

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY PERFORMING ARTS DEGREE?



Using the Major Sheet:

- Large headings indicate **industry** area and subheadings indicate **employers** within that area.
- Use the titles to search for careers and related careers in order to explore your options within different areas of industry. Note that some career titles have multiple names for similar positions.
- An asterisk (*) notes that additional training (certification, graduate school, high level of experience) may be needed in order to obtain this career. Make sure to thoroughly research career pathways.

THEATER / FILM / VIDEO

Community/Regional/Repertoire Theaters, Dinner Theaters, Children's Theaters

- Actor
- Lighting & Sound Technician
- Set Designer
- Director
- Touring Manager
- Costume Designer
- Stage Manager
- Stage Technician
- Playwright
- Props Master

Community Centers, High Schools

- Drama Coach
- Performing Arts Teacher
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Commercials, Movies, TV/Radio, Corporate Communications, Educational Films

- Actor
- Production Assistant
- Art Director
- Screen/Scriptwriter
- Contestant Interviewer
- Film Assistant
- TV Schedule Coordinator
- Programming Assistant
- TV Electronic Designer

MUSIC

Bands, Orchestras/Symphonies, Musical Theaters, Operas, Military Bands

- Soloist
- Ticket Agent/Services Director
- Ensemble Manager
- Fund Raiser/Asst. Development Dir.
- Asst. Stage/Club Manager
- Accompanist/Band Member
- Concert Hall Asst. Manager
- Promotions/Publicity Asst.
- Advance Agent
- Lobby Attendant
- Section Player/Member
- Booking Agent/Manager
- Road Manager
- Asst. Concert Promoter

Education - Music Stores, Community Centers, Schools

- Studio / Private Instructor
- Teacher
- Band Director

Religious Communities

- Organist/Accompanist
- Cantor/Singer
- Music/Choir Director

Recording / Broadcasting Industry

- Session Musician
- Recording Engineer
- Studio Manager
- A&R Representative/Coordinator
- Marketing Representative
- Orchestrator
- Assistant Publicist
- A/V Technician
- Background Vocalist
- Distributor
- Consumer Research Asst.
- Promotions Staffer/Rep.
- Arranger
- Copyist
- Disk Jockey
- Asst. Copywriter Manager
- Songwriter
- Music/Sound Editor
- Production Assistant
- Staff Publicist
- Recording Assistant
- Public Relations Trainee
- Music Librarian Assistant
- Cue Selector

Publishing (Music, History, Text, and Technical Books/Magazines)

- Assistant Editor
- Music Reviewer
- Sales Representative
- Music Journalist

Sales/Retail

- Instrument Sales Representative
- Stereo Equipment Sales Rep.
- Record Store Manager
- Recorded Music Supplier
- Music Store Manager
- Rack Jobber
- CD Sales Representative
- Field Merchandiser
- Assistant Buyer

DANCE

Musical Stock Company, Ballet/Dance Company, Clubs, Cruise Lines

- Fund Raiser/Development Associate
- Membership Coordinator
- Choreographer
- Professional Dancer
- Publicity / PR Coordinator
- Costume Designer
- Ticket/Subscription Sales Rep
- Auditions Coordinator
- Stage Production Worker

Dance Studio/School, Community Centers, High Schools

- Studio/Private Instructor
- Studio Manager
- Recreation Supervisor

Related

- Dance Therapist
- Dance Equipment Sales Rep.
- Physical Therapist
- Recreational Therapist
- Talent Agent/Scout
- Personal Trainer
- Composer/Arranger
- Artistic Director
- Yoga Instructor

MISCELLANEOUS ART-RELATED

Arts Councils/Organizations, Government, Foundations

- Grant Application Reviewer
- Proposal Reviewer
- Program Specialist
- Public Information Officer

Arts Management

- Archival Manager
- Art Exhibit Coordinator
- House Manager
- Collections Manager
- Booking Agent
- Road Manager
- Art Consultant
- Company Manager
- Event Coordinator

BUSINESS

Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations / Sales

- Corporate Communications Staff
- Special Events Planner
- Public Relations Specialist
- Advertising Salesperson
- Marketing Coordinator
- Sales Representative

Preparation for a Competitive Job Market:

- **Focus on transferable skill sets** as you pursue a degree in Performing Arts.
- **Obtain relevant internship, co-op, or volunteer experiences.**
- **Supplement Performing Arts course work** with **classes** that are **relevant** to your career.
- **Meet with a Career Specialist** to explore options, make decisions, and prepare for career choices.

Additional Career Center Resources:

- **Major Sheets (PA, MCS, ENGL, EDUC):** <https://careers.umbc.edu/tools/majors/>
- **The Vault:** <https://careers2.umbc.edu/tools/vault/>

- Use the top search bar to find these relevant guides:

["Vault Guide to Dance Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Theater Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Music Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Television Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Performing Arts Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Recording Industry Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Film Jobs"](#)

["Vault Guide to Radio Jobs"](#)

["Vault Career Guide to Media and Entertainment"](#)

["Vault Guide to Media and Entertainment Jobs"](#)

• **Professional Organizations:**

Dance:

Society of Health & Physical Educators: <https://www.shapeamerica.org/>

National Dance Council of America: <https://www.ndca.org/>

Theater/Film/Video:

Actors' Equity Association: www.actorsequity.org

American Guild of Variety Artists: www.agvausa.com

The Screen Actors Guild & Amer. Federation of Television & Radio Artists: www.sagaftra.org

Music:

American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org

National Band Association: www.nationalbandassociation.org

American Guild of Musical Artists: www.musicalartists.org