

Creating a Production: Actors in Action I/II/III THR B/C/D 55 Application



Deadline: Sunday Sept 27th

AUDITIONS for The Department of Arts, Culture and Media Annual Theatre Production:

The Pande-Mic Project (Provisional title only)

Our annual production will be a devised piece of multimedia theatre that tackles an inescapable topic of our times. As the COVID-19 pandemic has radically reshaped our ways of being in the world and in community, it has also summoned us to reimagine the making of theatre. The piece takes up this challenge while aiming to provide a space where students can creatively process how this societal reshaping has impacted them, both individually and collectively.

Drawing from the performers' personal (yet anonymous) stories, interviews with their peers, popular culture and literature, we will weave a tapestry of voices and intersectional perspectives that connect the intimate to the public, the personal to the political.

A few overlapping questions will guide the development of the show: In what ways has the pandemic affected this diverse community of students? Since youth are less vulnerable (but not immune) to this “plague,” what other societal “plagues” may function as pre-existing conditions that potentially make this sanitary crisis more virulent to them than it appears? And finally: Is there a “silver lining”? Could the stories young people share now have a contagious effect and help shape their future?

Director: Carla Melo

Auditions for this production will be held in late September and Early October, very likely using an online meeting program.

Instructions for the auditions:

Since performers will also be co-creators, our audition process will not be based on traditional monologues. Instead, those interested in being a part of the team should create a **1 to 3-minute** text and/or movement/gesture-based audition piece that explores the impact of the pandemic upon their lives.

This exploration should be **inspired by one or two** of the following questions:

How has the pandemic changed (for better or worse) the ways you relate to family, friends, classmates? What's your favorite thing to do during this time of social distancing? How have the new social norms affected the way you study and your perspectives for the future? Are there aspects of your experiences that older adults or even your friends don't seem to get? Are there feelings and experiences that you are having that might not be considered socially acceptable? Do you feel that your experience is reflected in the media? If so, in what ways? What are some questions you would like to be asked? What are some questions you like to ask your classmates? What have you learned through this experience, so far?

Your reflection on the questions (that resonate most with you) should merely serve as inspiration for a **theatrical response**. You'll use your skills to create a brief piece that **may** include text (found or self-generated), movement, gesture, props, singing, music, etc. Drawing from your strengths, **choose ONLY one or two of these elements**. In addition, feel free to use the camera framing in creative ways -- this is not a requirement; just make sure you are well-lit and that background distractions are minimal. If your piece relies on stillness you may use a virtual background. *If you need technical support or feel your domestic space is not conducive to the creative and audition process, please reach out to us. We will plan for a live audition, but you might want to have a recorded version that you would be able to send to us, in case connection issues come up. The recorded version must have no edits or effects.*

Questions? Please do not hesitate to email Carla Melo at carla.melo@utoronto.ca

Performers/co-creators who are selected will enroll in **THR B/C/D 55H3**.

TIME COMMITMENT: Keep in mind that this is an **intensive course** that will require you to develop, rehearse and perform during evenings and weekends **in addition** to scheduled class times (Tuesday and Thursday 4-6pm winter term). At this point, our performances are scheduled for March 11 through 13 and 18 through 20. Tech week is likely to take place during March 5 through 10.

Please know that our selection process will take into account where you are in your journey – we will be looking for students of varying levels of experience. Priority will be given to students of the Theatre and Performance Program, but participation is open to all.

UTSC Timetable Entry:

Enrollment Control: A

Permission of the Theatre and Performance Studies Program Director is required. You may select this course but will not be officially enrolled until approved. Check your status through ACORN to see whether you have been approved. (APP = approval; REF = refused; INT = no decision yet)

Auditions will take place in September. Further instructions will be sent to students on INT.

P = Priority, R = Restricted, A = Approval, E = Enrolment on ACORN is disabled

Information - Students will be required to submit an application form by Sunday, September 27th. Approval in the course is dependent on submission of the form, followed by an interview in late September- Early October.

Application outcome will be communicated to the students by October 9th

Please fill out your personal information and answer the questions that follow it: (Email a copy of the completed form to Manaal Hussain at manaal.hussain@utoronto.ca by September 27th)

1. Name: _____

2. Student ID: _____

3. Email: _____

4. Please list the Major/Minor/Specialist programs you are enrolled in:

5. Have you taken courses in other ACM programs? If so, which programs and which courses?

6. Why are you interested in being a co-creator in this piece? In other words, please tell us what draws you to: **a)** the theme/questions of the project, and **b)** the devising process. Please be as specific as you can.

7. Please list all performance skills or interests such as acting, singing and dancing, along with experience and/or training in each area.

8. Do you have other skills that you have always wanted to apply to the stage? (i.e.: writing, puppetry, playing a musical instrument, drawing, photography, speaking a foreign language, martial arts, etc.)

Final Comments

Remember, this course requires you to:

- Have the required prerequisites to enroll in B.C.D-level course
- Enroll in, pay for, and complete a winter 2021 B/C/D-level course
- Be available for regular and irregular rehearsals, production meetings, and other work as needs be from January through the end of the Winter term 2021, and some limited meetings during the Fall Term 2020.
- Work within a collaborative group and meet deadlines

9. Check the TIME COMMITMENT requirements on the first page. Do you foresee any challenges in meeting these requirements? Please be as specific as you can so that we can see if we can accommodate you.