

**ACCOMMODATIONS & SERVICES**

The Mandell Theater, the Black Box Theater and the Main Auditorium are wheelchair accessible. The Mandell Theater offers Assisted Listening Devices (ALDs) for those with hearing impairments. Requests for accommodations and services due to a disability should be made to the Office of Disability Resources (ODR). The ODR can be reached at 215.895.1401 (V); 215.895.2299 (TTY); or disability@drexel.edu. The ALDs are available for checkout at the Mandell Theater Box Office.

**PARKING**

Metered parking is available on many of the surrounding streets. There are several fee-based parking lots nearby:

- Drexel Garage at 34th & Ludlow Streets
- Five Star parking at 31st Street & JFK Blvd
- 31st & Market Streets

**DISCOUNTS**

Student and group discounts are available. All students are eligible to receive a student discount and group discounts are available. For more information regarding group discounts, please call 215.895.1275.

**LOCATIONS**

The Mandell Theater is located at 33rd & Chestnut Streets. The Main Auditorium and the Great Court are located in the Main Building at 3141 Chestnut Street. The 418 Main Dance Studio is located on the fourth floor of the Main Building at 3141 Chestnut Street. The City View Room is located on the sixth floor of MacAlister Hall at 33rd & Chestnut Streets. The Black Box Theater is located in the URBN Center Annex at 3401 Filbert Street (behind URBN Center).
WELCOME to the Department of Performing Arts at Drexel University. We are proud to be an active department; home to sixteen musical ensembles, three dance companies, the Co-Op Theatre Company, and the URBN Annex Black Box and Mandell Theaters. Every term hundreds of students from majors all across the university take classes and lessons in music, theatre and dance through our department.

DID YOU KNOW:
The Performing Arts at Drexel are open to all students at the university regardless of Major.

All of our ensembles are run by professional faculty who are excited to educate students in both the traditions and new directions of their fields.

You can participate in large and small performing ensembles in all three disciplines (music, theatre and dance) for credit.

We offer scholarships to advanced performers and stage technicians every year. All you need to do is contact the ensemble director for an audition!

We offer one major and eight minors in the Performing Arts.

Please read further in this brochure to find out how you can get involved in the Performing Arts at Drexel, on-stage, backstage or in the audience.

Miriam Giguere, PhD
Department Head

Drexel.edu/performingarts
The Department of Performing Arts offers academic programs as well as performance opportunities. These include: 1 major and 8 minors.
Drexel University Department of Performing Arts has a range of partnerships across Philadelphia. Music, theatre and dance programs taught by Drexel students, faculty, and alumni extend the physical, intellectual, creative and therapeutic aspects of the performing arts to the community. Partnerships include:

**DANCE**

**Youth Performance Exchange Touring Ensemble:**
The Youth Performance Exchange Touring Ensemble, comprised of dance students at Drexel University, offers free assembly programs to elementary school students across Philadelphia. Ensemble members perform for the students, lead a series of interactive movement games, and facilitate a communal experience for the young movers.

The Touring Ensemble models its curriculum after the South Street Dance Company's Young Audiences Ensemble created by Ellen Forman.

**Residency Project:**
The Youth Performance Exchange Residency Project brings small groups of Drexel dancers to a middle or high school to develop choreography with students throughout the city. This weekly collaborative process fosters artistic development and culminates with a finished dance presented on Drexel's campus in the Youth Performance Exchange Matinee.

**Wheelchair Dance:**
Wheelchair Dance: HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy is a weekly project conducted in collaboration with dance/movement therapist Rachel Federman-Morales. The program partners dancers from Drexel with teenagers in wheelchairs with cerebral palsy for a yearlong process to create dances that will be presented at HMS and the Youth Performance Exchange Matinee.

**Matinee Performance:**
The Youth Performance Exchange Matinee Performance showcases all of the diverse and transformative dance collaborations created through the community partnerships with Drexel Dance. Presented in the Mandell Theater, the students from the Residency Project and Wheelchair Dance perform for an audience of Philadelphia school students.

**Dance at the Dornsife Center:**
The Dornsife Center's programs place Drexel's resources and expertise within easy reach of local residents, helping them improve their lives and sustain a stronger neighborhood. [http://drexel.edu/dornsificenter](http://drexel.edu/dornsificenter)

Youth and Seniors in Mantua and Powelton Village participate in three 8-week sessions of dance (fall, winter, and spring). Classes include hip-hop, ballet, West African, choreography, jazz, creative movement and senior dance fitness. Drexel students volunteer as teachers and assistants to contribute to the rich community in their shared neighborhood.

**THEATRE**

**Mantua Theater Project**
The Mantua Theater Project addresses the needs of the communities of Mantua, Powelton Village and the surrounding neighborhoods with activities that engage youth through positive, self-affirming experiences of success in theater arts. In a month of classes the children are instructed in the basic tenants of playwriting and then taken on a weekend retreat where they are guided by professional theater artists who mentor them through the process of writing a 10-minute play. The plays then receive a full production using professional directors and actors from the Philadelphia community and is offered free of charge to the public.

**MUSIC**

**Music at the Dornsife Center**
Drexel University Music Program is partnering with the Dornsife Center for Community Partnerships to offer free after school music classes to youth and seniors in the the Powelton and Mantua communities. Classes are held each week and are taught by Drexel music students, directed by Drexel faculty member Lynn Riley. Classes are currently being offered in guitar, percussion, piano, and bass.
The Theatre Program is open to all Drexel students interested in performance as well as the technical and administrative aspects of theatre production. The Theatre Program at Drexel combines academics and practical application to empower students to discover and develop their own artistic voice and style. We offer practical courses in Performance, Administration, and Technical Theatre so students are able to explore areas of interest, develop their skills, and gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of theatre. We produce a Mainstage show each quarter, and one of them is part of our unique Barrymore Award winning program called the Mandell Professionals in Residence Project (MPIRP). This program offers students an opportunity to work alongside professional actors, directors, and designers for one of our mainstage productions. Over the years Drexel has partnered with amazing Philadelphia companies including a collaboration with The Riot Group that featured fourteen students who created an original play that was performed in our Mandell Theater and then at the Abingdon Theater Off-Broadway in New York City. In an effort to provide more practical experiences for our students we launched The Co-Op Theatre Company, a resident theatre company, where our talented students take on leadership positions in producing our theater shows. If you want to be involved but don’t have a lot of time we offer more intimate projects like a Musical Theater Cabaret, Improv Show, Director’s Lab, and the Annual NewWorks Festival. These are open to everyone who wants to try it out, and give students an opportunity to take on greater artistic challenges and focus on developing their talents. If you want to share those talents simply join us every Thursday night for The Late Night Series, our weekly open mic that features live music, poetry, and comedy in a safe and supportive environment.

Theatre is a place to find new ideas and explore feelings and thoughts you’ve never experienced before. It’s the place I’ve found to be my home and my grounding. It encourages me to search for meaning and purpose in the smallest things, and that’s something I would not find if wasn’t for the Drexel Co-op Theatre Company. —Andrea Cardoni, Elementary Education, 2018
THE MUSIC PROGRAM

Last year the University Orchestra hosted Matthew Gallagher, Principle Trumpet of the PhillyPOPS Orchestra as a guest soloist on Arutunian’s Trumpet Concerto. As a precursor to the performance, Mr. Gallagher held a masterclass for Drexel student musicians that was free and open to the public. The Jazz Orchestra hosted the world renowned Howard University Jazz Orchestra for a joint concert, Jazz Extravaganza XVII.

This year continues the excitement with Jazz Extravaganza XVIII, as well as a masterclass and concert by PhillyPOPS Concertmaster, Michael Ludwig, with the University Orchestra. The Concert Band will host several guest conductors and composers for premieres of riveting new music for wind ensemble.

Audience members are invited to come out and enjoy the musical variety of our performances, embracing music from throughout history and from all over the world.

The Department of Performing Arts has remained the most consistent and central element of my college life.

—Emma Lansworth, class of 2016 Music Industry

Not only have I become a better musician because of these ensembles, but I have become a better leader.

—Carson Elias, class of 2016 Engineering

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The Drexel Dance Ensemble is a professional caliber dance company presenting two fully produced concerts in the Mandell Theater each year. Entrance into this company is open to any dancer beyond the freshmen year by audition twice yearly. The dance program also sponsors FreshDance, the freshmen year dance company, which performs twice yearly at the Mandell Theater. Both companies present work of guest professionals, faculty and selected student choreographers. If you have a passion for engaging younger audiences, you may want to participate in the Youth Performance Exchange, which sponsors the Touring Ensemble that performs assembly programs weekly at local elementary and middle schools.

The Drexel Dance Ensemble is proud to present dance concerts of the highest artistic standard, created by some of today’s most sought after Philadelphia choreographers including, Meredith Rainey (PA Ballet), Clyde Evans (Chosen Dance Company, Hip-Hop), Leah Stein (Leah Stein Dance Company, Modern), Manfred Fischbeck (Group Motion Dance Company, Modern) and more! The Drexel Dance Ensemble travelled to Singapore as the first American collegiate dance company to ever perform in the International Night of the Singapore Youth Festival.

The Dance Ensemble has thoroughly shaped my identity and sense of belonging as a Drexel student. My involvement has fostered life-long connections with fellow dancers and having invaluable experiences performing the work of professional choreographers has allowed my own artistic voice to blossom and diversify. —Mary Elizabeth Stickney, dance major, 2016

Drexel.edu/performingarts
Dancing Dialogues

A transformative figure in the world of contemporary dance, acclaimed French choreographer Boris Charmatz brings his renowned *Levée des conflits* (Suspension of Conflicts) to Philadelphia, hosted by Drexel University’s Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design and co-presented by FringeArts as part of the Fringe Festival, from Sept. 7-10.

In keeping with Charmatz’s dedication to presenting dance in nontraditional spaces, the performance will be held in Drexel’s Armory (33rd Street and Lancaster Ave.). *Levée des conflits* is a work for 24 dancers, based on 25 cumulative gestures that unfold over time. Both viscerally and conceptually compelling, *Levée des conflits* affords intimate access to Charmatz’s philosophy, choreographic process and resulting performance practice.

During the residency, entitled “Dancing Dialogues,” there will be opportunities for the general public to interact with Charmatz’s ideas through discussion and movement experiences. The movement workshops of this residency will be open to the general public. The first will take place on the Perelman Plaza on Drexel’s campus (32nd Street between Chestnut and Market Streets) on Friday, Sept. 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the second will take place on the East Terrace of the Philadelphia Museum of Art on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon. Discussions with the artist will take place at the University of the Arts Y Gym (moderated by Lois Welk) on Wednesday, Sept. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again in the URBN Annex Screening room (moderated by Simon Dove) on Thursday, Sept. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The project has been supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

NewWorks Festival

The Theatre Program at Drexel has a commitment to developing the amazing creative talents of all of our students. In order to enhance that effort we created the annual NewWorks Festival which features short plays written by students, faculty, and handpicked outside professional artists. These plays are developed over the 10-week quarter with student actors, playwrights, dramaturgs, and a director all collaborating on developing the work. The plays are then given a free script-in-hand reading and working professional artistic leaders in Philadelphia are invited to see them and then meet one-on-one with the playwrights to discuss the work.

Past festivals have included professional artists like Jane Jones from Book-It-Repertory who was developing a new version of *A Tale of Two Cities*, and David Lee White who was developing a one man show called *Panther Hollow*. In addition to the student written plays this year we will collaborate with Inis Nua Theater Company to develop a brand new play in the Irish Corn Exchange Style. Plays developed by students in this festival have been featured and gone on to win new play competitions.

NewWorks Festival is presented in the URBN Annex Black Box Theater on March 16 and 17 at 8 pm.
Music Program Masterclass

This year, the University Orchestra welcomes Michael Ludwig, Concertmaster of the PhillyPOPS Orchestra. Mr. Ludwig will give a masterclass, free and open to the public, on Monday, November 14th (see schedule for more information). Mr. Ludwig will return in December to perform Violin Concerto No. 1 by Max Bruch, accompanied by the University Orchestra under the direction of Rosalind Erwin.

This tandem event is the start of a tradition in the Music Program, but also the start of a significant relationship with the PhillyPOPS organization. The PhillyPOPS sponsored last year’s masterclass with Matthew Gallagher (Principle Trumpet of PhillyPOPS), and is underwriting this year’s event with Michael Ludwig. The Music Program is incredibly grateful for the support of the PhillyPOPS and is enthusiastic about potential future partnerships.

This fall will be the third annual masterclass and concert presentation. In 2014, the Music Program hosted David Kim, Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Mr. Kim set the tone for what has become a highly anticipated event each fall.

DANCE ENSEMBLE
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FRESHDANCE ENSEMBLE
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TECHNICAL THEATRE ENSEMBLE
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JAZZTET
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CHAMBER MUSIC: BRASS AND WINDS
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ALL-COLLEGE CHOIR
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GOSPEL CHOIR
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COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING ENSEMBLE
Lynn Riley
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Mcr27@drexel.edu
Red Bastard

“Something interesting happens every ten seconds…”

We are thrilled to present Eric Davis, aka Red Bastard, whose mission is to charm, disarm, shock and seduce you. America’s premiere bouffon delivers in this critically-acclaimed show. Lines will be crossed and laughs will be had in this interactive feast of biting wit, improvisation and physical prowess.

Showtime Schedule
- October 20 | 8:00 PM
- October 21 | 8:00 PM
- October 22 | 8:00 PM
- General Admission $20
- Student $15
- Free for Drexel Students

Made possible through a grant from the Rankin Scholar-In-Residence Program

Tickets: cootheater.westphal.drexel.edu

URBN CENTER ANNEX BLACK BOX THEATER

MPIRP and Inis Nua Theatre Company present
Dublin By Lamplight

By Michael West
Directed by Tom Reing

A remounting of the critically acclaimed, Bartermore award winning show! Amidst the filth and fury of 1904 Dublin, the theatrical event of the century is about to explode. Fading stars, rebels, whores, and romantics irreverently expose the strange and lurid world of Dublin. By Lamplight as six actors play over forty roles in a fast-paced tale about the launch of the Irish National Theatre.

FREE PREVIEW
November 9 & 10 | 8:00 PM

OPENING
November 11 | 8:00 PM

Show Schedule
November 12, 16-19 | 8:00 PM
November 13 & 20 | 8:00 PM
General Admission $30-$35
Students $15
Drexel Students/Faculty/Staff $10

MPIRP is made possible in part through a grant from the Samuel P. Mandell Foundation

Tickets: cootheater.westphal.drexel.edu

MANDELL THEATER

Natural Sharp
December 3 | 3:00 PM

Naturally Sharp performs intricate swinging vocal arrangements of jazz standards from the 20th Century.

Free and open to the public
MANDELL THEATER

Concert Band
December 4 | 7:30 PM

Drexel University welcomes back Maestro Filippo Salerni, guest conductor from Bevagna, Italy to lead the Concert Band in a dynamic performance of American and Italian classics! This concert is part of Drexel’s partnership with the INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PROJECT (IMP), a consortium of eleven American & Italian colleges/universities and conservatories created to provide wind band and chamber music performance/pedagogy, and conducting symposia for emerging professionals. This concert also features guest conductor and composer, Luigi Zaninelli.

Free and open to the public
MANDELL THEATER

Other free and open to the public music concerts

String Chamber Music
November 29 | 7:30 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Fusion Band and Rock Ensemble
November 29 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

Mediterranean Ensemble
November 30 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

All-College Choir with Brass and Wind Chamber Singers
December 2 | 7:30 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Gospel Choir
December 3 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

FALL 2016/17
Dance Ensemble Winter Concert: Milestone 125
February 2, 3 & 4 | 8:00 PM
As Drexel reaches it 125 year milestone, the choreographers in this concert reflect on their own most meaningful milestones. Includes new work by dance faculty Janet Pilla, Tania Isaac, and Valerie Ifill.
General Admission $10
Students $5
Tickets: danceboxoffice.com
MANDELL THEATER

FreshDance Winter Concert: New Pursuits
February 10 & 11 | 8:00 PM
Freshmen dancers perform a variety of works by student and faculty choreographers including Dr. Miriam Giguere, KC Chun-Manning, and Jennifer Morley.
General Admission $10
Students $5
Tickets: danceboxoffice.com
MANDELL THEATER

125 (working title)
Created by Adrienne Mackey and members of the Co-Op Theater Company
Directed by Adrienne Mackey
Celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of Drexel University with a look back at Theatre in Philadelphia circa 1892. A devastating fire at the Grand Central Theater during a performance of the Devil’s Auction in April of 1892 resulted in the deaths of seven performers. Journey back and forth in time with these lost souls.
Show Schedule
February 17, 18, 23-25 | 8:00 PM
February 18, 19 & 25 | 2:00 PM
General Admission $20
Students $15
Drexel Students/Faculty/Staff $10
Tickets: cooptheater.westphal.drexel.edu
URBN ANNEX BLACK BOX THEATER

27th Annual Madrigal Dinners
February 24 & 25 | 7:30 PM
The Drexel Chamber Singers and guest performers take you back in time to 1587 for an evening of madrigals, chansons, lute songs, and lieds. Come see how the nobles spent their Saturday nights in the royal courts.
Tickets: madrigal.westphal.drexel.edu
Price includes dinner
MAIN BUILDING

Charrette Performance: Through the Looking Glass
March 5 | 6:00 PM
Over an intensive weekend experiment, from March 3-5, students collaborate across disciplines to create and present a blend of dance films and live performance.
Free and open to the public
MANDELL THEATER

University Chorus
March 19 | 3:00 PM
The University Chorus presents a major choral masterpiece with a full orchestral accompaniment featuring guest soloists.
General Admission $8
Students/Senior Citizens $3
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Concert Band
March 20 | 7:30 PM
Guest composer and conductor Angelo Sormani (Como, Italy) joins the Drexel Concert Band in a performance of his wind band works. We are also pleased to feature Mr. Matthew Gould (Instructor of trombone, Drexel University) in a performance of John Mackey’s dynamic concerto—Harvest (In conjunction with the INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PROJECT)
Free and open to the public
MANDELL THEATER

Other free and open to the public music concerts

Evening of African-American Music featuring the Gospel Choir
February 18 | 6:00 PM
MANDELL THEATER

Gospel Choir
March 11 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

String Chamber Music
March 14 | 7:30 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Fusion Band and Rock Ensemble
March 14 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

Mediterranean Ensemble
March 15 | 7:30 PM
MANDELL THEATER

All-College Choir with Brass and Wind Chamber Music
March 18 | 7:30 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM
Jazz Orchestra presents XVIII Annual Jazz Extravaganza

April 14 | 7:00 PM
The Jazz Orchestra will host the Howard University Jazz Orchestra in this dual-concert celebrating the African American musical art form called jazz.

Free and open to the public
MANNED THEATER

Coffee & Jazz

April 28 & 29 | 8:00 PM
Naturally Sharp, Drexel's vocal jazz ensemble, performs classic jazz at the top of MacAlister Hall with the Philadelphia skyline as their backdrop. Beginning at sunset, the group's annual end-of-year concert transports sold-out audiences to a place where “everything swings”.

General Admission $7 (includes coffee and dessert)
CITY VIEW ROOM

Avenue Q

Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx
Book by Jeff Whitty
Based on an original concept by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx
Directed by Bill Fennelly

This laugh-out-loud musical tells the timeless story of a bright-eyed college grad named Princeton, who arrives in the city with big dreams and a tiny bank account. The only apartment he can afford is all the way out on AVENUE Q. There, he meets an assortment of characters who are destined to be his new friends! Together, they struggle to find jobs, dates, and their ever elusive purpose in life.

Show Schedule
May 11-13 | 8:00 PM
May 13 & 14 | 2:00 PM
General Admission $20
Students $15
Drexel Students/Faculty/Staff $10
Tickets: cooptheater.westphal.drexel.edu
MANNED THEATER

Lecture-Demonstration: Art, Devotion and Dance

May 18 | 7:00 PM
Dr. Pallabi Chakravorti, Rankin Scholar and director of the courtyard dancers, will present on the classical Indian dance form Katak as part of her Rankin scholar residency.
Made possible through a grant from the Rankin Scholar-In-Residence Program

Free and open to the public
MANNED THEATER

FreshDance Spring Concert

May 24 & 25 | 8:00 PM
Freshmen dancers perform a variety of works by student, guest and faculty choreographers including Lindsay Browning, Caroline O’Brien, and Marion Ramirez.

General Admission $10
Students $5
Tickets: danceboxoffice.com
MANNED THEATER

Dance Ensemble Spring Concert

June 1, 2 & 3 | 8:00 PM
New works by ten choreographers combine to make an evening of dance and excitement. Selected student works will be performed in addition to premiers by Drexel dance faculty Shannon Murphy and Ellen Forman Award Winner Nicole Bindler.

Support for the Ellen Forman Memorial Award generously provided by the Philadelphia Foundation

General Admission $10
Students $5
Tickets: danceboxoffice.com
MANNED THEATER

Jazz Orchestra

June 8 | 8:00 PM
The Jazz Orchestra features the ensemble's graduating seniors soloing over pieces composed by the masters of jazz. Come join them in honoring their seniors in this festive send-off.

Free and open to the public
MANNED THEATER

University Orchestra

June 9 | 7:30 PM
The orchestra concludes its year of performances with a celebration of spring and rejuvenation. This night will mark the first University Orchestra performance with the historical and recently renovated Drexel University Pipe Organ. Also featured will be two superb Drexel University student soloists.

Free and open to the public
MANNED THEATER

Concert Band

June 11 | 7:00 PM
Guest composer and conductor Giancarlo Aquilanti (Stanford University) will lead the Drexel Concert Band in a premiere performance of his new Wind Symphony No. 3, along with a new work for wind band by guest composer Royce Cole (Michigan). (In conjunction with the INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PROJECT)

Free and open to the public
MANNED THEATER

String Chamber Music

June 6 | 7:30 PM

Mediterranean Ensemble

June 7 | 7:30 PM

All-College Choir with Brass and Wind Chamber Music

June 10 | 3:00 PM

Gospel Choir

June 10 | 7:30 PM

Other free and open to the public music concerts

String Chamber Music
June 6 | 7:30 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Mediterranean Ensemble
June 7 | 7:30 PM
MANNED THEATER

All-College Choir with Brass and Wind Chamber Music
June 10 | 3:00 PM
MAIN AUDITORIUM

Gospel Choir
June 10 | 7:30 PM
MANNED THEATER

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