



NIDA

National Institute of Dramatic Art

2026
COURSE
GUIDE

Calling all
**INNOVATORS
DREAMERS
ADVENTURERS
STORY MAKERS**

NIDA acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the sacred lands, from the mountains to the sea, on which we learn and tell stories.

The lands of the Bidjigal, Gadigal, Dharawal and Dharug peoples. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past and present.

We also recognise the work and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, workers and creatives within the NIDA community that spans this continent.

Sovereignty was never ceded.

Always was, always will be
Aboriginal land.

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A photograph of a group of people in a meeting. On the left, a man with glasses and a light-colored suit jacket is looking down, with his hand near his chin. In the center, a woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a mustard-colored button-down shirt, is looking to the right and smiling. To her right, another person with curly hair is partially visible. The background is dark with a bright light source on the right. The text "STORIES GROW HERE" is overlaid in large, bold, yellow capital letters. A solid yellow rectangle is positioned behind the word "HERE".

**STORIES
GROW
HERE**





HELLO AND WELCOME

For over 65 years, NIDA has been a part of the fabric of storytelling in Australia.

Our graduates shape and define stories around the world. They write, fill our screens, power music events, design and make sets and costumes, you can find them on film and television sets, leading creative organisations and pushing the boundaries of dramatic art and new technologies. They are stage managers, directors, lighting designers, dressers and more. They can be found in around the world in major arts institutions, on film sets, in indie theatre, and every space in between.

In this Course Guide, you'll find information about studying with us, the courses we offer, how to apply, various scholarship and support opportunities available and insights into life at NIDA.

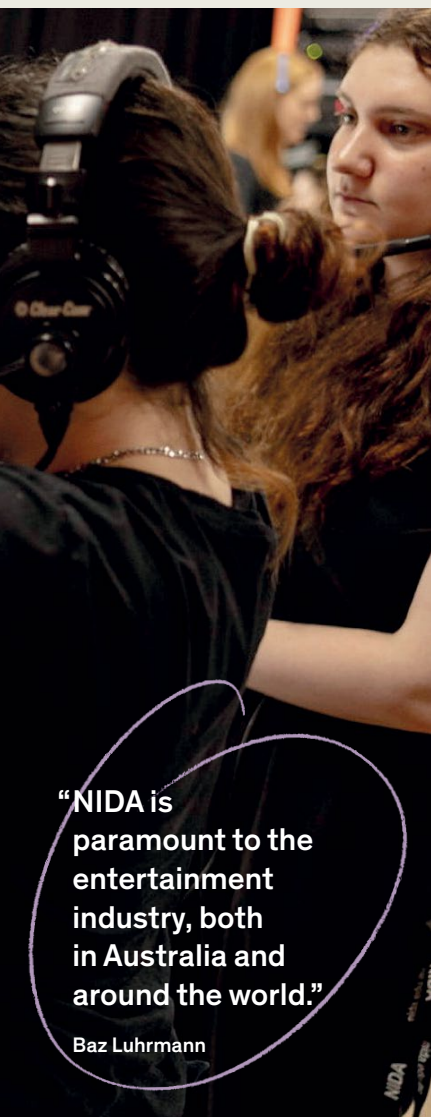
As Australia's national dramatic arts educator, we offer unrivalled rigour, practice-based learning, connections to industry and a culture of innovation, empowering some of the world's most influential and in-demand practitioners across stage, screen and new digital platforms.

Whether you want to immerse yourself in a three-year undergraduate degree; undertake a vocational diploma; evolve your creative practice with a Master's

postgraduate degree as a writer or director; or take your professional experience as an arts manager, producer or cultural leader to the next level, NIDA offers relevant, high calibre practice-based and industry-connected education and training pitched to your needs.

From honouring 65,000 years of First Nations storytelling to exploring the next frontiers of technology, NIDA students are immersed in hands-on learning preparing them for dynamic careers.

NIDA graduates don't just shape our stages and screens; they challenge and inspire us to see a better world.



“NIDA is paramount to the entertainment industry, both in Australia and around the world.”

Baz Luhrmann

STUDYING AT NIDA IS A TRANSFORMATIVE ACT

As a student, you'll gain the tools, skills and confidence in your chosen field to translate creative concepts into stories and develop your unique voice as a maker, performer, writer, director or designer.

Our training equips you for the industry as it exists now and with the ability to grow and adapt for the future. We prepare students to work in all arts and cultural applications, from stage and screen to virtual, immersive,

and interactive environments. Careers after NIDA can be as wide-ranging as your own ambitions.

Alongside nurture of your craft, you'll be supported to develop your emotional intelligence, analytical ability, entrepreneurship, creativity and collaboration skills. We focus on well-being in our dynamic industry, and self-care is a core part of the curriculum.

We welcome talented individuals from diverse communities across the country to pursue their artistic aspirations in a rigorous yet supportive environment.

NIDA has developed its scholarship program to ensure students with financial hardship or from historically excluded communities find a place here. We seek to break down barriers so students feel represented, welcomed and supported.

We put students at the centre of a hands-on, collaborative learning experience with leading industry practitioners, expert staff, special guest artists and experienced professionals working across a range of creative industries.

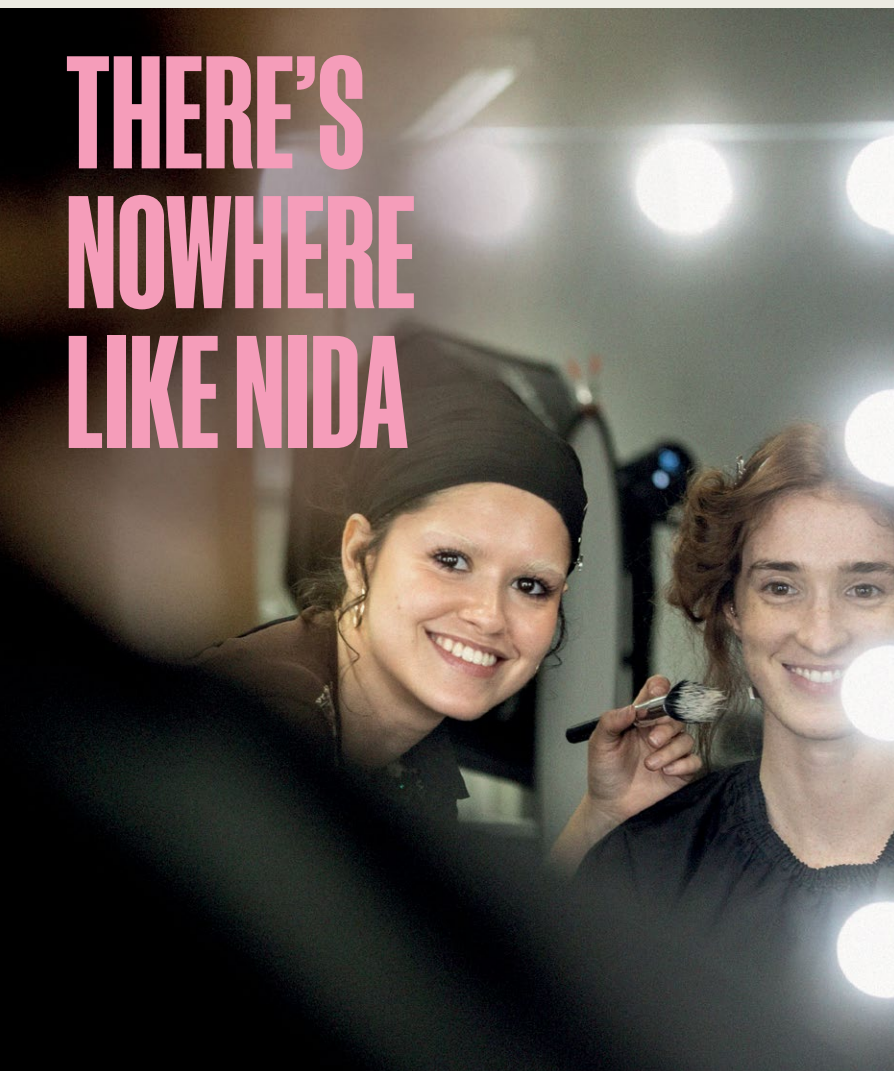
PURPOSEFULLY PRACTICE-BASED

NIDA degrees have deliberately small cohorts and class sizes to foster a collaborative and immersive learning environment. Our teaching approach is practical, cross-disciplinary and hands on. We provide focused feedback and guidance, particularly through our regular production seasons. Our students mount professional-standard productions as part of their learning, providing industry-focused training and fertile ground for collaboration with other disciplines.

INSIDER KNOWLEDGE

We'll introduce you to leading local, national and global practitioners so you can meet and learn from the very best, gaining unparalleled insight and connection into the industry. Selected for their exceptional teaching ability and extensive industry experience, our tutors provide students with individual feedback and guidance, ensuring you get the most out of your training.

THERE'S NOWHERE LIKE NIDA



INROADS INTO INDUSTRY

With an unrivalled network into the arts and entertainment industry, your time at NIDA offers invaluable opportunities to meet, learn and train in your chosen area of specialisation. With masterclasses from industry leading professionals and industry placements as a major part of your course, a large proportion of students secure employment before graduation.

FUTURE-FIT LEARNING

NIDA courses teach important life skills across academic, embodied and digital literacies while building a strong understanding of industry standards. We also train students with tools and strategies in managing their careers into the future. Our commitment to continuous improvement sees individual courses responding to student feedback and the demands of an ever-changing industry.

COMMON-GROUND COLLABORATION

NIDA's common subjects are undertaken by first and second-year BFA students and all MFA students to cultivate interdisciplinary collaboration skills. Aiming to combine foundational performance ideas and essential academic skills, these subjects offer students meaningful connections with peers, consultation with Course Leaders, and authentic engagement with NIDA's First Nations team, allowing them to further develop a strong and empathetic practice.



“NIDA has and will always be the cultural breeding ground for extraordinary artists in the fields of theatre, film and television.”

Justin Kurzel, Director,
The Narrow Road to the Deep North,
Ellis Park, Nitram, Snowtown.

MADE FOR THOSE WHO MAKE ART HAPPEN

VOCATIONAL DIPLOMAS

Our one-year, full-time, intensive diplomas are a fast, practical way to learn hands-on skills and knowledge for a range of arts and entertainment roles. They're ideal as a pathway into employment or towards further studies.

- Live Production and Technical Services
- Musical Theatre
- Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services)
- Stage and Screen Performance

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (BFA)

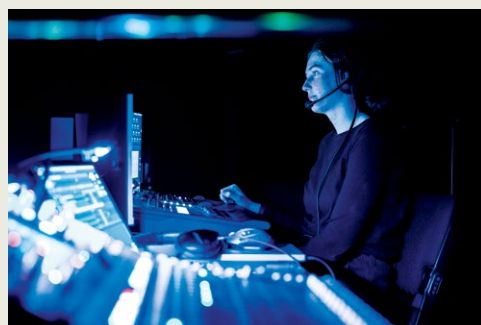
NIDA's three-year, practice-based bachelor's degrees provide intensive and immersive industry-leading learning as you collaborate to create and perform live theatre productions, screen-based projects, events and exhibitions.

- Acting
- Costume
- Design for Performance
- Props and Effects
- Set Construction Technologies
- Technical Theatre and Stage Management

MASTER OF FINE ARTS (MFA)

Designed for active practitioners. An 18-30 month NIDA postgraduate degree prepares students to become exceptional artists and cultural leaders through critical enquiry, practice-based learning, experimentation and innovation.

- Cultural Leadership
- Directing
- Dramatic Writing



POWERING PERFORMANCE

NIDA prepares you for the full suite of roles needed to create and deliver performance experiences in Australia and around the world.

NIDA graduates are in demand and found in every facet of the creative industries and beyond, including but not limited to:

Arts & Cultural Leadership

Lead and shape the industry as an artistic director, creative producer, or cultural policy and strategy expert.

Design & Making

Bring creative visions to life as a set and costume designer, set builder, lighting designer, make-up and special effects artist, or digital fabricator.

Directing & Writing

Craft compelling stories as a theatre or screen director, playwright, screenwriter, or immersive theatre creator.

Performance

Pursue a career on stage or screen as an actor, voice artist, musical theatre performer, dancer, or motion capture artist.

Technical & Production

Oversee and execute high-quality productions as a stage manager, lighting technician, sound designer, or automation operator.

ALUMNI

Our alumni are some of the world's best-loved storytellers

NIDA alumni are found working on and behind stages and screens all over the world. They're recognised for their success across many areas of the creative industries, as well as their commitment to telling Australian stories.

9

Oscar
Academy
Awards

17

BAFTA
Film
Awards

3

Tony
Awards

NIDA alumni are recognised globally.

7

Olivier
Awards

9

Golden
Globe
Awards

9

Primetime
Emmy
Awards

1,400+
Awards

3,700+
nominations

OUR ALUMNI INCLUDE

ACTING

Cate Blanchett

(*Black Bag, Tár, Carol*)

Hugo Weaving

(*The Matrix, The Lord of the Rings*)

Miranda Tapsell

(*Top End Wedding, The Sapphires*)

Murray Bartlett

(*The White Lotus, The Last of Us*)

COSTUME

Jude Loxley

(*Hamilton, The Picture of Dorian Gray, MJ the Musical*)

Rebecca Ritchie

(*Opera Australia*)

Marnie Perkins

(*The Pursuit of Love, The Dig*)

DESIGN FOR PERFORMANCE

Fiona Crombie

(*The Favourite, Cruella, Macbeth*)

Julio Himede

(*The Grammys, Eurovision, MTV Movie, TV and Music Awards*)

Catherine Martin

(*Elvis, The Great Gatsby, Moulin Rouge!, Romeo + Juliet*)

Jacob Nash

(*Bangarra Dance Theatre, Cleverman, SPEAR*)

DIRECTING

Shannon Murphy

(*Babyteeth, Dying for Sex*)

Kip Williams

(*The Picture of Dorian Gray*)

Yaron Lifschitz

(*Artistic Director and CEO of Circa, Tim Winton's The Turning*)

DRAMATIC WRITING

Suzie Miller

(*RBG: Of Many, One, Prima Facie*)

Craig Pearce

(*Elvis, Moulin Rouge!*)

Gretel Vella

(*The Great, Totally Completely Fine, Doctor Doctor*)

SET CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Boaz Shemesh

(*Sydney Theatre Company*)

Eryn Douglas

(*&Juliet*)

Eileen Ortiona

(*The Fall Guy, Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings, Thor: Love and Thunder*)

SPECIALIST MAKE-UP SERVICES

Camilla Leary

(*New York Fashion Week, Australia's The Voice*)

Joshan Ramadani

(*Moulin Rouge, Tina Turner the Musical*)

Kiarna Strauss

(*The Artful Dodger Season 1, Netflix's Heartbreak High*)

TECHNICAL THEATRE AND STAGE MANAGEMENT

David Bergman

(*The Picture Dorian Gray*)

Minka Stevens

(*Sydney Theatre Company*)

Gavan Swift

(*Moby Dick at The Met, Annie, Book of Mormon*)

STAGE AND SCREEN PERFORMANCE

Will Lodder

(*Love Me, The Narrow Road to the Deep North*)

Sophea Pennington

(*The Deb, Home and Away*)

Josh Macqueen

(*Black Snow, Motorheads*)

LIVE PRODUCTION AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

Alex Roche

(*Opera Australia, Sydney Opera House*)

Lucy Edwards (*Annie*)

Harry Tanswell (*City Recital Hall*)

MUSICAL THEATRE

Brittanie Shipway

(*Pirates of Penzance, Once on this Island*)

Tana Laga'aia

(*Rent, Jesus Christ Superstar*)

Anusha Thomas

(*The Dismissal, Hamilton*)

PROPS & EFFECTS

Emily Adinolfi

(*Sydney Theatre Company*)

Katie Williams

(*Isle of Dogs, Sunny, Prehistoric Planet 3*)

Luke D'Alessandro

(*The Masked Singer Australia & USA, Dancing with the Stars*)

CULTURAL LEADERSHIP

Merindah Donnelly

(*Co-CEO, Executive Producer, BlakDance*)

Joel McGuinness

(*Experience Director, State Library Victoria*)

Melissa Malu

(*Head of Pasifika Collections and Engagement, Australian Museum*)

Meet our alumni at nida.edu.au/alumni

UNRIVALLED INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

Students at NIDA have the invaluable opportunity to engage in masterclasses with leading industry practitioners to develop and present theatre productions and screen projects. NIDA masterclasses are a phenomenal way to show your skillsets, network and build a gateway into the industry.

The Hollywood Reporter has continued to rank NIDA as

**ONE OF THE
25 BEST
DRAMA SCHOOLS
IN THE WORLD**

and the only school outside the USA and UK to make the list.

Hollywood
REPORTER

94%+

employment in the arts industry or undertaking further arts-related study, across all NIDA's accredited programs, within 12 months of graduating

95%+

student retention across all Diploma, BFA and MFA programs

IN 2024 WE OFFERED

309

productions, showcases, and events held at NIDA

200+

weeks of industry engagement

49

student placements

43

industry hosts

RECENT ARTISTS WORKING WITH NIDA STUDENTS INCLUDE:

DIRECTORS AND CREATIVE LEADERS

Tasnim Hossain

Resident Director,
Melbourne Theatre Company

Dino Dimitriadis

Director

Eamon Flack

Artistic Director,
Belvoir Theatre

Tessa Leong

Artistic Director,
Contemporary Asian
Australian Performance

Jacob Nash

Former Head of Design,
Bangarra Dance Theatre

Shari Sebbens

Resident Director,
Sydney Theatre Company

Imara Savage

Director,
Sydney Chamber Opera

Priya Srinivasan

Co-Artistic Director,
Sangam Festival

Vicki Van Hout

Indigenous Independent Artist

Kip Williams

Former Artistic Director,
Sydney Theatre Company

WRITERS

Sam Meikle

Writer

Tommy Murphy

Playwright and Screenwriter

Brittanie Shipway

Writer, Performer

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Garry Alcorn

Stage Manager,
Opera Australia

Andrew Chan

Designer,
3D Modelling Specialist

Eugenia Farrell

Stage Manager

Antony Hateley

Lighting Designer

David Grigg

Sound Designer

Jennifer Irwin

Costume Designer,
Bangarra Dance Theatre

Sabina Myers

Costume and
Production Designer

Toni Paul

Hair Specialist

Dalara Williams

Actor, Writer

Matthew Whittet

Writer

Tom Wright

Artistic Associate,
Belvoir Theatre



TELLING TOMORROW'S STORIES

Storytelling is one of the oldest human pastimes, and NIDA's mission is to provide transformational education, enabling graduates to continue this tradition in ways that embrace new technologies and continue to develop our industry.

NIDA GREEN

NIDA Green trains NIDA students with practical skills and practices to ensure their work is environmentally sustainable. NIDA is on track to become a fully regenerative and carbon-positive organisation by 2030.

Learn more about
NIDA Green:
nida.edu.au/nida-green

NIDA FUTURE CENTRE

The NIDA Future Centre is NIDA's innovation lab. Through partnerships with tech companies, research institutions and independent practitioners, the centre empowers NIDA students to define and harness tomorrow's storytelling opportunities.

Explore more from the
NIDA Future Centre:
nida.edu.au/future-centre

"NIDA – once again – is ahead of the pack. NIDA Green is a pioneer curriculum-based program which aims to have every graduate leave with a comprehensive understanding of the 'why' of sustainability and a tool kit to make the 'how' possible. With this understanding, sustainability will be business as usual across all practices."

Cate Blanchett,
NIDA alumna



SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2026

NIDA offers a range of scholarships designed to help you thrive — not just survive — during your studies.

These scholarships can assist with tuition and living costs, especially for students facing financial barriers.

We believe talent comes from everywhere, and we're committed to building a student community that reflects the richness of our society. We actively encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, individuals from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, and people with disability.

At NIDA, you're not alone — we're here to support your success.

Some scholarships can be awarded prior to arrival at NIDA and may cover one or multiple years of a degree. We also offer scholarships at the beginning of each academic year, supporting our students to continue their NIDA journey.

Scholarships are available for domestic applicants (those who are citizens or permanent residents of Australia, a citizen of New Zealand or the holder of an Australian humanitarian visa).

In 2025, the NIDA Foundation Trust awarded close to \$1.2 million in scholarship support to students, ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000 per year.

While most scholarships are available to students who can demonstrate financial need, we also have specific scholarships dedicated to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, students from regional or remote areas, female-identifying students, students who are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), and more.

Applicants must first apply to their course of choice and then apply for a scholarship.

To find out more about scholarships, visit nida.edu.au/scholarships

SUPPORT

FEE-HELP

All students are required to pay tuition fees for their courses at NIDA. Domestic students in the BFA and MFA courses can apply for FEE-HELP, an Australian Government loan scheme that assists eligible students pay all or part of their tuition fees.

Learn more at studyassist.gov.au

VET Student Loans

NIDA is an approved VET Student Loans provider. Students in Vocational Diploma courses can apply for VET Student Loans, an Australian Government loan scheme that assists eligible students in paying part of their tuition fees.

Learn more at dewr.gov.au/vet-student-loans

COURSES



ACTING
COSTUME
DESIGN FOR PERFORMANCE
PROPS AND EFFECTS
SET CONSTRUCTION
TECHNOLOGIES
TECHNICAL THEATRE AND
STAGE MANAGEMENT
CULTURAL LEADERSHIP
DIRECTING
DRAMATIC WRITING
LIVE PRODUCTION AND
TECHNICAL SERVICES
MUSICAL THEATRE
SCREEN AND MEDIA
(SPECIALIST MAKE-UP SERVICES)
STAGE AND SCREEN
PERFORMANCE



ACTING



Bachelor of Fine Arts ACTING

Join an exceptional ensemble of students and teachers and equip yourself with the self-knowledge, skills and craft to thrive in the arts and entertainment industry now and into the future.

With the option to study as an actor or a singing actor, a BFA (Acting) degree gives you vigorous, varied training across four skill disciplines: acting, music, movement and voice. These disciplines are designed to give you a deep understanding of the craft of acting and an exceptional level of technical skill so you can tell stories clearly, creatively, consistently and bravely to any audience.

You'll explore each stage of your training through performance projects, productions and interdisciplinary tasks with the wider student community, all while working with leading local, national and global practitioners in dedicated performance spaces, so you can meet and learn from the very best.

A NIDA BFA (Acting) is an internationally recognised qualification. By the end of your training, you'll showcase your skills to industry representatives and enter the workplace as a flexible, adaptive, future-facing artist, ready for a rewarding career.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

OUR ACTING GRADUATES

NIDA acting alumni include many of the most recognised and awarded actors in the world, including Cate Blanchett, Sam Worthington, Judy Davis, Sarah Snook, Richard Roxburgh, Remy Hii, Hugh Sheridan, Miranda Tapsell, Murray Bartlett and Uli Latukefu.

BFA (Acting) streams:

The Actor

The Singing Actor

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Actor for stage (theatre), screen (film, TV, digital) and music entertainment (music theatre, cabaret, musicals).

DURATION

3 years

Mode: Full-time, on campus

Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm

Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via audition, see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025

Closing midnight, 15 September 2025

Visit apply.nida.edu.au

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p. 14

CRICOS CODE

083696J



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Performer and creator for stage and screen.

DURATION

1 year
Mode: Full-time, on campus
4 days per week, 9am–5pm
Some evenings and weekends

HOW TO APPLY

Via audition, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 15 September 2025
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COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

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SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

RTO CODE

90349



STAGE & SCREEN PERFORMANCE

10914 NAT Diploma of STAGE AND SCREEN PERFORMANCE

This year-long intensive and practical course puts you centre stage and in front of the camera, giving you the tools to develop and perform your own stories for stage and screen. During the course you will learn how to collaborate with others to create original works for various media.

Training includes classes in acting techniques for both live and screen work, performance styles and production practices.

You'll learn about the multiplicity of roles, technologies and methodologies that exist within the theatre, film, TV and the digital industries.

NIDA tutors are working specialists in their field of expertise and the training provides invaluable masterclasses with leading industry practitioners.

At the end of the course, you will present a live and filmed showcase of your work in one of the NIDA theatres. Attended by arts and entertainment industry practitioners, producers, directors and agents, this is an ideal opportunity for you to present your skills and connect with industry.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

CUA50220 Diploma of MUSICAL THEATRE

This course is an intensive year of practical study that trains you to become a 'triple threat': singer, dancer and actor. Providing the rigour and skill required to get a foothold in musical theatre, the course is industry driven. You will learn from practicing professionals and leading tutors from the arts and entertainment industry.

You will be trained to respond creatively to scripts and songs, collaborate effectively with other performers and how to make informed decisions about character interpretation. Training is practical, with an even distribution of classes in each of the disciplines of singing, dancing and acting.

You will train in ensemble and solo singing in a range of musical theatre repertoire, acting techniques for both spoken and sung dialogue, and in ensemble and individual dance in a variety of styles.

At the end of the course, you'll present a live showcase of your work in one of the NIDA theatres. Attended by entertainment industry practitioners, producers, directors and agents, this is an ideal opportunity for you to show your skills and connect with industry.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

MUSICAL THEATRE





CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Musical theatre performer, singer, dancer, actor, cabaret performer.

DURATION

1 year
Mode: Full-time, on campus
4 days per week, 9am–5pm
Some evenings and weekends

HOW TO APPLY

Via audition, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 15 September 2025

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

RTO CODE
90349





COSTUME



Bachelor of Fine Arts COSTUME

NIDA BFA (Costume) graduates are in high demand for good reason. Tailored closely to industry needs, this immersive, practice-led course provides students with the in-depth knowledge and skills to pursue a career in costume making and costume supervising for a range of performance contexts, including theatre, film and digital media.

With full access to NIDA's world-class facilities, graduates will gain a solid background in all aspects of costume making, learning from globally recognised tutors and guest practitioners who are specialists in opera, theatre and film costume.

Working in small classes, students develop skills in costume cutting (pattern making), fitting and construction, fabric dyeing, art finishing and fabrication, underpinnings, leatherwork, tailoring and headwear. You will explore cultural and historical factors that have shaped the development of clothing and influence costume making

Third-year students take responsibility as costume supervisors on student productions, collaborating with actors, stage managers and costume designers. You will also take your skills on an industry placement with a leading theatre, opera and dance company or a major film and television studio.

If you're curious about costume, make it happen with a robust skill set, valuable industry connections and priceless opportunities to collaborate on full-scale productions from brief to execution.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

OUR COSTUME GRADUATES

Our graduates are employed by Opera Australia, The Australian Ballet, Sydney Theatre Company, Cosprop (London), Bangarra Dance Theatre and Ensemble Theatre, among others. They've worked in theatre productions such as *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* and *Frozen*, and on films such as *Aquaman*, *Peter Rabbit*, *Three Thousand Years of Longing*, *Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga*, Bazmark Films' *Elvis*, and TV programs such as *Dancing with the Stars*.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Costume supervisor, TV costume coordinator, costume maker, costume cutter, costume assistant or standby, theatrical tailor, buyer, costume art finisher, milliner, and wardrobe managers across the creative industries.

DURATION

3 years

Mode: Full-time, on campus

Monday–Friday, 9 am–6 pm

Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via garment submission, portfolio and interview, see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025

Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

083698G

Bachelor of Fine Arts
DESIGN FOR
PERFORMANCE

Designers don't just shape the worlds of our stages and screens; they challenge and inspire us to engage more fully with our own world. The BFA (Design for Performance) sets you up with the knowledge, skills, and opportunity to build a creative and versatile career across all parts of the performing arts, entertainment and screen industries.

As a Design for Performance student, you'll create set and costume designs for live productions, short films, music videos, devised works, installations and multidisciplinary projects.

Working in small classes in professionally equipped studios, theatres and workshops, learning is embedded in individual and collaborative design projects. Students, teachers and industry mentors work collectively to create a rich learning environment that values curiosity, initiative, risk and experimentation, and brings together the best critical thinking and immersive practice with a strong focus on intellectual enquiry and sustainability.

Good questions stretch our imagination and creativity. Design for Performance students are encouraged to question, dared to imagine new ideas and new worlds, and empowered to innovate change from the ground up.

Graduates from NIDA take with them a robust skillset, valuable industry connections and confidence about their future in stage and screen design.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au



DESIGN



OUR DESIGN GRADUATES

NIDA was recently named one of the top 10 costume design courses in the world. Our award-winning graduates have been recognised with Academy Awards, BAFTAs, AACTAs, APDG Awards, Green Room and Sydney Theatre Awards. They have designed for major theatre companies across the globe including Cirque du Soleil, Bangarra Dance Theatre, and international feature films including *Elvis*, *Aladdin*, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *The Matrix*, *Romeo + Juliet*, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn—Parts 1 and 2*, *Watchmen*, *300*, *Garden State*, *The Favourite*, *Game of Thrones*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Moulin Rouge!*, *True History of the Kelly Gang*, *21 Grams*, numerous Olympic Games and more.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Designer of set, production, costume, lighting, video and properties; art director or design educator in the arts, entertainment and creative industries, including for traditional performance, digital, immersive theatre and events.

DURATION

3 years
Mode: Full-time, on campus
Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm
Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via portfolio and interview, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

083699F

PROPS & EFFECTS



Bachelor of Fine Arts PROPS AND EFFECTS

Immersive and practice-based, a BFA (Props and Effects) is an all-encompassing deep-dive into conceptualising, problem-solving and creating props and practical effects for every avenue in the performing arts and entertainment industries.

One of only a handful of institutions in the world to offer this degree, our BFA (Props and Effects) gives you the chance to build a vast, in-demand range of skillsets and become inclusive and sustainable designer-makers of both digital and physical properties and effects for events, entertainment and artistic productions across platforms.

Props and Effects is a course driven by experimentation, in which you will explore your ideas by 'thinking through making' as the means to fully realise complex collaborative and individual projects. From conceptualisation and ideation to analysis, proposition and execution, this holistic approach to practice will teach you how to adapt and manage workflows in response to each project's challenges.

As you progress, you'll be mentored, guided and supported by NIDA's cross-educational collaborators and industry partners, empowering you with the skillset, practical experiences, and valuable industry connections to be confident about your professional future.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au



OUR PROPS AND EFFECTS GRADUATES

NIDA graduates have been employed by Creature Technology Company, Wētā Workshops, *The Masked Singer*, *Mad Max* Films, *Lego Masters* Australia, Aardman Animations, Sydney Theatre Company, Opera Australia and many others.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Props designer-maker, scenic artist, set decorator, animator, puppet maker, model maker, digital fabricator, special effects artist, draftsperson, 3D modeler, project manager, properties workshop manager, freelance artist, set dresser across traditional performance, digital immersive theatre and events.

DURATION

3 years
Mode: Full-time, on campus
Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm
Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

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HOW TO APPLY

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SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

083697G



SET CONSTRUCTION



Bachelor of Fine Arts SET CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

The only set construction course of its kind in Australia, a BFA (Set Construction Technologies) sets you up to create the environments in which performances take place.

Working in small cohorts, students follow a practice-based, immersive teaching and learning method designed to equip you with the creative, conceptual, practical and technical skills essential for constructing performance environments in the performing arts and entertainment industries.

As you progress, you'll learn to offer staging approaches from multiple standpoints, creatively interpret briefs from fabrication, mechanical and automation perspectives and train in timber and steel fabrication, rigging, structural, mechanical and electronic concepts leading to the automation of scenic elements. As well as the chance to cut your teeth on NIDA student productions, you will collaborate with external artists creating installations and performances, broadening employment opportunities.

Your industry-focused workshop skills are complemented and expanded upon by topics such as project management, work, health and safety, risk analysis, technical writing and presentation skills so you're all set from the outset.

To complete the degree, students can utilise their skills through a placement with a leading production company, either in Australia or internationally. Employment opportunities span theatre, film, events, automation, rigging and special effects for film, as well as construction coordination and management.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

OUR SET CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES GRADUATES

NIDA graduates have been employed by Disney Studios, Warner Bros., Opera Australia, Sydney Theatre Company, Stagekings Australia, All Scene All Props UK, Sold Out, Henn Projekt Germany, Pollard Productions, Tri-Point Productions, Dan FX, SimpleMotion, Stage Technologies, TAIT Towers USA, The Australian Ballet, MnR Constructions, and more.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Staging technician, set builder, construction manager, theatre mechanist, technical manager, technical designer, art/exhibition installer, special effects technician/designer, systems integrator, automation technician, architectural consultant in the arts, entertainment and creative industries, including traditional performance, immersive theatre and events.

DURATION

3 years

Mode: Full-time, on campus

Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm

Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via portfolio and interview, see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025

Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p. 14

CRICOS CODE

083700G

TECHNICAL THEATRE & STAGE MANAGEMENT



Bachelor of Fine Arts TECHNICAL THEATRE & STAGE MANAGEMENT

A hands-on BFA (Technical Theatre and Stage Management) that rewards creative problem solvers with a huge range of technical and leadership skills that are always in demand.

Supported by highly skilled teaching staff, industry guests and mentors, students can learn to manage, integrate and communicate technical requirements for theatre and live events while developing their analytical and entrepreneurial skills towards a sustainable career.

With an emphasis on small classes and immersive, practice-based learning, you'll learn to work in diverse performance genres, utilising a wide range of tools and processes informed by artistic and dramaturgical intent, creative collaboration and storytelling principles.

Along the way, you will work with industry-standard equipment and gain a high level of collaborative, practical experience as a stage manager and in lighting, sound or video roles during NIDA's three student production seasons.

Final-year students have the opportunity to undertake industry development experience, which may include working with major theatres, opera and dance companies, commercial musicals, arts festivals, and leading arts practitioners in Australia and overseas.

With a huge range of applicable skills across genres and roles and a high demand within the industry, this degree is popular for good reason.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au



OUR TECHNICAL THEATRE AND STAGE MANAGEMENT GRADUATES

NIDA graduates are employed by Sydney Theatre Company, Sydney Opera House, Sydney Dance Company, Bangarra Dance Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company, The Australian Ballet, Cirque du Soleil, Abbey Theatre (Dublin), Sydney Festival, Adelaide Festival, Michael Cassell Group, RGM Productions (London), Crossroads Live, Disney Theatrical Group, PRG Scenic Technology (USA) and more.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Stage manager, lighting designer, sound designer, video designer, production manager, event manager, technical manager, theatre technician.

DURATION

3 years
Mode: Full-time, on campus
Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm
Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p. 14

APPLICATIONS

Via creative response, project and interview, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

CRICOS CODE
083701F

LIVE PRODUCTION

CUA50420 Diploma of LIVE PRODUCTION AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

A lot can happen in a year. Our Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services (DLPTS) course provides hands-on training that teaches you to plan, coordinate, carry out, and evaluate technical requirements for productions, events or exhibitions in the creative arts industry.

Over the year, you will learn how to organise lighting, audio and vision resources and take part in their installation and operation processes. You will then apply your skills to live performance and technical projects, collaborating with students from other creative disciplines across NIDA.

With small classes and tutors who are practicing professionals from the arts and entertainment industry, the DLPTS course includes networking opportunities with a range of Sydney theatre venues, including the Sydney Theatre Company, Sydney Opera House and Sydney Lyric Theatre.

As an integral part of the course, you will also undertake an immersive industry placement, enabling you to develop valuable networks. This course rewards creative problem solvers with contemporary industry training, strong collaboration skills and deep connections to the industry they would like to join.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au





CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Career opportunities include roles such as lighting technician, lighting operator, audio technician, radio mic technician, audio operator, vision system technician, vision system operation, and technical supervisor.

DURATION

1 year
Mode: Full-time, on campus
4 days per week, 9am–5pm
Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via interview, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 10 November 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

RTO CODE

90349



CUA51020 Diploma of SCREEN AND MEDIA (SPECIALIST MAKE-UP SERVICES)

There's nothing like seeing your work on the stage or screen for the first time. In this practical and intensive year of study, you'll gain the essential skills and knowledge to work in a broad range of creative contexts, including theatre, film, fashion, advertising, wig styling, special effects and prosthetics.

With small classes and content delivered by practicing professionals, students benefit from deep industry connections and contemporary expertise from all sectors of arts and entertainment. The course includes visits to working industry venues such as the Opera Centre and City Recital Hall.

Collaboration on NIDA productions allow you to refine your craft, build your professional portfolio and collaborate with current and future industry professionals.

At the end of the year, you will showcase your work as part of a filmed performance in one of NIDA's theatres. Attended by entertainment industry practitioners and producers, this is an ideal opportunity to display your skills and connect with industry.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

OUR DIPLOMA OF SCREEN AND MEDIA GRADUATES

NIDA make-up graduates have worked on feature films including *Thor*, and *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*, screen productions including *Home & Away* and *Heartbreak High*, and theatre productions with Opera Australia, and musicals such as *Beauty and the Beast*, *Frozen*, and *Tina: The Musical*.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Make-up artist, hair and wig stylist, special effects and prosthetics make-up artist across traditional performance (film, TV, theatre, opera, dance), digital (film, screen, video, game design), immersive theatre and events.

DURATION

1 year

Mode: Full-time, on campus

4 days per week, 9am–5pm

Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via interview, see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025

Closing midnight, 10 November 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

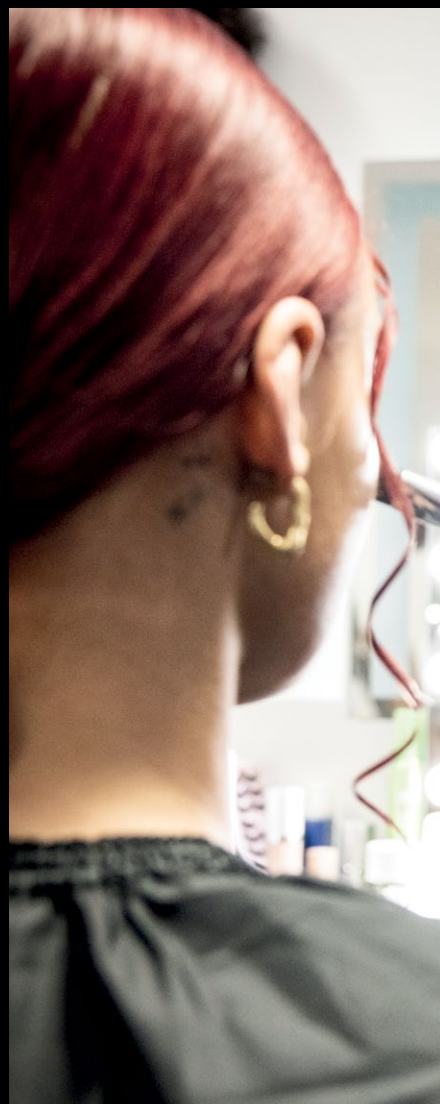
Available. See p.14

RTO CODE

90349



NATIONALLY RECOGNISED
TRAINING





MAKE-UP

086128F Master of Fine Arts CULTURAL LEADERSHIP

NIDA's MFA (Cultural Leadership) is designed for those who make art happen. It invites participants to explore and define how positive change is enacted and to graduate as future-focused and effective cultural leaders.

Through a combination of part-time, online learning and face-to-face intensives at NIDA's Sydney campus and elsewhere, you will be encouraged to exchange and collaborate in innovative approaches to creative and professional practice. Topics covered include governance, cultural policy, entrepreneurial thought leadership, communication, advocacy, cultural transformation, sustainability, as well as evaluative and practice-based research methods.

Throughout the 30-month course, you will be taught by experienced cultural leaders and supported by senior NIDA academics. In recognition of the breadth of skills, knowledge, and diverse lived experiences that students bring to the course, we encourage and support a unique peer-learning environment.

This MFA also includes the opportunity to undertake a research-driven, international case study and placement to enhance your networks, and a collaborative capstone project to put your knowledge into practice.

Culture shifts happen when cultural leaders are skilled. This program is an invaluable resource for those who are dedicated to making a positive impact on the cultural landscape, both now and in the future.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

OUR CULTURAL LEADERSHIP GRADUATES

Our graduates are actively engaged in a wide range of contexts including arts festivals, performing arts companies, government and arts funding bodies, libraries, performing arts venues, independent artists and producers, museums and galleries, creative industries and cultural service organisations across Australia and internationally.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Executive director, general manager, creative social innovator, theatre director, creative producer, interdisciplinary artist, community cultural programmer, company manager, cultural facilities manager, artistic director, theatre-maker, cultural researcher, arts and cultural consultant, curator, cultural policy and strategy expert, arts and cultural advisor and advocate.

DURATION

30 months

Mode: Part-time online,
On-campus intensives in Sydney

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via written application and interview, see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 13 October 2025

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduate degree or five years experience in a relevant area.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

086128F



CULTURAL LEADERSHIP



Master of Fine Arts DIRECTING

NIDA has nurtured talented, versatile, and visionary artists for five decades. Our training is renowned for its focus on studio-based learning and fostering the development of each individual's distinctive directorial voice.

In this immersive MFA, you'll be encouraged to explore and articulate your artistic vision, engage with contemporary audiences and help shape the future of the arts and entertainment industries.

Our curriculum revolves around immersive, real-world projects

spanning classical and modern theatre, screenwork, opera and devised performance. Throughout your journey, you will have the chance to interact with actors, designers and production companies both around Australia and abroad. You'll also undertake an industry placement, gaining firsthand experience and cementing vital connections to kickstart your career.

In their graduation project, students develop and direct a short live performance of their choice in a season at NIDA Theatres. Artistic directors and industry professionals

are invited to experience your work.

MFA Directing students graduate with an advanced approach to collaboration and leadership, a comprehensive process as a director, and a distinct directorial voice, with strong industry connections.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

DIRECTING

OUR DIRECTING GRADUATES

NIDA graduates are nationally and internationally recognised and have gone on to win prestigious awards, including several AFI Awards, Australian and international film festival awards, Sydney Film Critics' Awards, Directors' Guild Awards, the Prix Italia Award for Directing, Helpmann Awards and Sydney Theatre Awards. Our graduates have been employed by Sydney Theatre Company, Belvoir, Melbourne Theatre Company, Opera Australia, Schaubühne Berlin, Royal Court Theatre (London), Bazmark (Baz Luhrmann) Films, Warner Bros. Entertainment and more

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Theatre director, opera director, film and television director, artistic director, rehearsal director, event director, director in digital environments (video, game design), immersive experience director.

**DURATION**

18 months

Mode: Full-time, on campus

Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm

Some evenings and weekends

* Opportunities to travel interstate and internationally are dependent on prevailing conditions and are not guaranteed.

**COURSE STRUCTURE
AND FEES**

Visit nida.edu.au/study

HOW TO APPLY

Via portfolio, essay and interview,
see p.44

Applications open 10 June 2025

Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduate degree or five years
of professional experience in an area
relevant to directing.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

113112H

WRITING



OUR WRITING GRADUATES

As writing for stage, screen, and other entertainment platforms is typically a freelance occupation, you will be equipped with the knowledge and entrepreneurial skills to access and navigate a portfolio career. Our award-winning graduates have been employed as writers for theatre, film, television, dramatic podcasts and interactive media.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

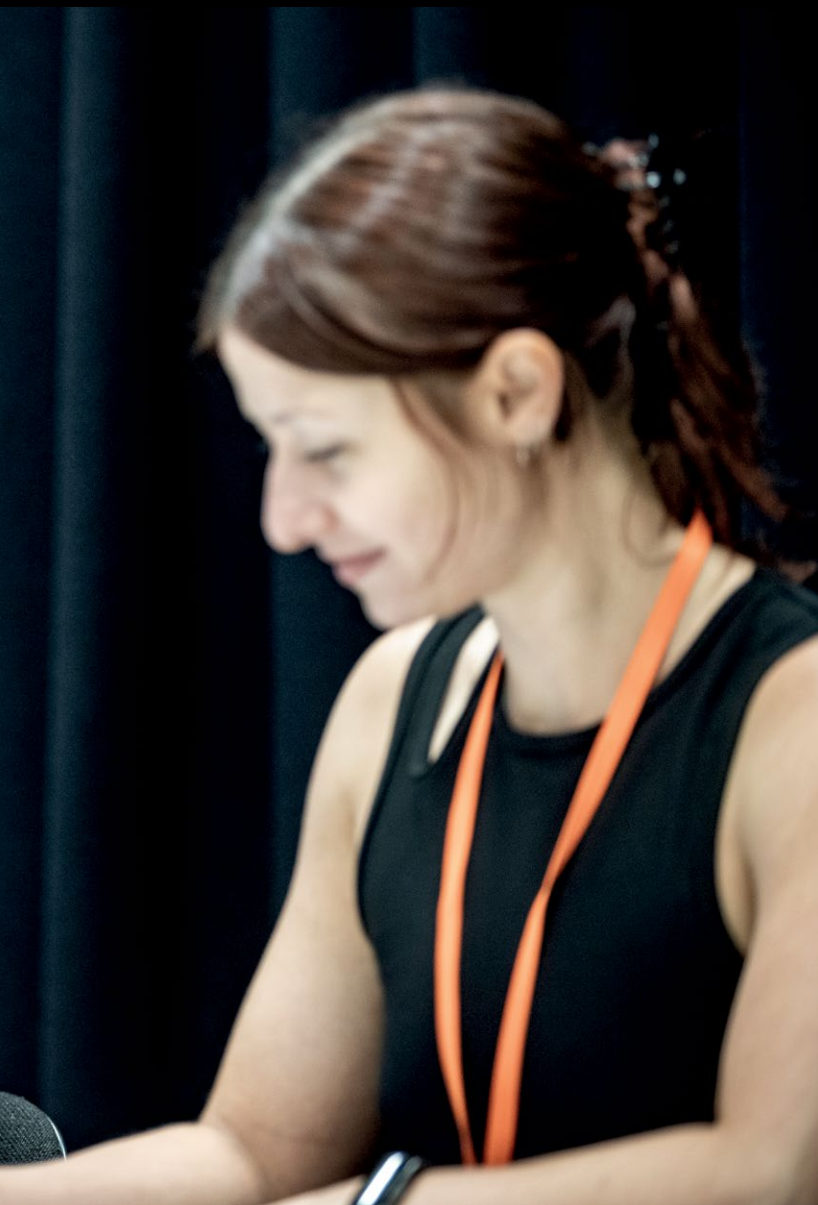
Writing across dramatic genres, including as playwright, screenwriter for film and television, narrative designer for games and interactive, as well as story development roles across genres.

DURATION

18 months
Mode: Full-time, on campus
Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm
Some evenings and weekends

COURSE STRUCTURE AND FEES

Visit nida.edu.au/study



Master of Fine Arts DRAMATIC WRITING

The MFA (Dramatic Writing) is an intensive, practice-led course designed to prepare students for life as professional writers. It offers flexibility and a culturally safe, supportive and stimulating environment where students can be curious, experiment with form and subject matter, and explore their own unique imagination and voice.

Across 18 months, students undergo a rigorous exploration of theatre, film, television, interactive and immersive writing. You'll develop professional friendships and undertake collaborative projects, workshoping with actors and directors while building a portfolio of industry-focused projects, including two full-length works and multiple outlines and pitches.

We believe that some of our most important stories are those least told and strongly encourage applications from First Nations writers and those from underrepresented communities. Building inclusive and collaborative environments and understanding issues of story ownership are viewed by NIDA as the core to developing an ethical practice.

This course is focused on developing versatile and adaptive dramatic writers with sustainable writing careers. Armed with the skills to work across theatre, film and television, graduates leave with strong links within industry and the opportunity to establish a priceless network of professional connections.

There's more to explore at nida.edu.au

HOW TO APPLY

Via interview and written work, see p.44
Applications open 10 June 2025
Closing midnight, 29 September 2025

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduate degree or five years of professional experience in an area relevant to writing.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Available. See p.14

CRICOS CODE

113111J

NIDA CAREER PATHWAYS

NIDA trains the full suite of roles necessary to create and deliver performance experiences for audiences all over Australia and around the world. This includes theatre, film, television, dance, opera, live events, interactive gaming and often jobs outside arts and entertainment.

ARTS/CULTURAL MANAGERS

Arts and cultural advisor and advocate **CL**
 Arts and cultural consultant **CL**
 Artistic director **D, P, Di, CL**
 Community cultural programmer **CL**
 Creative producer **CL**
 Creative social innovator **CL**
 Cultural facilities manager **CL**
 Cultural policy and strategy expert **CL**
 Cultural researcher **CL**
 Curator **CL**
 Event director **Di**
 Executive director **CL**
 Production manager **Di, CL**
 Program manager **Di, CL**
 Resident/touring director **Di, CL**
 Theatre producer **CL**

DESIGNERS/MAKERS

Animator **P**
 Art department **P, D**
 Art fabrication **P**
 Art finisher **D, C, P**
 Art installer **S, T, P**
 Buyer-costume/props/sets **P, D, C, T**
 Concept model-maker **P**
 Construction supervisor – stage/screen **S**
 Costume assistant or standby **C**
 Costume art finisher **C**
 Costume buyer **C**
 Costume curator **D, C**
 Costume cutter **C**
 Costume designer **D**
 Costume designer (interactive technology) **P, D**
 Costume finisher **C**
 Costume maker **C**
 Costume researcher **P, D, C**
 Costume standby **P, D, C**

Costume supervisor **C**
 Design assistant/associate **P, D**
 Design educator in the arts **P, D**
 Designer **P, D**
 Digital fabrication **P**
 Draftsperson **D, P, T**
 Event designer **P, D**
 Exhibition display **P, D**
 Footwear designer **P, D**
 Hair stylist **MS**
 Headwear designer **P, D, C**
 Headwear maker **C**
 Game designer **P, D**
 Installation designer **P, D, T**
 Installation manager **P, D, T**
 Illustrator (costume) **P, D**
 Illustrator (pre-visualisation) **P, D**
 Lighting designer **D, T**
 Make-up artist **MS**
 Milliner **C**
 Model maker **D, P**
 Mould maker **P**
 Practical effects maker **P**
 Production designer **D**
 Properties designer **P, D**
 Properties maker **P**
 Properties standby **P**
 Prosthetics maker **P, MS**
 Puppet maker **P**
 Scenic artist **P, D**
 Sculptor **P**
 Set builder **S**
 Set decorator/dresser **P, D**
 Set designer **D**
 Set director **P, D, S**
 Special effects artist **P**
 Special effects designer **P, D**
 Special effects make-up artist **MS**
 Special effects make-up designer **MS**
 Speciality props **P**
 Speciality costume **C**
 Stagehand stage/screen **S, L**
 Storyboard artist **D**
 Systems integrator **S**
 Technical designer **S**

Theatre maker **T**
 Theatrical tailor **C**
 3D modeller **P**
 3D fabrication **P**
 3D sculptor **P**
 Video content designer **D**
 Video for live performance designer **T**
 Wardrobe manager **C**
 Wig maker **MS**
 Workshop manager **C, P, S**

DIRECTORS AND WRITERS

Artistic director **Di, CL, D**
 Assistant Director **Di**
 Director in digital (video, game design) **Di**
 Director—stage and screen **Di**
 Dramaturg **DW**
 Event director **Di**
 Immersive theatre director **Di**
 Immersive theatre writer **DW**
 Opera director **Di**
 Performance director **Di**
 Playwright **DW**
 Resident/touring director **Di, CL**
 Screenwriter **DW**
 TV director **Di**
 Writer in performance genres (radio, video games and digital media) **DW**
 Writer for audiobooks **DW**
 Writer for stage and screen **DW, SS**

PERFORMERS

Actors-musical theatre **A, MT**
 Actors-screen **A, SS**
 Actors-stage **A, MT, SS**
 Cabaret performer **A, MT**
 Dancer **MT**
 Intimacy Coordinator **A**

CAREER PATHWAY KEY

Bachelor of Fine Art

- A Acting
- C Costume
- D Design for Performance
- P Props and Effects
- S Set Construction Technologies
- T Technical Theatre and Stage Management

Master of Fine Art

- CL Cultural Leadership
- Di Directing
- DW Dramatic Writing

Vocational Diplomas

- L Live Production and Technical Services CUA50420
- MT Musical Theatre CUA50220
- MS Screen and Media (Specialist Make-Up Services) CUA51020
- SS Stage and Screen Performance 10914NAT

- Motion capture artist A, SS
- Movement coach A
- Musical theatre performer A, MT
- Opera performer A, MT
- Performer-stage/screen A, MT, SS
- Presenter A, MT, SS
- Singer A, MT
- Singing actor A, MT
- Voice artist A, SS
- Voice-over actor A, SS

TECHNICAL PRACTITIONERS AND MANAGERS

- Audio technician T, L
- Assistant stage manager T, L
- Automation operator S, T
- Automation technician S, T
- Backstage crew member S, C, P, T, L
- Draftsperson D, P, T
- Events manager T, CL
- Foley artist (sounds for film, video, and other media) T
- Lighting designer D, T
- Lighting operator T, L
- Lighting programmer T, L
- Lighting technician T, L
- Mechanist S
- Project manager T, L
- Production manager T, L
- Sound designer T
- Sound operator T, L
- Sound recordist T
- Stage manager T
- Staging technician S, T, L
- Technical director T
- Technical manager S, T, L
- Theatrical technician T, L
- Video programmer T
- Vision systems technician L
- Vision systems operator T, L





READY TO APPLY?

We are keen to hear from passionate and courageous individuals who want to create stories across stages, screens and beyond. NIDA strongly encourages First Nations applicants and applications from individuals with diverse backgrounds and lived experiences.

Before applying for our higher education courses, here's what you need to know:

- You must have reached 18 years of age before the commencement of the course*
- For Bachelor of Fine Arts: you must hold a Higher School Certificate or its equivalent from any state or territory in Australia or overseas*. ATAR is not required.
- For a Master of Fine Arts, you must have an undergraduate degree or at least five years of professional experience in a relevant field.

- You must be fluent in spoken English and proficient in written English. International students need 8.0 IELTS (Academic) or equivalent for Masters courses and the Bachelor of Fine Arts Acting, and 7.0 IELTS (Academic) or equivalent for all other Bachelors courses.
- You must complete the audition or prerequisites for your chosen course.
- We accept applications from international students, for select courses.

The NIDA application process usually takes place over two rounds.



ROUND ONE

Choose a course:

Go to our courses section online and choose what you want to study. Make sure to check through the selection criteria.

Submit your application:

You can submit your application directly to NIDA via our website. Follow the prompts on the application portal and make sure you include all supporting documentation.

Please note you can apply for more than one course. You will need to submit an application for each individual course.

ROUND TWO

Prepare for your audition or interview:

If your application is successful, you'll be invited for an audition or an interview.

Attend your audition or interview:

Interviews will be held face-to-face or online. Auditions and recalls will be face-to-face unless otherwise advised.

Receive an offer:

If you're successful, you will receive an offer for a place at NIDA. You'll be advised by email or telephone.

Audition Process

The audition process varies between courses. All applicants for the Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance, Diploma of Musical Theatre and Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) must audition as part of their application.

See what your audition process looks like at: nida.edu.au/study

LIFE AT NIDA



Based in Sydney's Kensington, NIDA's campus is located across the road from the education precinct of UNSW Sydney, with light rail and bus routes stopping right outside the front door. NIDA's award-winning facilities includes dedicated spaces for each discipline, as well as spaces for collaboration, including:

- Six performance venues, including a 700-seat proscenium arch theatre
- Nine fully equipped rehearsal rooms
- Acoustic studios for voice work and sound recordings
- Design and lighting studios
- Construction, costume and props workshops
- Rodney Seaborn Library, which includes over 30,000 drama books and play scripts plus access to online resources

STUDENT LIFE

Life as a NIDA student is like nowhere else. With students coming from diverse backgrounds across Australia and internationally, there are huge opportunities to learn and collaborate with each other while studying, creating a space to develop extensive and long-lasting networks and friendships.

LIFE IN SYDNEY

Sydney is one of the most exciting places in the world to kick-start a career in the arts. It's where people from all over the world come to learn, create, and be part of a city buzzing with energy, nature, and culture. From major theatres and film studios to opera houses and production companies, Sydney is packed with opportunities to get inspired and get involved. And if you're studying at NIDA, you're right in the middle of it all — surrounded by some of Australia's most iconic creative spaces, just steps away.

See more of the neighbourhood
[sydney.com](https://www.nida.edu.au/sydney.com)



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

We actively promote the holistic health and well-being of our students to help them thrive and achieve. Student training includes demonstrations, information sessions and workshops on a broad range of health topics from mindfulness to physical fitness and injury prevention.

ON-SITE COUNSELLING SERVICES

NIDA students have access to counselling services on our Sydney campus. Counsellors are available four days per week, and students receive unlimited sessions during their study at NIDA.

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

NIDA students can apply for accommodation at various UNSW on-campus residences. Once enrolled, students gain access to online boards and forums where shared accommodation options are often available.

STUDENT COUNCIL OF NIDA

SCON is a student-led council that represents and advocates for the NIDA student body. It helps students by organising events, facilitating communication with staff, and ensuring students' voices are heard in key institutional decisions.

OPEN PATHWAYS

A degree or diploma isn't the only way to take advantage of all that NIDA has to offer. NIDA Open offers creative short courses for adults, children and young people.

NIDA Studios programs are spaces of possibility. Designed for dedicated and imaginative individuals who are ready to embrace an intensive, practical training experience. Studios are delivered on weekends over six or 12 months with a twice-yearly intake.

Explore our NIDA Studios at:
open.nida.edu.au/studios

Led by expert teaching artists with a wealth of industry experience, NIDA Residencies are designed to develop and extend your creative skills over an intensive two or three-week period. Residencies are held in January and July at NIDA's Sydney campus.

Learn more about NIDA Open at:
open.nida.edu.au

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Government Partners



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts

NIDA is supported by the Australian Government Department
of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts

Principal Partner



Principal Patron
First Nations Program



Major Partner



Corporate Partners



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KAWAI

The information contained in the brochure was accurate at the time of publication: May 2025.

NIDA reserves the right at any time to make changes as it deems appropriate.

For the most up-to-date information visit **apply.nida.edu.au**

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Art Direction and Design:

Alphabet Studio

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Phil Erbacher and Robert Miniter

NIDA is a registered Higher Education Training Provider

Provider ID: PRV12052

CRICOS provider code: 00756M

NIDA is registered by the Australian Skills Quality Authority under the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011 as an NVR Registered Training Organisation
RTO Code: 90349

NIDA

National Institute of Dramatic Art