



STAGWORKS
COLLEGE

SPECIALIST
PERFORMING
ARTS SCHOOL

WELCOME TO STAGEWORKS,



I am the Director of Stageworks Studios and the Principal of Stageworks College. My career started some thirty years ago when I opened a youth theatre in my local area. I followed this by becoming a professional entertainer for several years performing and directing a multitude of shows. This enabled me to tour and perform in some of the country's largest venues. In 2000, I began teaching acting and singing alongside my performing and directing career until Stageworks was launched in 2003.

At Stageworks College we proudly offer full-time training in Musical Theatre, Acting and Professional Performance for ages 16-21 years within our dedicated studio facilities. Students come to St Neots to live and train with us from across the country and abroad. Our two year Foundation Course has been running since 2004 and offers you the opportunity to study for a BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts Diploma specialising in either acting or musical theatre.

Every student is important and individual with different skills to progress and ambitions to meet. This means that your training is personalised to your skills and abilities and closely monitored throughout your time with us. The college has a friendly, family atmosphere with reassuring pastoral care to support your entry into the full time world of performing arts.

Stageworks students have gone on to have varied and successful careers across the industry as performers, directors, writers, producers and more. We are very proud of everything our students achieve at Stageworks and would be delighted to share our passion for performing arts with you.

STUDYING AT STAGEWORKS?

Our training programmes have a **100% graduate success rate** and our team have proved they have the knowledge and skill to individually prepare each student to reach their aspirations. Our graduates are now performing around the world and in the West End, as well as undertaking further training on degree level courses.

All students receive **a personalised training programme, train five days a week and are taught by up to 12 different leading industry experts and performers.** Training is carried out in small classes (approx. 10-15 students) with each year group having a maximum of 40 students. Training in a smaller environment like this allows for key one-to-one contact time and continued professional and pastoral support throughout the course.

On our Foundation courses you will train for at least **18 hours per week**, not including rehearsals and performances which are added to your regular timetable. You will also have the option to **add a further 7 hours** per week of additional audition preparation classes. These classes are designed to extend and strengthen your technique. We recommend that students who are serious about becoming professional performers train for 25 hours per week. This will give you more opportunity to improve and develop skills to give you the best chance for future auditions and scholarships. On our Professional Performer course students train as a standard for 30 hours per week.

Courses are designed to **train students both mentally and professionally** with classes **aimed at different levels depending on individual abilities.** Experience in all areas is not necessary as full training in all genres will be given.

If you have the desire to perform and the willingness to learn then Stageworks College could be the next step for you.

ABOUT STAGWORKS?



Stageworks Studios is situated in the charming market town of St Neots. Based 50 miles north of London and in West Cambridgeshire, St Neots is nestled around the banks of the River Great Ouse with plenty to offer visitors from regular markets, dining out, riverside activities, leisure facilities and a cinema complex.



The college is within walking distance from St Neots train station which is served by the First Capital Connect railway line from King's Cross, London and Peterborough. There are also national coach links to St. Neots from many parts of the country.

Within the studio complex there are 4 purpose-built dedicated studios. Our professional wooden sprung dance flooring and vinyl covering enhances performance and reduces the chance of injuries. There is also a singing room/recording studio, complete with electric piano and library of sheet music books for private singing tuition or personal music study and a gym. Students will also perform productions in our local 250 seater theatre.

For a high majority of students, this may be the first time moving away from the family home. Instead of experiencing this for the first time in the hustle and bustle of a city, Stageworks can provide a safe stepping stone and a practical way for students to learn the responsibilities of looking after themselves and living with others.

Stageworks has a range of rental properties all within walking distance of the college, ensuring there are plenty of opportunities for students further afield and abroad to study here. It needn't be expensive either, with competitive rates and possible access to residential support funding if paying privately. Our students pay approximately £95 per week including bills. Having met the students, staff will suitably assign tenants to rooms within the various properties and to reduce an overwhelming list of things students must consider when living independently, Stageworks will organise payments of all utilities too.

Whether you are a local student or live in, here at Stageworks we aim to inspire everyone with our love of performing arts and how they can enrich our lives. It can come from enjoying the love of learning a new skill, the sense of being part of a team, the freedom of creating ideas and achieving results, the adrenaline of a performance, the growth in bravery and confidence when taking a risk or meeting a challenge and not walking away. All important skills for a performance career and life.



2 YEAR FOUNDATION COURSE

(Musical Theatre or Acting)



We offer two Performing Arts courses at Level 3 - Musical Theatre Foundation Course and Acting Foundation Course. Both programmes prepare students with the technical skills and performance training to access degree and higher level vocational courses.

There is a free training option which combines your BTEC Level 3 Diploma with our technical training programme. In addition, students can choose to top-up their training hours with our Audition Preparation package.

In year one, students attending Stageworks will arrive with a variety of talent. Some may have a higher skill set in dancing or acting but have little singing experience or vice versa. Our objective is to build on existing skills and introduce, develop and expand the areas that students have less experience in.

The Musical Theatre or Acting course classes will consist of core performing arts subjects and a syllabus that will earn students nationally recognised qualifications. These include;

Ballet	Contemporary Theatre
Musical Theatre Dance	Contemporary Dance
Tap	Monologues & Text Study
Technical Study in Dance & Drama	Integrated Performance
Classical Theatre	Ensemble Singing

Along with many other classes, a number of performance opportunities for students are also included within the course.

Our Audition Preparation packages are recommended to enhance students training, technical knowledge and audition skills. Students can also undertake an additional timetable of classes that will support their specialist pathway and individual learning programme.

For example;

Commercial/Urban	Recorded Performance
Ballet	TV & Film
Jazz	Play study
Strength Training	Private Acting
Focused Cardio & Flexibility	Private Singing

It includes private lessons and a combination of classes to advance the students knowledge and prepare them for progression and extends their tuition from 18 hours to over 25 hours per week.

Once the foundations are in place and through feedback and assessment during the first year, students can identify their areas for improvement and begin work on performance quality and integrity. To help achieve this, students are encouraged to think independently about key elements of their various lessons and apply them across their training.

In the student's second year they rehearse and train with The Musical Theatre Company to present a full scale musical. This gives students as near an experience as possible to performing on a West End stage with professional scenery, costumes, live bands and of course valuable experience of being involved in a production and performing in front of sell out audiences.

Previous productions include, Kipps, Crazy for You, Made in Dagenham, Priscilla Queen of the Desert, 42nd Street, Ghost, Grease, Footloose and Guys & Dolls.

During this year students will also start audition planning for the area of training they wish to specialise in. Through regular communications with the course leaders and department specialists, students will also begin writing their personal statements and completing application forms for higher education and vocational pathways. Direction and feedback will be offered, and preparation tested in practical assessments.

Once auditions begin, it can be an unnerving time waiting for college responses, but students are supported and advised every step of the way.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING

We offer a fully funded, free training option on our 2 year Foundation course for students who are eligible for ESFA funding (Education & Skills Funding Agency). Those eligible for funding are between 16-18 years who have not already gained a BTEC Level 3 qualification or similar.

FEES

2 year Foundation Course

The Foundation Course includes 18 hours per week of core performing arts subjects.

2 year Foundation Course with Audition Preparation programme

The Audition Preparation programme increases practical study hours to over 25 hours per week and includes a weekly private singing lesson. The cost for this optional addition is £1,500 per year (inc VAT).

After year one some students may be invited onto the Professional course and training for 4 years could be as little as £16,500.

Students not eligible for funding can study on our Foundation course and fees are £6000 per year (inc VAT). This includes the Audition Preparation programme





3 YEAR PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE COURSE

The 3 year Professional Performance Course is considered intensive Level 3 training in Dance and Musical Theatre and especially perfect for those who aspire to play leading roles. It was designed by Stageworks as an original and affordable alternative to Higher Education training pathways for aspiring performers. Although this course is recommended for Sixth Form leavers, Stageworks will accept applications from students in Year 11.

This unique and comprehensive course provides specialist training in singing, acting and dancing, alongside regular professional performance opportunities and agency representation. Every aspect of the course is designed to maximise student employment prospects when they graduate.

Numbers per year group are restricted so that each student can be known individually. Correction in class and support is a more personal journey. Training in smaller year groups also allows the opportunity for students to gain more performance chances to grow confidence on the stage, learning how to engage with audiences during training and get ready for going out to work.

Stageworks technical training programme will teach students how to promote and manage themselves as well as developing their audition repertoire, show-reels, vocal recordings and personal marketing. This programme includes;

Jazz Technique	Musical Theatre Dance
Classical Ballet Technique	Lyrical Ballet
Contemporary	Pas de Deux/Partnering
Commercial Technique	Flexibility/Cardio
Private Singing Lessons	Ensemble Singing
Acting Through Song	Monologue Preparation
Script Work	Improvisation
Voice	Professional Practice
Audition Repertoire	Music Theory

Stageworks company training will give students the understanding, skills sets and expectations of different work environments. These include;

Acting for Screen	Musicals
Solo Artist	Theatre in Education
Pantomime	Corporate & Function Entertainment
Cruise Work	

Specialist workshops take place weekly where students will work with guest teaching experts including West End musical directors, leading artists, production companies, casting directors and cruise companies. This helps enhance the student's experience and knowledge whilst also learning to adjust to unfamiliar choreographic styles and directing methods, much the same as in an audition or a professional engagement.

Aside from the training programme Stageworks will do their best to enable students having the best possible start in the entertainment industry. Professional photographers are organised during the year at competitive rates. With headshots being an essential criteria, our studios can be transformed into the perfect photographic suite with full lighting and backdrops. Showreels can also be created with an aim for students to show future agents / casting directors their versatility in terms of different singing styles.



This, in addition to learning some good business acumen such as industry networking, tax implications, entrepreneurial skills, will all assist students in leaving us with as many marketing tools and skills as possible to help promote themselves for future work opportunities.

FEES

Fees for the Professional Performance Course are £7000 per annum including VAT. If you are eligible to study a BTEC Level 3 qualification at the same time as the course, it could be part funded and the chargeable fees are reduced to £4000 per annum.

This is normally possible for at least 2 years of the course depending on each student's situation, which is individually assessed. The BTEC qualification that the students gain will give them UCAS points which can be used towards future personal development training if required.

STUDENT WELFARE & PASTORAL CARE

The health and wellbeing for a Stageworks student is taken very seriously. The student welfare & pastoral care plays a key role and includes support for transition, progress, disability, mental health & wellbeing, social inclusion and more. With an open-door policy for personal, emotional and educational worries, students will be given guidance and support to resolve any issues or concerns that they may have. They have the reassurance that all discussions are kept private and confidential.

Those students who are relocating to the area for Stageworks College will go into local shared accommodation with other students. We endeavour to place a senior year with first years to aid the readjustment period and hopefully make, what can be a daunting prospect, an easier one. Students typically find friendship groups are quickly formed and settle easily.

Staying healthy as a performer is important, however if a student is injured or falls ill, a system is in place to record and inform all teachers of the recommended recovery needed. This enables consistency during treatment of an injury and promotes the optimal recovery. A sports masseuse is also available upon request at the college at a reduced student rate and a doctor's surgery is within the local vicinity.

We at Stageworks believe that if students feel healthy and content within themselves and their environment, then they are far more likely to perform to the best of their ability.



AUDITION PROCESS

Entry to a Stageworks course is by audition only and candidates must be aged sixteen or over on or before the first of September of the year they wish to start training. There are normally at least two auditions days during the academic year where students can come direct to the studios for an audition however we can also accept video auditions applications throughout the year.

The purpose of Stageworks courses is to build on your existing talents and improve the areas where there is less experience. We do not expect anyone to be perfect and it is important candidates remember this. By having the courage to try will show us your willingness to learn.

The **Musical Theatre** Course audition will comprise of a ballet and jazz class that will not require preparation in advance, however, you will be required to prepare a monologue and musical theatre song (with backing track).

The **Acting Course** audition requires you to prepare a monologue, musical theatre song (with backing track) and you will take part in various workshops.

In the **Professional Performer Course** we are looking for triple threat performers who have a positive attitude to teamwork, direction and advice. The audition includes a ballet and jazz class that will not require preparation in advance, you will need to prepare a musical theatre song together with backing tracks and a monologue of your choice.

You will then be interviewed by members of the audition panel. This is the perfect opportunity to discuss your future ambitions and ask any questions about your future training.

Throughout an audition day you can expect a full day of acting, singing, dance and performance so please come prepared. We want you to enjoy your audition so try to relax and show us your best performances. Applicants will be notified in writing on the outcome of their audition.

To apply to join Stageworks college, please visit our website to download an application form – www.stageworksstudio.co.uk and send it back to us with the audition fee. Once we have received your application, you will receive a confirmation letter and an offer to attend our next available audition.

STORIES OF SUCCESS

We are very proud of all our Stageworks College students and it gives us great pleasure to follow their careers. For example...

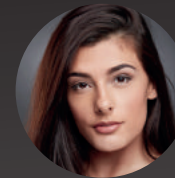
JOSHUA ST CLAIR



In 2013 Josh started the Musical Theatre Foundation course at Stageworks and then obtained an honours degree at the Arts Educational

School, London. Josh said about his time at Stageworks; *"As I was more of a singer, the highlight was the dance classes. This new skill set put me in a good position when it came to auditioning. The teachers were informative and helpful, excelling you to be the best you can be."* Josh's theatre credits include tours of Wicked and Kinky Boots plus School of Rock and City of Angels in the West End.

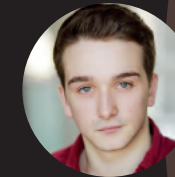
LAUREN ROWLEY



Lauren joined Stageworks at the young age of 7 where her love for performing arts blossomed. After completing the Professional Performance course

she worked as singer and dancer for Potters Holiday Resorts, became a lead singer on board the Tallink cruise ship and is now planning her next venture. Of Stageworks Lauren said *"Stageworks was like an extended family to me. I always felt comfortable there, had the utmost respect for the teachers and it was the best decision I ever made."*

ZACK GUEST



At Stageworks College, Zack studied on the two year Musical Theatre course then progressed onto a BA Musical Theatre course at Mountview where he was

awarded the Lionel Bart Scholarship twice. He played Sky Masterson in Guys and Dolls in his graduation year and was fortunate to sign with agency Jorg Betts Associates. Zack also performed in the BBC proms version of West Side Story at the Royal Albert Hall, Magic at the Musicals also at the RAH and the opening act of the Great British Panto Awards.

PEROLA CONGO



Perola trained at Stageworks Studios on the Musical Theatre Foundation course. She felt the small class size extremely beneficial in order to receive concise and specific

tuition. Perola said about Stageworks *"I felt supported by the staff and teachers and gained so much confidence and self-growth. I am so grateful for my time there."* Perola's career has taken off and her theatre credits include: Lady Of Kibeho (Royal Stratford East), The Color Purple (Curve Theatre), Original Cast of Tina - The Tina Turner Musical (Aldwych Theatre) and The Addams Family (UK Tour/ Mediacorp Singapore).



STAGEWORKS
COLLEGE

Stageworks Studios Ltd

Kings Road,
St Neots,
Cambridgeshire
PE19 1BF

info@stageworksstudio.co.uk ✨ 01480 223331

WWW.STAGEWORKSSTUDIO.CO.UK