



MFA THEATRE

Costume, Scenic, & Lighting

Set your sights on design for the stage or screen in multiple areas of interest – our scenography program allows you to emphasize in a primary interest while also exploring other specialties within the field of entertainment design. Get exposure to Costume, Scenic, and Lighting design all from current working professionals from the theatre and tv/film industry. You will learn from faculty mentors, then design for a minimum of two productions.



Department of Theatre and Film

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

drama.uga.edu | ugatheatre.com | 706-542-2836



Member
School



MFA in Theatre | *Design*

ADMISSIONS

FIRST STEP: INTERVIEW & PORTFOLIO

Applicants begin the process with interviews and portfolio reviews that take place during a campus visit or at national conferences such as URTA, USITT, or SETC. Those applying to the design program should submit a current resume and portfolio of their work to Ivan Ingermann (ivani@uga.edu).

SECOND STEP: APPLY ONLINE

Once notified by faculty, you will be asked to apply online at grad.uga.edu. All official application materials are submitted online, not directly to the department. The graduate school requires the following:

- *Transcripts for all previous academic work*
- *Three letters of recommendation*
- *Clear statement of objectives/purpose*
- *Resume*

GRE scores are not required, but may be helpful if your undergraduate GPA is below 3.0. International applicants may have additional requirements.

FINAL DEADLINE: MARCH 15

This is the final deadline for any remaining materials or recommendations. Assistantship offers are made beginning in early March, so do not delay your portfolio review and application. Final deadline date is subject to change.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION | TUITION & FEES

TUITION FOR 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

Out-of-State: \$15,439 per semester. In-state: \$5,017 per semester. Students on assistantship pay only \$25 per semester in tuition plus fees and health insurance payments.

FEES FOR 2025-2026

\$729 per semester. These fees enhance student life by covering student activities, transportation, creation, technology, health center, and more.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Graduate students on assistantship are enrolled in mandatory student health insurance unless they are otherwise covered. More information can be found at hr.uga.edu/students/students_home/

ASSISTANTSHIPS

For 2025-2026, MFA Design students on assistantship were paid \$16,537 per year for their work. Our assistantships an average of 13 hours per week in service to the teaching mission of the department (through assistant teaching, shop work, assisting with the computer or 3D printing lab, etc.) and a minimum course load of 12 hours per semester. Outside work is not allowed during the academic year without prior approval.

STUDENT LOANS

Visit ofsa.uga.edu for information on applying for student loans. Note that federal loans are not disbursed until students arrive on campus and begin classes and that initial offers are later reduced once tuition waivers are considered.

Up-to-date numbers for 2026-2027 will become available in April 2026.



DESIGN FACULTY



JULIE RAY

Department Head | Professor of Scenic Design

jaray@uga.edu | jraydesign.com

M.F.A., University of California, Irvine

A member of USA829 and IATSE479, Julie has designed scenery for feature films including *Neighbors 2, Love & Other Drugs*, and *Abduction*. Television credits include *The X-Files, Babylon 5, Mindhunter, Crusade*, and various television movies. She has also designed for professional and academic theatres in Georgia and Pennsylvania (including Aurora Theatre, Prime Stage, PICT Theatre, and Quantum Theatre plus museums, theme parks, churches, and retail establishments)



IVAN INGERMANN

Professor of Costume Design | Head of Design Area

ivani@uga.edu | ingermanndesign.com

M.F.A., New York University

Ivan is a member of USA829 who has designed for Disney on Ice, the Alliance Theatre, SeaWorld, Atlantis, and for national television commercials including Toyota, McDonald's, BMW, Pontiac, MTV, and Pier One Imports. Film credits include *Suits, Rules of the Game, Escape to Life*, and Sundance Feature Film Winner 2x4. He has won a Suzi Bass Award for Outstanding Costume Design of a Play and has been nominated by the Costume Designers Guild for Excellence in Commercial Costume Design for the Pier One holiday campaign "Santa Baby" with Kirstie Alley.



ALEX MASON

Assistant Professor of Lighting Design

alex.mason@uga.edu | alexmasonlighting.com

M.F.A., University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music

Alex is a lighting designer and associate for musical theatre, opera, drama, dance, and installation art. Recent credits include productions of *The Rite of Spring, Into the Woods, Die Walküre, Le Nozze di Figaro, Pippin*, and *The Barber of Seville* with institutions ranging from the opera companies of Cincinnati, San Jose, and Omaha to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Recent collaborators include James Robinson (director), Lori Stallings (choreographer), and Thomas C. Hase (lighting designer).



ALI HOOKS

Technical Director | Academic Professional

Allison.Hooks@uga.edu | alihooks.wixsite.com/mysite

B.F.A., University of North Georgia

Ali has worked as the Technical Director for UGA since 2023, previously she was the Assistant Technical Director for University of North Georgia. Before her time in academic theatre she worked as a carpenter and stage operations for the Alliance Theatre and Stage Supervisor for Utah Shakespeare Festival. Other credits include Brevard Music Center, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Concord Creative Inc.



TINA HANTULA

Costume Shop Supervisor | Academic Professional

Academic Professional

hantula@uga.edu

M.F.A., University of Georgia

Tina Hantula is a costume designer, serves as the department's costume technologist, and manages the costume shop. She has designed costumes for productions in Georgia, North Carolina, and Iowa as well as for Teatro Signorelli in Cortona, Italy.



JEFF SHERWOOD

Assistant Professor of Sound Design & Sonic Arts
Jeff.Sherwood@uga.edu | sherwoodsound.com
M.F.A., Purdue University

Jeff Sherwood is a Korean-American theatre and digital media artist specializing in sound design, music composition, and audio engineering. He strives to bring original and innovative ideas in collaboration with creative teams in the art of storytelling. He graduated with an M.F.A. in Theatre Sound Design from Purdue University where he studied under his mentor Richard K. Thomas. He is an Assistant Professor of Sound Design & Sonic Arts in the Department of Theatre and Film at the University of Georgia, and continues to work in New York City and across the country. He is also a proud member of United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, IATSE.



CHELSEA TAYLOR

Stage Management | Academic Professional
Chelsea.Taylor@uga.edu
M.F.A., University of Cincinnati College – Conservatory of Music

Chelsea is a stage manager whose professional credits include Theatre Under The Stars, Houston Ballet, Utah Festival Opera & Musical Theatre, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Sarasota Opera, Central City Opera, Cincinnati Ballet, and The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. They hold an MFA in Stage Management from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and are a member of USITT, the Stage Managers' Association, and the American College Theater Festival, where they currently serve as Stage Management Coordinator for Region 4.



ALUMNI



BEN PHILIPP
(M.F.A. DESIGN, 2008)

FILM & TELEVISION

- *And Just Like That* (HBO Max)
- *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (Amazon)
- *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (AE Genus)

THEATRE

- *Assassins* (Theatre 20/20)
- *Street Theatre* (TOSOS Production)
- *Rock the Line* (TOSOS Production)



CATHY PARROT
(M.F.A. DESIGN, 2005)

FILM & TELEVISION

- *In the Heights* (Warner Brothers)
- *Dr. Death* (NBC/Universal)
- *Spirited* (Apple TV)

THEATRE

- *Tootsie* (Marquis Theatre, NY)
- *Hell's Kitchen* (Shubert Theatre, NY)
- *Bullets Over Broadway* (St. James Theatre, NY)



JORDAN JAKED CARRIER
(M.F.A. DESIGN, 2015)

FILM & TELEVISION

- *The Piano Lesson* (Netflix)
- *The Pocketwatch* (Disney)
- *Chad Powers* (Hulu)

THEATRE

- *The Curious Cardinal* (Alliance Theatre)
- *Legacy of Light* (Synchronicity Theatre)
- *Maytag Virgin* (Aurora Theatre)

HALEY BROWN (M.F.A. LIGHTING, 2022)
Out Front Theatre Company, Peterborough Players,
New Hazlett Theater, LEAN Ensemble Theatre

CAITLIN ELDRED (M.F.A. COSTUME, 2022)
Costume Design Faculty, Interlochen College

CORRINE BOTTELSEN (M.F.A. COSTUME, 2021)
Firsthand to John Kristiansen New York Inc.

KAREN DAUENHAUER (M.F.A. COSTUME, 2021)
Asst. Professor of Scenic Design
at University of Arkansas at Little Rock

DELANEY MC LAUGHLIN (M.F.A. LIGHTING, 2023)
Assistant Professor in Lighting Design, W&L University

SAMANTHA KUCHTA (M.F.A. SCENIC, 2021)
Assistant Professor, Slippery Rock University

John Proctor is the Villain
Scenic Design: Julie Ray



Love & Other Drugs
Set Design: Julie Ray



Pippin
Lighting Design: Alex Mason



Approval Junkie
Costume Design: Ivan Ingermann



Disney on Ice: Dare to Dream
Costume Design: Ivan Ingermann



Chicago
Technical Direction:
Allison Hooks

FACULTY WORK

ALUMNI WORK



Garth Brooks Stadium Tour
Stage Design: Adam Ellis



Hocus Pocus Villain Spelltacular
at Walt Disney World
Costume Design:
Christine Burchett-Butler



BlacKKKlansman
Assistant Costume Design:
Ben Phillip



In the Heights
Associate Costume Design:
Cathy Parrot



Sister Act
Scenic Design: Jake Salgado