

**Top Ten Reasons for Getting Your MFA in Directing at the
Ohio University Division of Theater
MFA Professional Director Training Program**

1. Learn the directing process from a professional director, not a professional academic.

At Ohio University you get the best of both worlds – strong academic underpinnings combined with a rigorous examination of the practical, day-to-day aspects of being a professional director.

2. Learn directing by directing fully-mounted productions.

Full length Realism Project in Year One.

Full length Style Project in Year Two.

Full length (and fully-supported) Main Stage Thesis Production in Year Three.

Many other opportunities to direct, including world premieres of new plays in the annual Seabury Quinn Jr. Playwrights Festival.

3. Generous financial support/funding (recent figures for three years exceeded \$77,000 in support):**

Full Tuition Waiver all 3 years (2015-16 figures: \$17,436/year x 3 academic years = \$52,308).

2/3 Graduate Assistantship/Stipend all 3 years (2015-16 figures: \$8,427/year x 3/years = \$25,281).

Total Financial Support: \$77,589 (of which \$25,281 goes directly to you as your stipend)

4. Opportunities to build your teaching resume.

Opportunities to teach on the undergraduate level, either as instructor of record or teaching assistant. Past classes have included undergraduate directing, theater history, acting and movement courses.

5. Exciting internship opportunities (with tuition waiver / stipend included).

Recent internships have included the Goodman Theater and Victory Gardens Theater (Chicago); New Georges, The Directing Company, HERE, The Abingdon Theater*, the Obie-award winning Ohio Theater, & assisting David Cromer (*Our Town*) (all New York); Milwaukee Repertory*, Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey, Contemporary American Theater Festival*, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre*, Orlando Shakespeare Theater*, Florida Repertory Theater, Pangea World Theater (Minneapolis) and the Dallas Shakespeare Festival. **(In recent years, we have had a number of directors segue directly from their internships into salaried staff positions at those theaters or other theaters, indicated by an asterisk.)**

6. Emphasis on collaboration with playwrights/new play development.

Study playwriting with Charles Smith (Pulitzer finalist, Jefferson Award & Joyce Award winner).

Direct world premiere productions/workshops/readings of new work by MFA graduate playwrights at the annual Seabury Quinn Jr. Play Festival. Lab show productions of new work are also an option

7. Take advantage of newly-developing relationship with a professional regional theater.

Assist on productions at Tantrum Theater in Dublin, Ohio, a new professional theater now in development by the faculty and staff of the Division of Theater.

8. Opportunity to study with top professional talent in allied areas.

Michael Lincoln (*Copenhagen*, *Skylight* on Broadway) in lighting design; Shelley Delaney (Joseph Jefferson nominee, *Free Man of Color*) in the Acting Program (Meisner); many others.

9. Affordability of living in Southeast Ohio versus Chicago/New York/Los Angeles.

10. The London Program – spend the spring in London.

Support money and stipend while in London (with full tuition waiver); work with prestigious Central St. Martin's Program; depending upon circumstances, support for airfare and housing.

****Important: This is not a contract. All financial support and other aspects of the program are individually negotiated upon admission. Certain items may be modified or may not apply. (These are 2015-2016 dollar amounts and reflect an approximate value for 2016-2019.)**