WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY PERFORMING ARTS DEGREE?

Using the Major Sheet:
• Large headings indicate industry area and subheadings indicate employers within that area.
• Use the titles to search for careers and related careers in order to explore your options within different areas of industry. Note that some career titles have multiple names for similar positions.
• An asterisk (*) notes that additional training (certification, graduate school, high level of experience) may be needed in order to obtain this career. Make sure to thoroughly research career pathways.

THEATER / FILM / VIDEO
Community/Regional/Repertoire Theaters, Dinner Theaters, Children’s Theaters
• Actor
• Lighting & Sound Technician
• Set Designer
• Director
• Touring Manager
• Costume Designer
• Stage Manager
• Stage Technician
• Playwright
• Props Master

Community Centers, High Schools
• Drama Coach
• Performing Arts Teacher

Commercials, Movies, TV/Radio, Corporate Communications, Educational Films
• Actor
• Production Assistant
• Art Director
• Screen/Scriptwriter
• Contestant Interviewer
• Film Assistant
• TV Schedule Coordinator
• Programming Assistant
• TV Electronic Designer

MUSIC
Bands, Orchestras/Symphonies, Musical Theaters, Operas, Military Bands
• Soloist
• Ticket Agent/Services Director
• Ensemble Manager
• Fund Raiser/Asst. Development Dir.
• Asst. Stage/Club Manager
• Accompanist/Band Member
• Concert Hall Asst. Manager
• Promotions/Publicity Asst.
• Advance Agent
• Ensemble Manager
• Promotions/Publicity Asst.
• Road Manager
• Asst. Concert Promoter
• asst. Stage/Club Manager
• Lobby Attendant

Education - Music Stores, Community Centers, Schools
• Studio / Private Instructor
• Teacher
• Band Director
• Organist/Accompanist
• Cantor/Singer
• Music/Choir Director

Recording / Broadcasting Industry
• Session Musician
• Recording Engineer
• Studio Manager
• A&R Representative/Coordinator
• Marketing Representative
• Orchestrator
• Assistant Publicist
• A/V Technician
• Background Vocalist
• Distributor
• Consumer Research Asst.
• Promotions Staffer/Rep.
• Arranger
• Copyist
• Disk Jockey
• Asst. Copywriter Manager
• Songwriter
• Music/Sound Editor
• Production Assistant
• Staff Publicist
• Recording Assistant
• Public Relations Trainee
• Music Librarian Assistant
• Cue Selector

Publishing (Music, History, Text, and Technical Books/Magazines)
• Assistant Editor
• Music Reviewer
• Sales Representative
• Music Journalist
• Instrument Sales Representative
• Recorded Music Supplier
• CD Sales Representative
• Stereo Equipment Sales Rep.
• Music Store Manager
• Field Merchandiser
• Record Store Manager
• Rack Jobber
• Assistant Buyer
DANCE
Musical Stock Company, Ballet/Dance Company, Clubs, Cruise Lines
• Fund Raiser/Development Associate
• Membership Coordinator
• Choreographer
• Studio/Private Instructor

Dance Studio/School, Community Centers, High Schools
• Studio/Private Instructor

Related
• Dance Therapist
• Dance Equipment Sales Rep.
• Physical Therapist

• Recreation Supervisor
• Composer/Arranger
• Artistic Director
• Yoga Instructor

MISCELLANEOUS ART-RELATED
Arts Councils/Organizations, Government, Foundations
• Grant Application Reviewer
• Proposal Reviewer

Arts Management
• Archival Manager
• Art Exhibit Coordinator
• House Manager

• Art Consultant
• Company Manager
• Event Coordinator

BUSINESS
Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations / Sales
• Corporate Communications Staff
• Special Events Planner

• Public Relations Specialist
• Advertising Salesperson

• Marketing Coordinator
• Sales Representative

Preparation for a Competitive Job Market:
• Focus on transferable skill sets as you pursue a degree in Performing Arts.
• Obtain relevant internship, co-op, or volunteer experiences.
• Supplement Performing Arts course work with classes that are relevant to your career.
• Meet with a Career Specialist to explore options, make decisions, and prepare for career choices.

Additional Career Center Resources:
• Major Sheets (PA, MCS, ENGL, EDUC): https://careers.umbc.edu/tools/majors/
• Firsthand: https://careers.umbc.edu/firsthand/
  - Log in and/or create an account
  - Use the top search bar to find these relevant guides:
    “Vault Guide to Dance Jobs”
    “Vault Guide to Theater Jobs”
    “Vault Guide to Music Jobs”
    “Vault Guide to Television Jobs”
    “Vault Guide to Performing Arts Jobs”
  • Professional Organizations:
    Dance:
    American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, & Dance: www.aahperd.org
    National Dance Association: www.aahperd.org/nda/
    Theater/Film/Video:
    Actors’ Equity Association: www.actorsequity.org
    American Guild of Variety Artists: www.agvausa.com
    The Screen Actors Guild & Amer. Federation of Television & Radio Artists: www.sagaftra.org
    Music:
    American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org
    National Band Association: www.nationalbandassociation.org
    American Guild of Musical Artists: www.musicalartists.org
    American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org