

NAPA PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA (18+)

UAL LEVEL 4 PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN PERFORMANCE



This one-year intensive level 4 course, starting in September 2025, provides professional level vocational training in both Acting and Musical Theatre.

The course allows you the opportunity to practically explore your own passion for performing and to develop both your skills and understanding, to make you more confident in approaching future employment in the industry. You may go on to further training at a drama school or go directly into the industry in any one of multiple roles or even making your own work or company.

The program of study is designed so that you can explore your process as a creative in a supportive and professional environment, which recognises that the performer and the person are intrinsically linked. We are here to help you grow and develop as a whole person and artist not just as a performer. To that end, all of our work is a dialogue focused on your needs.

Course content will include:

- **AUDITION LAB** – These workshops give you not only the opportunity to explore and refine audition material, but also the tools to become a freelance artist by building a rep folder, using social media as an artist, creating headshots and undertaking mock auditions with industry professionals.
- **THEATRE MAKING LAB** – The in-house creative team will guide you as you explore creating and delivering work to engage and invigorate audiences. This will guide you to discover the power of live theatre and your own creative voice.
- **SCENE AND SONG LAB** – These workshops give you the opportunity to apply your craft and skill set to a wide range of material across genres. You will be guided into how to approach works in an industry standard rehearsal room and focus on the exploration of your process as an artist.
- **VOCAL LAB** – This will build upon your existing spoken and sung vocal technique and give you the tools to explore your voice and its potential capabilities safely and sustainably.
- **MOVEMENT LAB** – Regular sessions that focus on your physical awareness, well-being and fitness, alongside practising core ballet and jazz technique, as a means to exploring movement potential and physical communication.

Alongside all of this, you will also take part in a range of performance projects across different genres led by the in-house creative team.

PROJECTS

AUTUMN TERM

MOVEMENT/VOCAL LAB ASSESSMENT

A diagnostic assessment focusing on vocal technique (to be assessed as individuals) and storytelling through movement (to be assessed in small groups.)

Assessment date - Monday 20th October (TBC)

PERFORMANCE PROJECT

A performance of the musical 'A Man of No Importance' by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty under the direction of the creative team. To be performed in NAPAs in house theatre.

Performance - Saturday 6th December (TBC)





SPRING TERM

THEATRE MAKING LAB PROJECT

A public performance of an original piece of theatre devised by students with the support of the NAPA team.

Performance - Saturday 14th February

SCENE TO SONG LAB ASSESSMENT

An in class assessment, performing scenes and songs developed in class with direction and support from NAPA tutors.

Assessment - Wednesday 25th March

SUMMER TERM

SHOW PROJECT

The final major project, a collaborative musical with all students from level 3 and 4 classes working together.

Performances - 25th-30th May



All labs (Movement & Vocal, Scene to Song, Audition and Theatre Making) will continue throughout the year with in-class performances and assessments taking place regularly.

TEACHING TEAM

Our teaching team is made up of industry professional and specialists in education and performing arts.



KATIE WRIGHT Head of course/Acting specialist

Katie's formal background is in education but she has a wealth of experience as a director of large scale productions such as NAPA's Jesus Christ Superstar, Betty Blue Eyes and Phantom of the Opera.

Katie has coached many students through successful auditions for most of the UK's biggest drama schools such as LAMDA, RADA and Arts Ed.



PADDY START Dance Specialist

Paddy trained at the prestigious Bird College, graduating with a distinction in professional dance and musical theatre.

Following a career as a performer, Paddy returned to Hull, taking on the role of NAPA's Head of Musical Theatre and Outreach, using his industry knowledge and experience in his teaching.



SALLY RAPIET Musical Theatre/Acting Specialist

As a respected tutor, Sally has taught at world-leading institutions including Ithaca College (New York), the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Rare Studios (Liverpool), LaSalle College of the Arts (Singapore), and LIPA.

As well as her extensive teaching career Sally has served as Resident Director at The Kings Head Theatre in Islington and was Artistic Director of Cardiff's International Festival of Musical Theatre. Sally is currently pursuing a PhD in musical theatre directing and actor training.



JULIE LOVELLWELL Dance Specialist

Julie qualified as an ISTD dance teacher of ballet, tap, modern, national and Greek after studying under Miss Gaynor Owen in Liverpool

Julie is NAPA's Head of Dance and has worked with the BBC, ITV, Royal Ballet and the West End cast of Billy Elliott.



ANDREW SIDDLER Singing Specialist & Musical Director

Andrew is a graduate of New York University's Musical Theatre Writing Program and an associate of the London College of Music as a singing teacher.

He is a composer and lyricist whose work includes orchestrations for Metal Sweeney Todd, song writing for Pure Entertainment and Korea's English Egg. His musicals are regularly performed at NAPA and around the UK.