Theatre Directing is the first entirely practice-based Masters programme of its kind in Ireland.

It was introduced following extensive consultation with the Irish theatre community and is a direct response to the stated needs of the industry and of talented emerging artists. The MFA programme aims to equip students of exceptional talent with the skills necessary to pursue a career in the professional theatre and related industries through the development of skills, professional practices and creative approaches to theatre directing.

**Modules include:** Contemporary theatre practice, directing workshop, theatre production, dramaturgy for theatre directing.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the information required on the online form, students are also required to submit the following:

- A letter that outlines the applicant's theatre education and highlights the applicant's theatre directing experience to date
- A statement of purpose that refers to the applicants ambitions in terms of theatre directing
- A CV (résumé)
- A portfolio of your work including a critical assessment of recently directed work
- Two references/testimonials from those familiar with the applicants work





# MFA Stage Design, including Lighting, Costume and Set

Duration: One year full time or two years part time

Qualification: Master in Fine Art from Trinity College Dublin

This masters degree is purposely designed to allow students to either specialise in one area of stage design (set, costume or lighting design) or to combine two disciplines as desired (set AND costume design for example, or set AND lighting design).

In addition to the core classes and workshops, individual and group tuition from The Lir Academy's resident designers will be a key feature of the training. Master classes by visiting practitioners will supplement the student experience. Professional placements are a key feature of the programme and all students will showcase their work in public productions at the culmination of the course.

**Modules include:** Contemporary theatre practice, production design, set design, costume design, lighting design and dramaturgy for stage design.

## ENTRY

In addition to the information required on the online form, students are also required to submit the following:

- A letter that outlines the applicant's theatre education highlighting the applicant's stage design experience to date
- A statement of purpose that refers to the applicants ambitions in terms of stage design
- A CV (résumé)
- A portfolio of recent work
- Two references/testimonials from those familiar with the applicant's work

## Application Process for all master degrees

- Applicants should apply online at [www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie) (courses, postgraduate)
- Shortlisted applicants should anticipate an admission interview either in person or by video conference call

Students on all three programmes will work together in collaboration, developing a shared understanding of contemporary theatre practice and a collective appreciation of the dedication and commitment required to make innovative performances happen.

### FEES FOR MFA DEGREES 2017

Full-time fees (EU) .....	€10,698
Full-time fees (Non-EU).....	€19,253
Part-time fees (EU).....	€5,483 p.a.
Part-time fees (Non-EU).....	€10,708 p.a.

## Short Courses

The Lir Academy offers a number of short courses in the areas of acting, voice, movement, technical and auditions to suit your needs, experience and level of interest. Short courses include:

- *Introduction to Acting series (three ten-week progressive courses; Introduction to Acting, Character and Scene Study and Ensemble Company)*
- *Presenting with Confidence – one-day workshop*
- *Sensing Laban: Movement Expression – one-day workshop*
- *Young Actors' Programme and Musical Theatre Intensive – two-week summer courses*
- *Acting and Irish Theatre – four-week summer course*
- *Junior Academy – Every Saturday for two terms. Ages 15-17*
- *Stage Combat – every Wednesday night for ten weeks*
- *Introduction to Stage Management and Technical Theatre – one-week taster course for the Bachelor in Stage Management and Technical Theatre degree*
- *Technology and the Stage – two-day workshop*

Visit [www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie) for further information on all short courses and to book your place online.



## Additional Information

### BURSARIES AND SUPPORT

Students offered places at The Lir Academy on the Bachelor in Acting, Bachelor in Stage Management and Technical Theatre and the three MFA courses are eligible to apply to our Lir Bursaries fund and to Trinity's Student Hardship Fund towards the cost of fees and maintenance. You can apply for a bursary once you have been offered a place at The Lir Academy.

### MATRICULATION

Matriculation refers to the minimum requirements for entry to college. Before you can be considered for admission you must meet these minimum standards.

To be offered a place you must: Present six subjects, three of which must be at grade C or above on higher Leaving Certificate papers or at least grade C in the University Matriculation examination. The six subjects above must include:

- A pass in English
- A pass in mathematics and a pass in a language other than English
- OR
- A pass in Latin and a pass in a subject other than a language

For further information and to check out the equivalent requirements from other countries, visit:

[www.tcd.ie/study/eu/undergraduate/admission-requirements/](http://www.tcd.ie/study/eu/undergraduate/admission-requirements/)

### ACCESS

The Lir Academy aims to provide an inclusive environment which promotes equality and values diversity and is committed to maintaining an environment of dignity and respect where all students can develop their full potential.

We welcome applications from disabled students and ask that relevant information regarding any disability is disclosed when completing your application so that we can provide additional support during the audition/interview process as required.

### ADVICE FOR AUDITIONS/INTERVIEWS

It is recommended when choosing your monologues that you choose characters that are most relevant to your age and gender. Make sure you know your monologues and that do not exceed the allocated time of 3 minutes per monologue.

The panel are looking for someone who has potential and who is willing to train hard and take on board all that The Lir Academy has to offer.

For interview preparation for the Bachelor in Stage Management and Technical Theatre degree and the three MFA postgraduate degrees, bring with you any supporting materials which you feel may enhance your application. Any evidence you may have of working on amateur productions, whether it be writing scripts, working on set designs/construction, acting or directing, will help support your application.

For further information on all courses on offer from The Lir Academy visit our website, [www.thelir.ie](http://www.thelir.ie)





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