WAAPA

- Aboriginal Performance
- Acting
- Arts Management
- Costume
- Dance
- Design
- Lighting
- Music
- Music Theatre
- Performing Arts
- Props & Scenery
- Sound
- Stage Management
Our changing world needs a university to change with it.
A university where courses composed with industry deliver the most relevant knowledge and skills.
Where theory gets put into practice.
A university like ECU.
Where students have the experience to be capable when it counts.
So be the graduate the changing world needs.
And get ready at ECU.
Apply now for 2018.

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ECU has been named in the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings for 2017. Recognising the world’s 200 best universities less than 50 years of age, the rankings are a global showcase of a new breed of university. They focus on performance indicators such as research, teaching excellence, international outlook and innovation, and highlight universities that are developing at an exceptional rate.

ECU is proud to be recognised for its research productivity, research influence, quality of teaching, industry innovation and international focus. And we’re looking forward to building on this success in 2018.

ECU has been ranked the top public university in Australia for most satisfied students in the QILT (Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching) survey released in 2017. Results showed 86.1% were satisfied with their educational experience at ECU.

We were also the top WA public uni for teaching quality, support, resources and skills development.
Why Choose WAAPA at ECU?

The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) at Edith Cowan University is one of the world’s leading performing arts academies. WAAPA is recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of its graduates. It provides the most comprehensive range of performing arts training in Australia – both on stage and behind the scenes. Entry into each course is competitive, and prospective students undertake an audition and/or an interview as part of the application process.

Showcasing your talent

Each year students, staff and critically-acclaimed guest artists collaborate to present hundreds of performances across a range of concerts, plays, dance, music theatre, opera and film. Many of these events take place in WAAPA’s own performance venues at ECU’s Mount Lawley Campus. Exciting community partnerships also enable WAAPA students to perform in a diverse range of spaces in the Perth metropolitan area and beyond.

The Edith Spiegeltent

ECU is the first university in the world to acquire its very own Spiegeltent. Renamed ‘The Edith’, it provides a unique performance space for WAAPA students to hone their craft. To celebrate this versatile venue having a new home Jerome Davenport, a graduate of WAAPA’s Props and Scenery course, was commissioned to re-imagine the tent’s façade and the surrounds in which it is situated. Jerome is now an internationally acclaimed aerosol artist and muralist and has created an exciting, theatrical external look for The Edith. The interior retains its handmade architecture of wood, mirrors, canvas and leaded glass, with intricate detailing in velvet and brocade.

Star graduates

WAAPA graduates are in high demand and excel in their chosen professions. Some are highly celebrated, such as Hugh Jackman, Tim Minchin, Karla Hart, Emma Matthews, Lisa McCune, William McInnes, Geraldine Hakewill, Meg Mac, Kućka, Meow Meow, Jai Courtney and Lucy Durack, whilst many, who may not be quite as well-known, lead lives of artistic passion and make a huge contribution to the performing arts and allied industries.
Graduate Snapshots

A musical connection
Since 2016, WAAPA trained bass player Linda Oh has been touring the world with the legendary 20 time Grammy-winning guitarist Pat Metheny. In addition to Linda, Metheny’s jazz quartet includes the multi-award winning British pianist Gwilym Simcock and Mexican-born drummer Antonio Sánchez, who composed the percussion-driven score for 2015’s Academy Award-winning film Birdman.

Metheny chose Linda to join him on his world tour because he believes the talented bassist has “a certain communicative ability to connect – not just to the other musicians, but to the audience as well.”

After graduating from WAAPA’s Jazz program with first-class honours, Linda moved to New York in 2006 on a full scholarship to study her Masters at the Manhattan School of Music. A decade later, Linda now leads her own band and plays with many of New York’s finest jazz musicians, including Lee Konitz, Dave Douglas, Joe Lovano, Kenny Barron, John Scofield and Steve Coleman among others.

A wicked honour
WAAPA graduate and musical theatre star Suzie Mathers has been named 2017 Young Australian Achiever of the Year in the UK by the Australia Day Foundation. Suzie has had a dream run since completing her Music Theatre studies at WAAPA. Not long after graduating she scored her first lead role when she was cast as Sophie Sheridan in the 10th Anniversary Australian tour of Mamma Mia! Suzie then wowed audiences throughout Australia, New Zealand, Asia and now London’s West End with her performance as Glinda the Good Witch in the smash hit musical Wicked.

Suzie was presented with her award by the Australian High Commissioner, the Honourable Alexander Downer AC, at Australia House. Fellow WAAPA graduate Tim Minchin has been a previous winner of this award.

Global thinking
Dancer Samuel Maxted, who has been a soloist in Tanz Company Innsbruck in Austria since September 2014, believes WAAPA encouraged him to think globally about his career. “Throughout my time training at WAAPA I was tutored and mentored by lecturers who had very successful international careers, so my mind was always open to the possibility of taking my dancing overseas,” he says. “They gave me the encouragement I needed to make the big move to Europe.”

When Samuel graduated from WAAPA he was immediately accepted as a Young Artist with the West Australian Ballet. Two years later, fuelled by his passion to explore modern ballet in Europe, Samuel moved to Paris as a freelance dancer before scoring a four-month engagement at Ballett Im Revier in Germany. He then joined Tanz Company Innsbruck, a neoclassical company of 17 dancers.
Singing with Ellie

Contemporary Music graduate Melissa Erpen is singing backup and touring the world as part of English singer/songwriter Ellie Goulding’s band. As part of the Ellie Goulding World Tour, Melissa travelled throughout Europe, the UK, North America, India, New Zealand and Australia. “Working with Ellie has been an amazing experience, playing in all these huge arenas in front of incredible crowds around the world,” says Melissa.

Melissa has performed on many of the world’s greatest stages including London’s Royal Albert Hall, New York’s iconic Madison Square Gardens, and at the 2015 Intimissimi on Ice, a spectacular live show that combines ice skating and pop music in the Arena di Verona, a Roman amphitheatre. Melissa’s first gig with Ellie Goulding was in front of 100,000 people in London’s Hyde Park. She also performed with Ellie at the 2015 AFL Grand Final in Melbourne.

Berlin bound

West Australian baritone Sam Roberts-Smith is the inaugural winner of the Deutsche Oper Berlin Award from the Opera Foundation for Young Australians. This award contracts the winner as a member of the Deutsche Oper Berlin for a period of ten months for the 2017-18 season. “I feel very grateful to be the first ever recipient,” says the WAAPA Classical Vocal graduate. “The Deutsche Oper Berlin is one of the greatest opera houses in the world. This is a life-changing opportunity.”

Since graduating from WAAPA, Sam has won numerous awards including the Australian Singing Competition, the Joan Sutherland Vocal Scholarship, the Symphony Australia Young Vocalist Award and prizes at the International Paris Opera Awards. Sam was a member of Opera Australia’s Young Artist Program before joining the Principal Artist roster and was one of the West Australian Opera’s inaugural Mentored Artists. He has performed in China with the Australian International Opera Company and toured North America with Australia’s premier classical-crossover group the Ten Tenors.

Hollywood calls

WAAPA Acting graduate Ben O’Toole has been cast in director/producer Kathryn Bigelow’s upcoming film about the 1967 Detroit Riots. Kathryn Bigelow is best known as the Academy Award-winning director of The Hurt Locker, which won the 2009 Academy Award for Best Picture. For the as-yet-unnamed film, Bigelow will be teaming up again with her Hurt Locker and Zero Dark Thirty screenwriter, Mark Boal.

Since 2013 Ben has enjoyed a long-running role as Pete in the Australian television drama series, Love Child. In 2014 he made his film debut in Russell Crowe’s The Water Diviner, followed by appearances in Mel Gibson’s 2016 film Hacksaw Ridge and 2017’s Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales.
In 2016 actor/writer Ian Michael received critical acclaim throughout Australia for his one-man play *Hart*, in which the WAAPA graduate uses verbatim stories to reveal the impact of the Stolen Generations on four Noongar men. The show premiered in Melbourne before touring to Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Auckland and Wellington. For his performance, Ian won Best Emerging Artist at the Adelaide Fringe and Best Emerging Indigenous Artist at the Melbourne Fringe.

In the spotlight

In the six years since he graduated from WAAPA, Trent Suidgeest has established himself as one of Australia’s most sought-after young lighting designers. Trent’s busy workload in 2016 included back-to-back stage shows in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. He lit the Sydney Festival and Brisbane seasons of the Helpmann Award-winning opera *The Rabbits*, produced by Opera Australia and Perth’s Barking Gecko Theatre Company, and was lighting designer for the Sydney Theatre Company’s production of *Hay Fever*. Two months later, he lit Opera Australia’s new production of Carmen, directed by John Bell before working on a new production of Alan John and Dennis Watkins’ *The Eighth Wonder*, rechristened Sydney Opera House – The Opera.

Broadway debut

Just four years after graduating from WAAPA, actress Anna Bamford has made it to Broadway. Best known for her role as Miranda Beaumont on the hit Channel 10 TV show *Wonderland*, Anna starred alongside Cate Blanchett and Richard Roxburgh in the Sydney Theatre Company’s production of *The Present* at the Barrymore Theatre in New York. *The Present*, adapted by Andrew Upton from Anton Chekhov’s first play and directed by John Crowley (Brooklyn), had a successful run in Sydney in 2015 before the 13-strong Australian cast took the show to Broadway where it played from December 2016 to March 2017.

Crimes of the Hart

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Applications and Admissions

Applying for WAAPA courses
All applicants for courses at WAAPA must complete an online application form which can be accessed via the WAAPA website at [www.waapa.ecu.edu.au](http://www.waapa.ecu.edu.au)

An application fee applies.

WAAPA courses requiring an additional application to TISC (for WA school leavers):
- Bachelor of Arts (Arts Management)
- Bachelor of Performing Arts (Performance Making)
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Education (Secondary) – Music Education

WAAPA courses where no TISC application is required:
- All Certificate courses
- All Diploma courses
- All Advanced Diploma courses
- Bachelor of Arts (Acting)
- Bachelor of Arts (Dance)
- Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre)
- Bachelor of Performing Arts

Admissions information
WAAPA offers a wide range of courses from Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificates, Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas, through to Higher Education Bachelor, Master and Doctoral degrees. Admission to all WAAPA courses is by audition and/or interview.

Admission to programs at WAAPA also requires applicants to meet ECU’s standard University admission requirements. Students who do not meet University admission requirements should discuss their options with the staff at WAAPA.

Applications for WAAPA courses are open from July to September the year prior to course commencement.

For detailed information on course structures, admission requirements and application details, refer to the WAAPA website at [www.waapa.ecu.edu.au](http://www.waapa.ecu.edu.au) or contact the ECU Student Recruitment Office on 134 328 or at futurestudy@ecu.edu.au

Interviews, auditions and folios
All WAAPA courses require applicants to complete an interview and/or audition, or submit a portfolio of work, as part of the selection process.

For more specific information about interviews, auditions and portfolios refer to [www.waapa.ecu.edu.au](http://www.waapa.ecu.edu.au)

RTO Provider
RTO Provider 4756
Aboriginal Performance

The Aboriginal Performance program is a one year, full-time intensive course in acting, dance and singing training. It prepares Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students for entry into theatre, film, television and radio work, or to audition for ongoing, high-level training.

On completion of the course graduates will have acquired a knowledge of Indigenous culture in the context of contemporary performance, and will have integrated acting, dance and singing into practical performance skills. The graduate will be responsive to audition requirements, communication skills and processes necessary to gain meaningful employment and function as a professional artist.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa

“Knowing what you’re doing on set and within yourself with your acting is so important. Of course I have continued to learn so much more on set. But WAAPA gave me really strong foundations to work from. Everything both of these intensive courses offered me, from script-reading to short film work has helped me so much and allowed me to feel ready for professional work in this amazing industry.

Nelson Baker
WAAPA Aboriginal Performance and Screen Performance graduate
Acting

Studying acting at WAAPA is an inspiring and all-consuming experience. The three year, full-time Acting course provides graduates with the skills and experience required to engage in professional theatre practice and contemporary screen work. The program trains students as a theatre ensemble. The ensemble develops performance skills in acting, voice and movement by exploring a wide range of works and performance styles, as well as through improvisation and devising original works.

While theatre is the core focus of the course, students are also trained in acting for television, film and radio. Working with guest artists and leading industry practitioners facilitates the transition from student to professional life. Full-scale acting productions provide the opportunity for students to collaborate with their WAAPA peers from other disciplines, such as Production and Design, and learn more about the complete theatrical production process.

Our Acting course has an international reputation for excellence, built on the success of graduates such as Hugh Jackman, Jai Courtney, Frances O’Connor, Marcus Graham, Rachael Maza, Dominic Purcell, and William McInnes. These and many other WAAPA alumni have established careers in theatre, film, television and radio both in Australia and internationally.

WAAPA also offers a one year full-time vocational course in Acting that prepares students with a range of knowledge and skills necessary to audition for and perform roles in theatre. On successful completion of the course students will have integrated theatre acting, voice, movement and industry practice into a tangible performance skill, acquired knowledge of script analysis in the context of acting for theatre and be cognisant of the communication and pre-professional skills required for a career in theatre.

Screen Performance

WAAPA also offers a one year, full-time Screen Performance course which teaches students the skills needed to enter the performing arts industry as a screen performance actor for roles in television and film productions.

On successful completion of the course, students will have combined screen acting, storytelling, and industry practice into a tangible performance skill; acquired a basic knowledge of camera operation and script analysis in the context of screen performance; and understood the communication and pre-professional skills necessary to audition for and perform roles in television and film.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa
WAAPA’s Arts Management graduates are versatile employees, industry ready for exciting and glamorous careers in the arts/entertainment industries. This three year, full-time course has strong links with industry and students undertake internships at organisations of their choice as a part of their coursework. Students regularly receive invitations for work experience from companies such as WA Ballet, Perth International Arts Festival, Art Gallery WA, Perth International Jazz Festival, Comedy Festival and the Sydney Festival to name a few. The value for the students is in building their networks and resume’s during the course.

In the final semester of the three year course students undertake a 10 week internship in an arts organisation of their choice, either local, national or internationally. Examples include Opera Australia, Sydney Theatre Company, Brisbane Powerhouse, Australian Dance Theatre, Melbourne Music Week, Flickerfest International Short Film Festival (Sydney), Austin Film Festival (Texas), San Francisco Ballet, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (Singapore), Lincoln Center (New York), Druid Theatre Company (Ireland), Gordon Frost Musical Producers, record companies and comedy festivals. Many take on permanent positions with their secondment companies.

WAAPA Arts Management graduates are in senior management and marketing positions at prestigious arts and entertainment organisations and businesses all over the world including Opera Australia, Bangarra Dance Theatre (Sydney), Belvoir St Theatre (Sydney), Bell Shakespeare (Sydney), Dubai Opera, Mullinars Casting, Sydney Opera House, The TATE UK, WA Opera, West Australia Symphony Orchestra and State Theatre Centre (Perth).

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa

“A WAAPA’s Arts Management course provides a comprehensive curriculum involving both theoretical and practical aspects of arts management.”

From subjects in arts law, front of house management, art history, finance, production and others, one can expect to be exposed to a wider spectrum of how the arts function. I was seconded to the ArtScience Museum in Singapore during my final semester and am now the Education & Outreach Executive at Singapore Dance Theatre.

Amanda Lim
WAAPA Arts Management graduate
Dance

WAAPA’s Dance programs prepare classical and contemporary dance artists through teaching methods designed to develop and refine the skills of each individual. Our courses offer a breadth that is unique to WAAPA and prepares students for a seamless transition into a wide range of careers within the profession.

WAAPA offers a mix of vocational dance courses and degree programs. All are full-time and range from two to three years in duration. Graduates of the Advanced Diploma can now articulate into the degree program.

Within each course, students have a degree of flexibility to choose and combine the mix that is best suited to their individual talents and aspirations.

WAAPA’s Dance programs are intensive and performance based, with students averaging 35-40 contact hours per week. In addition to daily tuition from our professionally credentialed teaching staff, three performance seasons per year give students the opportunity to work with visiting national and international choreographers. Recent guest choreographers include Rafael Bonachela, Leigh Warren, and Nils Christe. Students also regularly participate in national and international tours, further enhancing their skills and experience.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa

“WAAPA has been such a fantastic institution for me to study at.”

Being able to complete a Diploma, Advanced Diploma and then articulate into a Bachelor of Arts (Dance) is just amazing. The dance faculty is also outstanding and are really helpful with guiding everyone on their own individual journey. An example of this was having their wholehearted support in entering me in the Genée International Ballet Competition last year, where I was selected as a finalist to perform at the Sydney Opera House.

Evelyn Roberts
WAAPA Dance student
WAAPA music students take a common core of history and theoretical studies in addition to following a specialised performance-based curriculum in their chosen area. With over 40 evening concerts per year and a busy lunchtime concert series, as well as special events, tours and the opportunity to perform for various musicals and opera seasons, WAAPA really is an exciting and vibrant place to learn your craft.

The full-time lecturers are internationally renowned in their respective fields and are augmented by a part-time staff that is fully engaged in the industry. Our programs are recognised both nationally and internationally and our graduates can be found producing ARIA winning albums, performing in major symphony orchestras, topping the charts, touring the world as solo artists, writing music for film and television or in many of the new and exciting careers open to musicians today.

WAAPA offers the following music disciplines: Classical Performance – Instrumental, Classical Performance – Vocal, Composition and Music Technology, Contemporary Music, Jazz Performance, Music Artist, Music Education

Classical Performance – Instrumental

Our Classical Instrumental students receive individual lessons and specialist performance classes, as well as participate in a large range of ensembles, which may include chamber music groups, the symphony orchestra, fully-staged operas and cutting-edge new music.

Each stream has its own discrete specialist classes, for example, instrumentalists study chamber music, early and contemporary performance practices, while pianists study in solo repertoire, accompaniment and vocal coaching.

“I was shown the tools and how to use them in a practical way.”

WAAPA is an environment where music is number one. I was exposed to so many different elements whilst a student and having a huge network of lecturers there to help you at such a formative time is something you will never experience again. WAAPA helped prepare me for situations that I faced early in my musical career. I was shown the tools and how to use them in a practical way, so when I was faced with a challenging situation it was much easier to deal with. In a broad sense, WAAPA ultimately kept me inspired and maybe without it, I might have lost interest in my instrument.

Ethan Darnell
WAAPA Contemporary Music graduate
Classical Performance – Vocal
Our Classical Vocal students receive individual lessons, attend specialist performance classes and participate in a large range of ensembles, fully-staged operas and cutting-edge new music. Vocal students also have specialist classes to study acting, languages and movement skills.

Composition and Music Technology
Composition and Music Technology students are offered streams in classical, electronic, film, popular and jazz music, as well as sound art installation.

The ethos of the composition program centres on learning through practical experience, performance and collaboration. At every stage, our students collaborate on projects in the dance, film, video, electronic arts, gaming and theatre departments. All students study recording, mixing, mastering and online networking, as well as comprehensive composition approaches for the 21st century.

The Composer in Residence program provides access to a range of visiting artists from the community, and students are provided with opportunities to engage with industry throughout the course. In addition, all students are involved in the performance of electroacoustic music through the ECUatorial and Aletheia student ensembles, and are encouraged to work with music performance majors for the performance of their works.

Contemporary Music
This intensive, performance-based major centres on ensemble studies, where students develop advanced instrumental and performance skills on their chosen instrument (vocal, guitar, bass, keyboard, drum-set). Students receive individual lessons, attend instrumental workshops and are part of repertoire-intensive performing ensembles. Other classes include recording studio (session) skills, arranging, history, theory, rhythm, aural, improvisation and second study.

Performances are undertaken regularly throughout the course and the final year culminates in a professional recital.

“WAAPA has helped me bridge the gap from a student to the professional music world.”

What I loved about WAAPA was the opportunity to perform so often and in many different settings; from the wonderful Faith Court Orchestra, to playing in high calibre operas and musical theatre productions, as well as dance projects. It gave me a great taste of what sort of path I wanted to go down once my time at WAAPA was finished. One of the biggest highlights for me was being a part of the Eneksis vocal ensemble. It taught me the skills needed to be part of an ensemble.

I definitely wouldn’t be where I am today without WAAPA’s guidance. Being at WAAPA gave me the chance to form many professional connections in the music industry.

Eliot O’Brien
WAAPA Classical Performance – Instrumental graduate
**Jazz Performance**

Recognised as one of the strongest jazz courses in the southern hemisphere, this major produces many nationally and internationally renowned jazz musicians. The strength of the major lies in the focus on performance outcomes, and all educational units are based around developing these skills. Students have the option of pursuing a performance or arranging stream in their final year, culminating in a professional recital.

All students participate in many varied ensembles, from big bands to jazz trios and everything in between. The major also has a visiting artist program that is second to none, and prides itself on the depth of professional knowledge that is on offer to students year round.

**Music Artist**

This major provides students with a focused learning pathway through the skills and experience required to engage in a career as a music artist. The major offers students intensive creative and technical training in the areas of composing, arranging and recording culminating in a production of a CD of their original works. Emphasis is placed upon developing the student’s individual talent as an artist and the ability to collaborate with others.

Students focus on their skills as a music artist centred around composition, performance and music production.

**Music Education**

Focuses on classroom music teaching. Students have the option to complete a minor in instrumental music teaching and conducting/ensemble direction, and can also undertake electives in primary and early childhood music teaching.

This major is offered in conjunction with ECU’s School of Education and students undertaking this major opt to specialise in either Classical, Jazz or Contemporary music. Under certain circumstances, students may undertake crossover units from other streams.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa

**“The classical vocal program was extremely beneficial to my development as a singer and as an artist.”**

Samantha Clarke  
WAAPA Classical Music – Vocal graduate

The training I received was very unique and I still continue to use it to this day in my work and studies overseas. The staff are passionate and genuinely committed to your journey. I look back at my time at WAAPA very fondly and am so grateful to the people who made it so special.
Music Theatre

WAAPA’s acclaimed Music Theatre course provides graduates with the skills and experience required to engage in professional theatre practice. Music Theatre students work closely with WAAPA’s world class teaching staff and specialist tutors who share the knowledge and skills they have gained through professional performance careers.

WAAPA’s three year, full-time Music Theatre program provides intensive technical training in singing, dancing and acting to develop the professionally acknowledged ‘triple threat’ performer. In addition to these core skills, students are instructed in film, television and radio techniques to train them for a wide range of roles in the performing arts. There is also a strong focus on preparing students for professional audition. Practical training is complemented by the study of dramatic literature, the history of music theatre and arts management. Students integrate their class studies with performance training throughout the course in classroom presentations, workshops, chamber music theatre and full-scale musical productions.

WAAPA also offers a one year full-time vocational course that assists students in gaining experience in the areas of song, dance and acting. It focuses on audition techniques and develops the student’s ability and knowledge in the area of music theatre.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa
Performing Arts

The Bachelor of Performing Arts provides students with a broad, coherent knowledge of the performing arts alongside special skills units that explore specialist knowledge in more depth. This three year, full-time course is underpinned by core performance and management skills that are necessary to gain professional employment as a contemporary arts practitioner and to create new employment opportunities.

The course combines theoretical and technical knowledge of performance and seeks to unlock limitations through practical enquiry. It examines the ever-evolving nature of contemporary practice and new approaches to presentation and production. Students will develop critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. Self-directed projects will develop confidence in working independently and highly collaborative group work will develop the ability to work as part of a cohesive team. The third year offers the opportunity for students to focus in depth on a particular discipline or area of practice.

WAAPA offers the following performing arts disciplines: Performance Making, Practice Transition, Production and Design, Music Artist

Performance Making

Focuses on the creation of performance from the early stages of creative development through to final performance for an audience.

The major offers students the opportunity to experience performance making in the contexts of solo work, collaborative ensembles and site-specific locations, and in both text-based and more visual or physical styles of work. In a final independent project, students work in small pre-professional companies to conceive, research, rehearse and produce their own performance. Historical context units help students build up knowledge and understanding of the roots of contemporary performance practice in traditional theatre, dance and performance. There is a particular focus on the twentieth century developments in practice, philosophy and theory of performance, and how those developments inform the current landscape of experimental performance.

“WAAPA has led to a number of opportunities that I would never have thought realistic three years ago.”

This is largely thanks to the incredible work of the staff who go out of their way to help each student realise their ambitions. The most rewarding moments of the course so far, for me, have been devising and performing a solo performance, working with James Berlyn on Memory Bones at His Majesty’s Theatre, and the study tour to the Intercultural Theatre Institute in Singapore from January to March 2017. If you’re interested in writing, directing, performing and/or running your own theatre company, this is the course for you.

Alexander Beard
WAAPA Performing Arts student
Practice Transition
A focused learning pathway for students who want to build upon current practice and experience, or to transition to the next phase of their careers.

The major provides the opportunity to research a current discipline in more depth, or to explore other areas of practice as a means of transitioning to a new or related field of practice. It enables students to reflect, gain more coherent knowledge relating to their profession, and to self direct the next phase of their career development. Students are required to undertake a series of independent, practice-based projects with written components including a final exegesis report.

Production and Design
This major provides graduates with a focused learning pathway through the skills and experience required to engage in professional theatre practice.

It offers students intensive creative and technical training through professional production practices. This is achieved by undertaking leadership roles within their stream major on the annual repertoire of WAAPA productions across all mainstream genres inclusive of Acting, Music Theatre, Dance, Opera, Jazz and Contemporary Music. WAAPA’s professionally staffed and equipped facilities provide the student with the opportunity to learn the skills and knowledge and experience the hands on approach required by the national and international industry.

Music Artist
This major provides students with a focused learning pathway through the skills and experience required to engage in a career as a music artist.

The major offers students intensive creative and technical training in the areas of composing, arranging and recording culminating in a production of a CD of their original works. Emphasis is placed upon developing the student’s individual talent as an artist and the ability to collaborate with others. WAAPA’s professionally staffed and equipped facilities provide the student with the opportunity to learn the skills and knowledge and experience the hands on approach required by the national and international industry.

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Production & Design

WAAPA provides Production and Design students with the greatest diversity of 'on-the-job' theatrical experiences. Our students have access to simulated industry training in the design, construction and management of the Academy’s annual repertoire of 35 plus productions, utilising our seven diverse performance venues, as well as numerous external performance spaces.

WAAPA’s professionally staffed and equipped workshop and wardrobe facilities, along with state-of-the-art lighting and sound studios, give students immediate ‘hands-on’ access to all production development, construction and staging processes associated with the most up-to-date industry expectation and practice.

Incorporating an exciting mix of national and international professional directors, teachers and supervisors, WAAPA’s year-long season of drama, music theatre, dance, opera, films and jazz, classical and contemporary music concerts gives our Production and Design graduates the winning edge in preparation for a seamless transition into a wide range of careers within the creative and technical industries both here and abroad.

WAAPA offers a two year, full-time course with a three semester articulation to a degree, in each of the following disciplines:

**Costume**

WAAPA’s Costume program is structured to provide training in the techniques and processes required for the construction of costumes and accessories for theatre and film. Students develop skills and knowledge in art finishing, costume design, costume making and millinery. The units include pattern drafting and costume construction.

Our Costume students also gain skills in the coordination of costumes for production, which incorporates budgeting, wardrobe maintenance and dressing.

Other aspects of training include costume management, drawing and corsetry.

**Design**

The Design program at WAAPA is structured to provide training in the principles, techniques and processes required in designing for theatre and film. After initial exposure to basic visualisation and research skills, students are confronted, as a learning experience, with challenging design projects including sets, props and costumes. These projects precede practical design involvement in WAAPA productions and professional placement.

Our students also attend classes in drawing, technical drawing and computer-aided design.
**Lighting**

The Lighting program provides training in lighting design and lighting technology for theatre, film, television, concerts and trade presentations. Students develop skills and knowledge in theatre, film and television lighting, lighting design, and lighting operation.

Areas of study include electronics, optics, cinematography, documentation and drafting, budgeting, crew management, script analysis and control board operation.

**Props and Scenery**

Props and Scenery includes aspects of scenery, set and properties construction, scenic painting, metal fabrication and technical and general drawing. Handling scenery, flying and general backstage skills of the mechanist are experienced, and students are closely involved in the practical work of live production on a regular basis.

A wide range of skills are explored, including workshop management, construction, painting and props. Our students are encouraged to develop the initiative and problem-solving abilities needed in the production workshop.

**Sound**

WAAPA’s Sound program covers a broad spectrum of disciplines in sound production and operation. Students develop skills and knowledge in the areas of theatre, film, television, radio, concerts, festivals, studio work and trade presentations. Specific procedures are studied in stage and concert sound, digital sound and sound for the electronic media. The theory and practice of music recording and the creation of special effects for theatre are also studied. Investigation into the new areas of acoustic sculpture and art is encouraged.

**Stage Management**

Stage Management provides training in the organisational and management skills required for managing rehearsals and performance. These include the development and use of the prompt copy, production documentation, score reading, movement and voice instruction, safety in the theatre, communication and people/time management skills, production and company management. A range of technical production skills and techniques, as well as an understanding of the staging and performance requirements for drama, dance, music, music theatre and opera will be developed.

See more course information: ecugetready.com.au/waapa

"The design course at WAAPA is unlike any other course in Australia."

Over my three years at WAAPA I was completely immersed in both design theory and design for production. The course is unlike any other in Australia, as you can study the discipline, while constantly realising your own set and costumes for plays, musicals, operas, and dance. Furthermore, with opportunities such as secondments and master-classes design students are introduced to professional designers and companies to gain a further passion and understanding for design for live performance. WAAPA was a real eye-opener helping me understand the opportunities on offer in the arts industry locally and internationally. Now designing shows for Black Swan State Theatre Company and Lost and Found Opera Company I cannot wait to see what lies ahead.

Tyler Hill
WAAPA Design graduate
Our changing world needs a university to change with it.

A university where courses composed with industry deliver the most relevant knowledge and skills.

So be the graduate the changing world needs.

And get ready at ECU.