

Royal Scottish Academy *of Music and Drama*

School of Drama

Guide for Applicants: 2009/10

BA Acting
BA Contemporary Performance Practice (Hons)
BA Technical and Production Arts
BA Digital Film and Television
BA Musical Theatre – *Subject to Validation*
BA Modern Ballet (*in partnership with Scottish Ballet*) – *Subject to Validation*

This guide is available in alternative formats upon request. If you would prefer to receive this document in an alternative format please contact the Academic Administration & Support – Admissions.

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the Academy. If you require any further information regarding the application and selection process generally or, more specifically, about your own application please do not hesitate to contact Academic Administration and Support - Admissions in the first instance. Contact details are:

0141 332 4101
registry@rsamd.ac.uk
<http://www.rsamd.ac.uk>

Please read this guide carefully before submitting your application and retain it for reference throughout the selection process.

Closing date

Closing date for undergraduate applications to the School of Drama: **15 January 2009**.

Audition/Interview period

The Audition/Interview Period normally begins in January and will run through to June each year. Candidates are informed of the outcome of the audition dates and times in writing.

Open Days

The School of Drama usually holds two open days each year, which you are more than welcome to attend. The first open day for 2008/09 is Friday 7 November 2008. The second day is still to be confirmed. Please note that attendance at School of Drama Open Days is free of charge. Please e-mail dramaadmissions@rsamd.ac.uk to be placed on the mailing list for this.

Prospectus

If you do not already have a copy of a current prospectus, it is available on the Academy's website at the address noted above or, alternatively, please call our prospectus line on 0141 332 4101 ext 285.

Application fee and submission of application form

The application fee is £35 if you are applying for one programme. If you are applying for more than one programme, the fee is £50. The application fee, which is non-refundable, must accompany your application form.

Cheques should be made payable to The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD).

The form, duly completed, together with the Application Fee and a passport photograph fixed to the cover must be sent to:

**Academic Administration & Support - Admissions
RSAMD
100 Renfrew Street
Glasgow
G2 3DB**

no later than 15 January 2009.

Candidates who are still at school must submit their application, together with photograph and registration fee, to their Head Teacher for signature. The Head

Teacher is requested to complete the reference and then forward the completed form, together with the enclosures, to the address above.

Candidates who are no longer at school should submit their application, together with photograph and registration fee, to an appropriate person acquainted with their general character and abilities. The referee should be requested to return the completed form and enclosures to the address above.

NOTE: The submission of an application does not carry with it any right of admission.

Special Needs

Applicants who have a disability or special need and would like further information about facilities and access are invited to contact Jane Balmforth, the Academy Counsellor and Disability Advisor. She will, as a matter of course, write to all applicants who declare a disability or special need on the application form, and will provide information about studying at the Academy.

If special arrangements are required for audition, please contact Jane Balmforth by telephone, in writing or by email (email: j.balmforth@rsamd.ac.uk). Tel: 0141 270 8282.

Jane Balmforth is also available to meet you when you come for audition/interview to discuss your particular requirements, sources of further information and any special funding that might be available.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY AND STATEMENT

The RSAMD operates an Equal Opportunities Policy. Within the constraints of available resources and in accordance with current legislation the Academy endeavours to grant equality of opportunity to all applicants, staff and students, regardless of gender, marital status, race, colour, national or ethnic origin, nationality, disability, actual or perceived sexual orientation, actual or perceived religion, religious and similar belief, age and not to discriminate against them through the application of any unjustifiable factor. In order to monitor its Equal Opportunities Policy, the Academy has included an Equal Opportunities Questionnaire with your application form.

The information you give in response to the questions contained in the Equal Opportunities Questionnaire is required only for statistical purposes, eg for monitoring application and admission rates to programmes and will not be available to programme selectors and will have no bearing on the admission decision. Your assistance in completing the questionnaire is appreciated greatly.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PROGRAMMES

Non Standard Entry (NSE)

Applicants may be admitted whose qualifications do not match (in terms of equivalence) or fall short of the normal entrance requirements described below but who clearly satisfy the selection procedures and indicate that they have the capacity to pursue the proposed programme of study.

Mature Students

Applications from mature students i.e. over the age of 21 at entry to the programme are welcomed. Whilst selection procedures will still be applied, consideration will be given to dramatic and other experience not normally expected in school leavers which is deemed to compensate for any lack of formal entrance qualifications. Successful mature applicants, as all other applicants, must convince the auditioning panels that they have the ability and potential to cope with the demands of the programme which they wish to pursue. Their progress, especially in the early stages of the programme, will be closely monitored and appropriate advice and help given.

Overseas applicants whose first language is not English, will be required to give evidence of proficiency in English. **Level 6.5** of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or equivalent will be required of applicants to the BA Technical and Production Arts, BA Digital Film and Television and the BA Modern Ballet programmes. Applicants to the BA Acting, BA Contemporary Performance Practice and BA Musical Theatre Programmes will require **Level 7.5**.

General Entrance Requirements

The minimum general entrance requirement for Academy, with the exception of BA Modern Ballet, undergraduate programmes is:

- Passes in 3 subjects at Higher or SCE Higher Grade or
- Passes in 2 subjects at Advanced Higher or
- An appropriate Scottish Group Award at Higher Level or
- Passes in 2 subjects at Advanced Level (where appropriate, AS level performance will be taken into account to the advantage of the applicant) or
- Recognised equivalencies.

BA ACTING

The norm for candidates aged 17-21 is the general entrance requirement for Academy undergraduate programmes. However, the programme takes a broad view of entry qualifications and encourages mature and 'non standard entry' students. Work experience is taken into consideration.

Minimum age at entry normally 17 as at 1 October of year of entry.

BA (HONS) CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE PRACTICE

Minimum general entrance requirement for Academy undergraduate programmes.

Subjects necessary

English or Theatre Studies or Theatre Arts or Drama at Higher, Advanced Higher or Advanced Level.

Minimum age at entry normally 17 as at 1 October of year of entry.

BA TECHNICAL AND PRODUCTION ARTS

The norm for candidates aged 17-21 is the general entrance requirement for Academy undergraduate programmes. However, the programme takes a broad view of entry qualifications and encourages mature and 'non standard entry' students. Work experience is taken into consideration.

Minimum age at entry normally 17 as at 1 October of year of entry.

BA DIGITAL FILM AND TELEVISION

The norm for candidates aged 17-21 is the general entrance requirement for Academy undergraduate programmes. However, the programme takes a broad view of entry qualifications and encourages mature and 'non standard entry' students. Work experience is taken into consideration.

Minimum age at entry normally 17 as at 1 October of year of entry.

BA MUSICAL THEATRE

The norm for candidates aged 17-21 is the general entrance requirement for Academy undergraduate programmes. However, the programme takes a broad view of entry qualifications and encourages mature and 'non standard entry' students. Work experience is taken into consideration.

Minimum age at entry normally 17 as at 1 October of year of entry.

BA MODERN BALLET

General Entry Requirements:

- 5 Standard Grades (Grade 1-3) or equivalent such as Intermediate 1 or 2.
- 5 GCSE's – Grades A*-C or equivalent
- Knowledge of ballet vocabulary to a minimum of Intermediate level (or equivalent)
- English as a Foreign Language – IELTS Level 6.5 or equivalent
- Appropriate physical qualities for a career in professional classical dance

Minimum age at entry normally 16 as at 1 October of year of entry.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR ALL PROGRAMMES

Unless specified elsewhere, all applicants are invited to the Academy for an audition and/or interview with members of the Audition Board.

Details of what applicants will be required to do in each stage of the selection process are given in this guide. During the day applicants will also have the opportunity to look around the Academy and meet students. If overnight accommodation is required before or after your visit, details of reasonably priced accommodation, near to the Academy, will be provided with the notification of the date of your selection visit.

BA (HONS) CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE PRACTICE

Overseas applicants to the BA (Hons) Contemporary Performance Practice are not required to attend for interview but are encouraged to do so. If they are unable to attend, they must submit a VHS/DVD of themselves performing an original solo performance. They will also be interviewed via the internet.

BA TECHNICAL AND PRODUCTION ARTS

Applicants to the BA Technical and Production Arts must normally attend personally for an interview, though telephone interviews can be arranged in exceptional circumstances.

BA ACTING

All applicants with relevant experience will be auditioned. Overseas applicants to the BA Acting are not required to attend for interview but are encouraged to do so. If unable to attend, applicants must submit a DVD of themselves performing one speech from a play by William Shakespeare and one other from a play of their own choice, or a video-conferencing link might be arranged.

BA DIGITAL FILM AND TELEVISION

For the BA Digital Film and Television, overseas applicants may, at the discretion of the Academy, be interviewed via the Internet.

BA MUSICAL THEATRE

Overseas applicants to the BA Musical Theatre are encouraged to attend for audition. If unable to attend, applicants must submit a DVD of themselves which equates to the audition requirements detailed below. Follow-up phone / internet interviews may then be arranged.

BA MODERN BALLET

All applicants are encouraged to attend the preliminary audition, however, if this is impossible, applicants may submit a DVD/Video along with their completed application form. Details of the requirements for DVD/Video applications will be issued on request.

BA ACTING - PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA Acting is a vocational degree in acting providing a three year full-time programme for entrants intending to act professionally. The programme is accredited by the National Council for Drama Training.

The programme is a degree in acting and therefore both a training and an education for the professional actor. The programme considers that the principal function of the theatre is the communication of meaning through its embodiment in performance. In order to be able to convey meaning the actor must be trained to understand the text or the situation, decide upon appropriate action and have the skill to enact consequent decisions. The actor must also be able to assume full responsibility for his/her creative process whilst working actively, responsibly and with generosity in collaboration with others.

To this end, the programme aims:

- To provide the student with the ability to understand and construct meaning clearly, embodying it as an individual and communicating it as part of a group. This includes the ability to analyse a text and, in performance, to translate the analysis into a continuous sequence of believable actions (physical, verbal and psychological).
- To develop in the student the ability to handle the stylistic demands of a variety of theatre forms. This requires a wide range of characterisation skills using vocal, physical, intellectual and emotional means as well as the ability to observe or imagine appropriate behaviour and recreate it in the characterisation process.
- To develop in the student improvisational skills, a high degree of physical articulation and flexibility, and the vocal skills to use dialect, interpret text and handle complex language in a variety of contexts and performance spaces.
- To develop in the student competence in a number of skills areas including singing and dance, as well as performance skills associated with the recorded media of radio and television.
- To develop in the student the professional and attitudinal skills which will enable him/her to work creatively and co-operatively with others both throughout the programme and in the profession.
- To engage positively with the needs and abilities of each student, adapting, where appropriate, the demands of the programme to challenge the individual and encourage the development of her/his full potential.

This set of aims informs the entire operation of the programme. In particular, they are translated in the criteria for admission, in the learning outcomes of individual units of study and in the criteria for assessment, which lead to the award of the degree.

BA ACTING - PREPARATION FOR AUDITION

For your audition you will need to prepare two speeches to perform in character. One should be from a play by William Shakespeare, preferably in verse, and the other a contrasting piece of your own choice. Each speech should be no less than one minute and no more than three minutes. When you are preparing your speeches please time them carefully – the audition panel may stop you if the speech is too long.

Read plenty of plays before you make your choice. If you find the speech in a monologue book, make sure that you read the play as well. You cannot work on a monologue in isolation. The panel is likely to ask you about the play as well as the passage you have chosen to perform.

Try to find a character with whom you identify – s/he does not have to be like you but you must be able to empathise with the thoughts, feelings and actions implied by the text. In making your choice of material remember that the panel wants to see you bring a character to life, not necessarily demonstrate great originality of choice.

Take plenty of time to prepare. Read the whole play a number of times. Learn the words accurately and rehearse the pieces thoroughly. Do not change your mind at the last minute and try to prepare a new choice in a rush.

As you prepare you must consider carefully what kind of person the character is, what they want to achieve and why they say those particular words at that moment – do they, for instance, want to change the attitude or behaviour of another character? If so, how do they try to achieve this objective? What kind of ‘tactics’ do they use?

Attending for Audition

Please be punctual. There are many people to be seen, and latecomers make difficulties for everyone. If you are delayed, or if you cannot attend, please **let the Academy know**, with as much notice as possible: the number to ring is: **0141 270 8241**.

The auditions are stewarded by first year BA (Acting) students. When you arrive at the Academy, Client Services staff at the Reception Desk will direct you to the audition stewards. Before and after your audition, you have the opportunity to ask the students about any aspects of their own experience of auditioning or of being on the programme. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to find out what life on the programme is really like. Don't forget the audition day is your chance to discover if we are right for you!

In the first part of the audition you will be asked to perform both of your pieces, sing your prepared song and have a short interview with the panel of two staff or professional theatre practitioners.

Bring copies of your scripts with you. A steward will prompt you if necessary and also read in other characters' lines if you have chosen a passage that requires brief responses from others.

At the end of the morning session, when the First Recall list is being drawn up, you will be given a brief tour of the building.

It is the Academy's policy that no feedback is given on a candidate's performance at the audition. However, if you are unsuccessful at this stage it may be, for instance, that the panel considers that you need to gain more acting experience, or, if you are still at school, that another year would give you some useful further experience of life as well as acting.

The First Recall begins after lunch. You will be asked to perform at least one of your pieces before the main panel. At this stage it is likely that the panel will do some work with you on one of your pieces as well as giving you a sight-reading test. You are given time before the recall audition to select and prepare a piece of text from a number of options for the sight reading. This practical work will be followed by an interview.

In the interview do not try to give the replies you think are wanted, or that will impress, just be yourself and answer honestly.

The Second Recall consists of a series of group improvisation exercises. These give us an opportunity to see you in circumstances you can't plan or prepare for. We'll be looking to see how spontaneous and open to others you can be. Don't try and impress us, the most important thing is to work with your partners and to enjoy yourself! This session is followed by a question and answer session with the Chair of the Audition Panel.

Please do not make arrangements for return travel earlier than 6.30 p.m.

In the course of the audition and interview, the panel will be looking for evidence that in most, if not all of the following aspects you are able to:

- Bring a character to life with believable thoughts, feelings and actions which are appropriate to the text chosen.
- Be sufficiently relaxed and energised in performance, improvisation and interview in order to present your characters and yourself with honesty, clarity and conviction.
- Show potential in voice and body for further development of the means of expression: dynamic range, sense of rhythm, pitch and intonation, mobility and flexibility.
- Discuss your work giving reasons for choices made.
- Respond to direction in performance and improvisation.
- Be open to others, responding creatively to their ideas, thoughts and feelings.
- Demonstrate some knowledge of theatre, film and television today.
- Show some experience of acting in public performances.

Indicate the resilience and commitment necessary for successful completion of the programme and entry into the profession.

BA (HONS) CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE PRACTICE - PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA (Hons) Contemporary Performance Practice is a four-year full-time programme leading to an honours degree. This programme is a practical performance degree for people who are keen to innovate and for aspiring theatre makers who wish to work collaboratively to make performances which have something to say about the world in which we live.

If you are interested in the disciplines of performance, installation, movement, research and documentation in various forms and combinations, **if you are interested** in hybrid art forms which are emerging in response to the times, **if you are interested** in working with image, action, sound and text to create new performance works and in developing yourself as an independent artist, **then this is the programme for you.**

Staffed by practising artists, this innovative and challenging degree places collaborative practices and interdisciplinary approaches at its heart. This broad based approach values the belief that the contemporary artist specialises in the realisation of ideas rather than the pursuit of specialism.

Graduates follow a variety of careers; they set up their own companies, work as solo artists in the live arts sector, direct or perform in devised, community or educational theatre, and work as freelance drama workers for theatre companies or community organisations. With further specialised study, graduates have also become drama teachers and drama specialists in settings such as prisons and healthcare organisations.

The programme aims:

- To provide a broad-based practical study of drama and performance ontologies.
- To foreground the social function of performance practices.
- To establish the concept of praxis, a dialogue between the critical study of performance and the creative work of the student.
- To provide the student with the knowledge, skills and understanding to realise the aesthetic and social potential of the making of performance with other people.
- To enable the student to experience various relationships to audiences, performance environments and contexts.
- To serve the wider performing arts profession's increasing demand for skills and aptitudes beyond the traditional understanding of theatre and the received understanding of live art and performance practices and thereby promote employability of its graduates.
- Through working with professional theatre-makers and theatre artists with an international as well as a local reputation, to encourage the student to develop a variety of approaches and attitudes to making of performance.

BA (HONS) CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE PRACTICE - PREPARATION FOR AUDITION

The BA (Hons) Contemporary Performance Practice is a practical programme so entry is dependent upon a practical audition as well as academic qualifications. These notes are intended to give you some helpful information and advice. Please read them carefully.

The Selection Process

The Selection Process has three stages; the workshop, the written exercise and the interview. Each stage is concerned with gathering information which will give us the best possible indication of your suitability for the programme. It also give you time to discover whether we are right for you! The timetable for the day is as follows:

Time	Activity	Proportion of Candidates	Selection Panel Members
10am-1pm	Group workshop	All candidates	The Programme Leader and other tutors
1pm-2pm	Lunch		-
2pm-3pm	Written Exercise	Those selected	-
3pm-5pm	Individual Interview	Those selected	The Programme Leader and other tutors

The Workshop

The workshop will take place in the morning. It lasts 3 hours and involves all candidates. Two tutors, normally including the Programme Leader, will work with you. We try to make this stage as non-competitive as possible, because we would like the opportunity to see you working with other people. **You cannot prepare for this session other than by being determined to participate and enjoy yourself!** The workshop will include exercises and activities, which will allow us to see some of the following:

- Your improvisation skills.
- Your vocal skills.
- Your movement skills.
- Your listening skills.
- Your ability to work co-operatively with others.
- Your level of creativity and imagination.

During the workshop you will be invited to present a short performance piece.

What is the Performance Piece?

- You will be invited to prepare an original, devised performance piece using as a starting point your selection from a number of pictures which will be sent to you with your invitation to attend for audition. You may, if you wish, choose elements from any or all of the pictures. They are random pictures but you may see a 'theme' in them and wish to explore that.
- The piece must last no more than 3 minutes, so time yourself.
- It does not have to be naturalistic or 'tell a 'story'.
- The main thing to avoid is performing a 'talking head'. In other words don't just perform a spoken monologue in character without any of the ideas below. Try, as far as possible to turn your ideas into images.
- Try to give your piece a structure (even though it's only 3 minutes) for example, you may begin and end with the same 'moment' in time.

Your piece may include one, some or all of the following:

- Real objects: e.g. teapot, iron, hat, suitcase, clothing etc.
- Symbolic objects: e.g. cross, flower, mask, etc.
- Spoken word: e.g. text you've written yourself, text from a play, text from a poem, a newspaper article, a politician's speech etc.
- Action and movement: e.g. gestures, everyday activity, found activity (copying the way someone you see in the street walks, an air hostess giving emergency instructions, someone dancing in a club etc.), dance etc.
- Music: e.g. a song sung live, music and/or sound recorded onto tape or CD, music played by you on an instrument etc.

Following the workshop you will be given time to have lunch, to see the School of Drama's facilities and to talk to students about life at RSAMD. Over lunch a list will be posted indicating those we would like to see for an interview. If you have been asked to attend an interview you will be invited to complete a written performance analysis.

What is a Performance Analysis?

You will be invited to write about a live performance event you have seen recently, saying what you liked/disliked about it and why. You will be asked to explain why this performance was an important experience for you. The written performance analysis will give us an indication of your ability to communicate your ideas about performance in good written English. You are advised to write about a live performance event which you feel strongly about. You are given 45 minutes to complete this written task.

The Interview

The interview will take place during the afternoon of the same day, normally conducted by the Programme Leader and other tutors. The interview will look for, amongst other things:

- Your ability to communicate your ideas about the theatre/performance.
- Your understanding of contemporary performance work.
- What you want to do in the theatre/performance in the future.
- What your previous experiences of theatre/performance have been.

You will also be given the opportunity to present a portfolio or other evidence of your experience and interest. In the interview don't try to give the replies that you think we want or think will impress us. Be yourself, and answer honestly. This is also your opportunity to see if this programme suits you, so please ask us questions. You will be informed by letter of the result of the day.

Attending for Audition

Be punctual. There are many people to be seen, and latecomers make difficulties for everyone. If you are delayed, or if you cannot attend, please let the Academy know, with as much notice as possible: the numbers to ring are: 0141 270 8241.

Finally, remember that the tutors here want you to be seen at your best, quite as much as you do, so...Good Luck!

BA TECHNICAL PRODUCTION ARTS – PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA Technical and Production Arts is a three-year full time programme intended to prepare entrants for a variety of career pathways in one of three specialist pathways; Design, Applied Arts and Construction or Technology and Management for Performance. The programme commences with all School of Drama students sharing a two week basic introduction to Glasgow, the Academy and student life. Those on the TPA programme then have a further five week introduction to the main areas of theatre production work. These include Stage Management, Health and Safety, Stage Technology, Theatre Lighting and Sound, Theatre Design and a variety of workshop studies such as Props Construction, Scenic Art, Stage Carpentry and Costume Technology.

For the remainder of this introductory term the programme separates into the three broad specialist areas so that each student can have a deeper introduction to their own chosen area of study. These areas of specialist study are available in a choice of three discrete, mutually exclusive, groups.

DESIGN	OR	TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT	OR	APPLIED ARTS AND CONSTRUCTION
Set and Costume Design		Production Electrics		Props Construction
Lighting Design		Stage Technology		Costume Construction
		Stage and Production Management		Scenic Art
				Scenery Construction

These introductions continue in term two, although these are tempered by a joint module on “Creative and Cultural Awareness”. In the third, and final, term the students focus on defining their areas of expertise and potential career pathways.

Though out the programme, students become increasingly involved in actual performance situations, with the first and second years undertaking supervised junior roles and the third years taking on the senior production roles.

A busy and challenging production schedule across almost all forms of dramatic and musical theatre ensures realistic experiences working alongside student colleagues, Academy staff and guest professionals both in the Academy and beyond.

Throughout the programme, emphasis is placed on practical abilities, technical competence and conceptualisation skills with a view to giving students the best possible opportunity to develop into industry leading practitioners. At least one mandatory placement is required in the final year, with practical and written research work being assessed throughout the second and third years. All students are obliged to keep a reflective journal and to create a Personal Development Plan as part of the assessed programme. Employment Skills and Entrepreneurship as well as Research and Presentation are an integral part of the second year of this programme for all students.

BA TECHNICAL PRODUCTION ARTS - PREPARATION FOR INTERVIEW

The format of your interview will involve the following:

- An informal tour of the Academy by students currently undertaking the programme lasting 20-30 minutes.
- A formal interview with a panel normally consisting of the Head of Production and other members of the programme lecturing staff, selected to be appropriate to your specialist interest(s). This interview will last approximately 45 minutes.

After your application has been received, you will be sent a questionnaire entitled 'Thoughts and Ideas', which should be completed and returned. This helps us plan your interview panel and fills in some more basic information gaps in advance of the interview itself. Once we have received your completed questionnaire, an interview date will be sent to you.

Attending the Interview

Arrive in good time. There are many people to be seen and latecomers make difficulties for everyone. If you are delayed, or if you cannot attend, **please let the Academy know** by calling 0141270 8241 with as much notice as possible and we will do what we can to accommodate you. It is often beneficial to arrive early and spend some time in the café bar to acclimatise yourself, rather than go straight into the tour.

At the appointed time, please report to the main reception where you will be directed to your TPA student guide. During the tour you will have the opportunity to ask the student about all aspects of their own experience of being on the programme, a parent or companion may join you on the tour if you wish. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to find out what life on the programme is really like. Don't forget the interview day is your chance to discover if we are right for you!

You are invited to bring any evidence to the interview that you think will support your application. The interview panel will judge each applicant as an individual with a unique mix of qualities and in consequence you are encouraged to bring practical examples of your work to the interview which might take the form of at least some of the following, depending on your specialism:

- Art portfolios, sketches, models, photographs
- Samples of practical work such as props, costume, small pieces of woodwork etc.
- Prompt books, cue sheets and other production related documentation.
- Set and/or costume designs either as sketches, renderings or three-dimensional models.
- Examples of lighting and/or sound designs.
- Rigging plans or technical specifications sheets.
- Evidence of previous production experience such as press cuttings or programmes, whether at school, amateur level or professionally.

Prior to the interview you will be sent a predefined exercise, which is not intended to demonstrate your skills as a designer but rather to show your approach to a given task. You will be asked to bring your response to this exercise to the interview. The panel will invite you to discuss the process of your work with them and will also ask you to discuss a piece of theatre that you have seen recently. It is important to be well prepared for the interview as it is a short space of time for us to get to know you.

The interview panel will be assessing, amongst other things;

- The relevance and validity of your previous experiences, both academic and production-related.
- Your ability to analyse production requirements, make appropriate decisions and communicate and defend your conclusions.
- Your understanding of the Technical and Production Arts industry and the nature of the training programme have applied for.
- Your career aspirations and approach to achieving your goals.

At the end of your interview you will be free to go although, if you are unfamiliar with Glasgow, we would strongly encourage you to take the time to look around and get a feeling for the city before leaving.

If you would like to discuss any matters relating to the programme, interview process or the set exercise please do not hesitate to telephone Ros Maddison (Head of Production) directly on 0141 270 8326 or email r.maddison@rsamd.ac.uk. Questions from parents are most welcome too!

BA DIGITAL FILM AND TELEVISION – PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA Digital Film and Television is a three-year full-time programme, which has been designed to provide students with the highest quality technical skills training married to the development of high quality content for film, television, or mobile/web-based platforms.

Working as a well-trained part of a collaborative unit or a creative and highly motivated independent practitioner, the DFTV programme will produce graduates who are highly employable and fit for purpose for the screen industries on both a national and international stage.

The Academy provides a rich, inspirational educational context of unique opportunities in which to practice your skills and enhance your knowledge, a renowned house of high artistic ambition and considerable academic reputation in all forms of creative output.

The Digital Film and Television programme at the RSAMD is currently Scotland's most successful film making programme.

We believe that students need an understanding of all the creative aspects of film making, so we will offer you specialisms in editing, camera, sound, post-production, and advanced screenwriting. By the time you graduate you will be able to work as a well-trained part of a collaborative machine, in addition to originating your own material.

As well as offering all the technical skills you need to work in the industry, we also let you explore your creative side with an extensive screenwriting course that runs throughout the three-year programme. All the practical aspects of the programme are supported by a theoretical strand that will provide context and understanding for everything you do as a potential filmmaker.

The conservatoire status of the RSAMD means that you will receive extensive, expert tuition from a range of award-winning industry professionals all of whom are focused on helping you realise your potential.

Collaboration is the essence of the Academy. DFTV students not only have access to actors, musicians, production designers and performance directors, but also have that collaborative experience built into the programme. The DFTV programme also aims to stay ahead of the curve in a dynamic and rapidly changing industry. In your three years here you will get the chance to develop a wide range of content including films for the internet, factual programmes for television, drama series for television, films as mobile content, films for short film schemes, and long form features.

We actively encourage people with talent and vision to apply. Get in touch with us if you have particular needs when it comes to learning – we want to make the Digital Film and Television programme accessible and suitably resourced for all qualified candidates. If you want to know more about how we can help to facilitate your studies here, please contact us.

BA DIGITAL FILM AND TELEVISION – PREPARATION FOR INTERVIEW

As part of your application, we invite you to submit a programme idea and a rough outline of your career plan. Please use section 6 on the application form for this purpose and attach extra (readable!) sheets if necessary. You may also *choose* to submit up to three supplementary items, such as scripts, storyboards, sound tapes, visual designs, designs for new media, etc. These last items are not required, but are allowed in the case of those who do not feel that videotape is adequate for demonstrating either their work or their vision. Panels will invite applicants for interview on the basis of their application and supplementary materials. Panels will judge applications strictly on the criteria outlined below:

Applications will be scored in the following areas:

- Experience/knowledge (10%)
- Creativity/Imagination (40%)
- Communication Skills (20%)
- Evidence of ability to work independently (10%)
- Educational Attainment (20%)

In areas where two or more candidates score closely, the panel will consider another factor: (6) allied experience (such as writing, directing or acting).

If successful at interview we will invite candidates back to the Academy for a workshop day to examine their creative skills and collaborative approach.

The Workshop Day

The workshop will be split into two sections. First you will be involved in an individual creative exercise, which you will deliver back to the group.

The cohort will then be split into groups and work on a collaborative creative exercise.

During these exercises you will be closely monitored by the workshop panel looking to see evidence of creativity, enthusiasm, originality of thought and an ability to collaborate.

Please make certain that the portfolio of items you bring will be adequate for the panel's assessment of these skills. We will also provide practical tasks on the day that will allow you to work in a team situation, and in this workshop environment we will be assessing your ability to communicate well, to apply creative problem solving, and to play a strong role as a team member.

BA MUSICAL THEATRE (*SUBJECT TO VALIDATION*) – PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA Musical Theatre is a vocational degree in Musical Theatre providing a three year full-time programme for entrants intending to perform professionally.

The programme is specifically designed to train the next generation of creative artists for the Musical Theatre and related industries. By working with key industry professionals, students learn the synthesis of text, music and dance to communicate in the many different styles and techniques required in the increasingly demanding and diverse environment of contemporary Musical Theatre.

To this end, the programme aims:

- To provide the student with the tools to communicate efficiently through text, song and dance using a continuous sequence of believable physical, verbal and psychological actions.
- To develop in the student both a sense of the individual creative artist and of the ensemble member.
- To develop in the student the acting ability to handle the stylistic demands of a variety of styles within the genre. This requires a wide range of characterisation skills using vocal, physical, intellectual and emotional means of communication.
- To develop in the student a solid singing technique in order that the main voice qualities used in Musical Theatre may be studied and used in performance.
- To provide the student with a skills base in the major dance forms of ballet, jazz, contemporary and tap. Students will learn to use their bodies efficiently and safely to communicate emotion, form and narrative.
- To develop in the student the professional and attitudinal skills which will enable him/her to work creatively and co-operatively with others both throughout the programme and in the profession.
- To engage positively with the needs and abilities of each student, adapting, where appropriate, the demands of the programme to challenge the individual and encourage the development of her/his full potential.

This set of aims informs the entire operation of the programme. In particular, they are translated in the criteria for admission, in the learning outcomes of individual units of study and in the criteria for assessment, which lead to the award of the degree.

BA MUSICAL THEATRE (SUBJECT TO VALIDATION) – PREPARATION FOR AUDITION

The audition process is separated into three sections designed to explore skills in acting, singing and dance. Importance is weighted equally in these three areas and we will be looking for a strong ability in two and trainable potential in all three, although it should be noted that the panel will look for evidence of emotional connection and clarity of expression in all three disciplines.

Dance

You will be led through a group dance audition, which may include elements of jazz, ballet and contemporary styles. During this session the panel will look for:

- The ability to use the body as a means of expression
- Evidence of technique, style and the physical fitness to cope with the intensive demands of the programme
- The ability to communicate with the teacher/choreographer and other members of the group and to synthesise and re-create choreography.

Singing

You should prepare three songs for your audition. These should show vocal range and the awareness and ability to use stylistic features common to Musical Theatre repertoire. The range should include

1 ballad, 1 up-tempo and 1 song which is not from a musical.

(this may be pop, rock, blues, gospel, jazz, folk etc).

- music should be prepared clearly for the pianist and should be in the correct key.
- no recorded backing will be permitted and you may not accompany yourself for this element of the audition
- it is unlikely that the panel will listen to all four complete songs. We will hear what we need to get an over all impression of range, technique and potential

During this session the panel will look for:

- Evidence of vocal technique and the ability to make style choices appropriate to Musical Theatre repertoire
- The ability to communicate intention, emotion and character through song
- Vocal flexibility, intonation, pitch and musicality

Acting

You should prepare **1 Shakespeare monologue** and **1 contemporary monologue** to contrast. Both should be between 1-3 mins in length. Please prepare and learn these carefully and have an understanding of the entire play, not just your monologue, as the panel may ask you to talk about your choices.

During this session the panel will look for:

- The ability to bring a character to life with believable thoughts, feelings and actions which are appropriate to the text chosen.
- The ability to connect emotionally with a text
- The ability to engage an audience through verbal and non-verbal communication

In all the above audition sessions, the panel will look for:

- The ability to discuss your work giving reasons for choices made.
- An ability to respond positively to re-direction
- An openness to others, responding creatively to their ideas, thoughts and feelings.
- Knowledge of the theatre, television, film and music industries
- Experience in public performances.
- Evidence of the resilience and commitment necessary for successful completion of the programme and entry into the profession

BA MODERN BALLET (*SUBJECT TO VALIDATION*) – PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The BA Modern Ballet is delivered in partnership with Scottish Ballet. It is a three year full-time vocational degree providing training for students who have the appropriate physical and artistic abilities and wish to pursue a career in professional dance.

The programme is designed to equip students with all the skills required by today's modern ballet companies. The strong classical basis of the course is partnered by contemporary dance technique and a range of supporting subjects. These include pas de deux, repertoire, virtuosity, pointe work, gyrotomics, pilates, choreography and contextual studies. The combination of these subjects will allow graduates to work in a clear, focused and disciplined manner in a variety of dance genres.

The programme aims:

- To provide dance training which will develop the individual technique of each student, giving them the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
- To create intelligent dancers who are able to perform a variety of styles and dance techniques with artistic integrity. Through the study of a diverse range of classical and modern repertoire, students will gain an understanding of the stylistic and physical demands of different works.
- To develop in the student the appropriate attitudinal skills which will allow them to work in a professional environment.
- To equip students with knowledge and understanding of safe dance practice.
- To develop an understanding and awareness of the process of creating new dance works. This will incorporate the development of the appreciation of a broad spectrum of music.
- Through working with a range of internationally recognised professionals from the world of dance, the student will gain invaluable insight and knowledge.

BA MODERN BALLET (SUBJECT TO VALIDATION) – PREPARATION FOR AUDITION

APPLICATION FORM

- Applicants will be asked to provide brief details of their dance training and experience to date, accompanied by the name(s) of their main teacher/s.
- Applicants should give details of the highest level of external examination attained (if any), the date and the mark awarded. They should also state which Dance Society this was with (ie RAD, ISTD, BBO etc). It should be noted that this is **not** a prerequisite for audition and merely an indication of level.
- Applicants should give details of academic results (or predicted grades)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Applicants should submit the following photographs with their Application Form:

- (i) Demi-plie en face, arms in bras bas
 - (ii) Degage a la seconde, arms in 2nd position
 - (iii) Arabesque en l'air, facing decote (side)
 - (iv) Girls only – 2nd position en pointe, arms in 5th position
- The photographs do not need to be professionally taken but should be against a plain background and of good quality. Applicants should be photographed in leotard and tights.

ATTENDING FOR AUDITION

Please be punctual. Latecomers make difficulties for everyone but most importantly themselves. If you are delayed, or if you cannot attend, please let us know with as much notice as possible: the number to ring is: 0141 270 8265 or 0141 270 8315.

- Applicants will be expected to participate in a classical ballet class which will consist of barre work, centre practice, adage, pirouettes and allegro. Additionally, girls will be given pointe work.
- The class will consist entirely of 'free' work.
- The class will be taught by a qualified teacher and accompanied by a pianist.
- The vocabulary and enchainements will be at an Intermediate level.
- The class will be of approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes duration
- The class will be observed by a panel and applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their audition shortly after.

In the course of the audition, the panel will be looking for evidence that in most, if not all of the following aspects you are able to demonstrate:

- evidence of technique, style and the physical fitness to cope with the intensive demands of the programme
- the ability to understand and apply instruction given by the teacher
- the ability to communicate effectively with the teacher/choreographer and other members of the group.

PRELIMINARY AND RECALL AUDITIONS

Candidates who are successful at the preliminary auditions will be invited to attend a Recall Audition, to be held in Glasgow in March 2009. The Final Audition will also consist of a classical ballet class but will be accompanied by a medical screening (carried out by a qualified physiotherapist). Applicants and their parents will be invited to a brief 'Information Session', where they will be given further details on the course and an opportunity to meet some members of the department. Successful candidates will be informed in writing.

OVERSEAS APPLICANTS

All applicants are encouraged to attend the preliminary audition, however, if this is impossible, applicants may submit a DVD/Video along with their completed application form. Details of the requirements for DVD/Video applications will be issued on request.

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

The Academy is notified under the terms of the Data Protection Act. The data collected from the application form will be used and processed by the Academy in accordance with the Data Protection Principles.

Please complete **all sections** in the application form in BLOCK CAPITALS and in black ink.

Section 1: Title, name and address

- 1.1 Enter **the title** by which you wish to be addressed, eg Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, followed by your **surname/family name** and then **first/given name(s)**.
- 1.2 Enter the **correspondence address** to which you wish the Academy to send all correspondence.
- 1.3 Enter your **main contact number/email address** where you are most likely to be contacted by telephone and email over the next year. International applicants should include international dialing codes for their country. If you do not have email you need not be concerned.
- 1.4 If your correspondence address is different from your **home address**, eg boarding school applicants, please enter your home address.
- 1.5 If you wish to be contacted at home by telephone, fax or email, enter your **home contact number/email address**. International applicants should include international dialing codes for their country. An email address should only be given if it is accessed on a regular basis. Please also ensure that, if you enter fax and email details, you have permission to use these facilities.

Section 2: Further details

- 2.1 **Your age on 30 September:** this will show the Academy how old you will be at the start of the next academic year.
- 2.2 **Date of birth:** enter day, month, year, eg 20 04 81.
- 2.3 **Disability/special needs/medical conditions:** The Academy needs to know if you have a disability, special need or medical conditions which may disrupt your ability to follow your programme or which may require additional support or specific facilities. In order to allow us to provide the best available support for you we need additional information about any difficulty you might have and how it might affect your studies.
The information you provide does not affect decisions concerning your academic suitability for a programme and is treated confidentially by the Academy. However, in the case of disabled students, it enables data to be collected from which the progress of equal opportunities for disabled students in higher education can be monitored.
- 2.4 If you have a disability, special need or medical condition that may require extra support, please enter in the box on the application form the code from the list below that is most appropriate to you. **Applicants with no disabilities, special needs or medical conditions should use code 0.** If more than one

applies to you, please use code 8. If you have no needs arising from your disability, special need or medical condition, eg you are short-sighted but your vision is corrected by spectacles, you should also use code 0. **If you have used any code other than 0, use section 5 of the form to state your disability or disabilities or condition(s) and indicate clearly what support or specific facilities you need.**

Disability, special need or medical condition codes	
0	You do not have a disability or special need or are not aware of any additional support requirements in study or accommodation.
1	You have dyslexia.
2	You are blind/partially sighted.
3	You are deaf/hearing impairment.
4	You are a wheelchair user/other mobility difficulties.
5	You need personal care or assistance.
6	You have mental health difficulties (e.g depression).
7	You have a long standing illness eg diabetes, epilepsy, heart condition.
8	You have multiple disabilities.
9	You have a disability, special need or medical condition not listed above.

2.5 Student Registration Number for vocational qualifications or Scottish Candidate Number: Applicants applying from Scotland should enter their Scottish Candidate Number. If you have completed or are completing a vocational qualification such as a BTEC diploma or certificate, a GNVQ qualification with BTEC, RSA or City and Guilds, enter the appropriate Student Registration Number in the box provided. Ask your school/college if you do not know your number.

2.6 Source of Finance: Applicants are advised to obtain current funding information and to make an application to the appropriate funding authority as soon as possible. Please enter the most likely source of finance for your particular circumstances, e.g:

- The Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) (for students domiciled in Scotland and elsewhere in the EU).
- The appropriate Local Education Authority (for students domiciled in England and Wales).
- The appropriate Education and Library Board (for students domiciled in Northern Ireland).
- Self: for self-funded UK and EU students.
- Overseas: for students outwith the EU.

2.7 Date of first entry to live in the UK: If you were born outside the United Kingdom, please insert the date when you first entered the UK to live here permanently.

2.8 Residential category: The Academy is required to make a decision as to your fee status, whether you pay Home / EU or Overseas fees. You are therefore required to identify your residential category to help us correctly classify your fee status. Please note that “ordinarily residence” is defined in case law as “ a regular, habitual mode of life in a particular place, the continuity of which has persisted despite temporary absences”.

As a broad outline, those who would be charged home fees are;

- persons who have permanent residence in the UK, with no time limit on their stay, and have been ordinarily resident in the UK for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- persons who are British Overseas territory nationals and their spouse/civil partner and their children under the age of 21 who have been ordinarily resident in the UK and or any of the British Overseas territories for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- EEA and Swiss migrant workers and their spouse/civil partner and children in the UK who have been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- EU nationals (excluding UK nationals) and their spouse/civil partner and their children, under the age of 21, who have been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland for 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during this 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- Child of a Swiss national who has been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during this 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- Child of a Turkish national who is ordinarily resident in **Scotland**, (the Turkish worker must be ordinarily resident in **Scotland**) and who is, or has been lawfully employed in the UK. The Child must have been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland and /or Turkey for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- refugees (recognised by the UK government) and their spouse/civil partner
- persons who applied for asylum and as a result have been granted Exceptional Leave, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave, or in some cases Indefinite Leave and their spouse/civil partner and parent/adoptive parent/step-parent/guardian.

Using the following information please find the category that you think applies to you and enter the appropriate code in the box on the application form. Notes at the end of the questionnaire are there to assist you. **Please note that this self coding is provisional. The Academy will make the final decision regarding your residential category once we have assessed the information supplied on the application form and any other information we may subsequently request.** The fee status regulations are complex and the Academy is required to make its own decisions on an applicant's status.

Category summaries to select for the Application form

- A** You are an EU national/ EU Overseas territory national (not including the UK), or child of an EU national and have lived in the EEA and/or EU Overseas territories and/or Switzerland (you may also have lived in the Channel Islands and/or Isle of Man)for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during the 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- B** You are a UK national or have Indefinite Leave to Enter/Remain in the UK or have a Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode in the UK or have the Right of Permanent Residence (arising under EC directive 2004/38) and have lived in the UK, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during the 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- C** You are a British Overseas territory national or the spouse/civil partner and or child (under the age of 21) of the British Overseas territory national who has been ordinarily resident in the UK and or any of the British Overseas territories for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- D** You or your spouse/civil partner or parent are a Refugee or have been granted Exceptional Leave to Enter/Remain, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave (or in some cases Indefinite Leave) in the UK following an application for asylum and you have lived in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man since that status was granted.
- E** You are an EEA (not including the UK) or Swiss national, you live in the UK and you are a migrant worker (or such a person's spouse/civil partner or child) and you have lived in the EEA and/or Switzerland for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during the 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- F** You are a child of a Swiss national who has been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009. The main purpose of residence during this 3 year period must not be for full time education.
- G** You are a child of a Turkish national who is ordinarily resident in **Scotland**, (the Turkish worker must be ordinarily resident in **Scotland**) and who is, or has been lawfully employed in the UK. You as the child must have been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland and/or Turkey for the 3 year period prior to the 1 September 2009.
- H** You would otherwise meet the criteria of categories A, B,C, D or E but you have been living outside the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, EEA or Switzerland, because you or either of your parents have been temporarily working outside the area in question. Supporting evidence will need to be provided.
- O** Other.

Notes:

The European Union include the following:

Austria, Belgium, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France (including the French Overseas Departments of Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guyana, Reunion, Saint-Pierre et Miquelon), Germany (including Helgoland), Greece, Hungary, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuanian, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira but excluding Macao), Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain (including Ceuta, Melilla, the Balearic Islands and the Canaries), Sweden, the United Kingdom (with Gibraltar).

EU Overseas Territories include the following:

Aruba, Faroe Islands, French Polynesia, French Southern and Antarctic Territories, Greenland, Mayotte, Netherland Antilles, St Pierre et Miquelon, the Territory of New Caledonia and Dependencies, Wallis and Futuna.

If your category code is 'O', but you or either of your parents are granted EU citizenship, you should immediately inform the Academy.

The European Economic Area consists of EU countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. For the purposes of residence, this includes the whole of the island of Cyprus.

Persons recognised by the UK authorities as **refugees**, or persons who have been granted **Exceptional Leave to Enter or Remain, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave**, as a result of an asylum application will have been issued with an official letter confirming their status by the Home Office.

If your category code is 'O' but you are subsequently (on or before 1 September 2009) granted British Citizenship or Indefinite leave to Remain, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave, you should immediately inform the Academy, as your residential category may be reconsidered.

If your category code is 'O', but you, or either of your parents are later granted refugee status, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave, you should immediately tell the Academy.

2.9 Country of permanent residence

2.10 Country of birth: state the current name of the country in which you were born.

2.11 Nationality: state your nationality (as given on your passport, if you have one). If you have dual nationality, you may include both.

Sections 3 – 17 as detailed

Section 18: Criminal Convictions

Because all of the Academic courses will, at some stage, bring all students into contact with children, you are required to state on your application form whether or not you have a criminal conviction. Please note that because this request relates to the possibility of working with children, the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974) do not apply.

If you tick yes, you will be required to provide details of your convictions and these may be discussed at audition/interview. Applicants with criminal convictions should be aware of the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, as they affect those with spent sentences.

Please do not be deterred from applying to the Academy if you do have criminal convictions – you will not necessarily be excluded from the selection process. However, we may wish to consider your application further or ask for more information before making a decision.

If you are offered and accept a place at the Academy, you will be required to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure check through Disclosure Scotland and that check will reveal any criminal convictions. Further details of that process can be found at www.disclosurescotland.co.uk