

Long-term | part-time instructors

Suzanne Burchell has contributed to the growth of the Drama in Education and Applied Theatre program for 12 years. She was head of drama at Orchard Park High School (Stoney Creek) and is chair of human rights for the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation. Burchell received the OSSTF District 21 Hamilton-Wentworth 2012 Woman of Distinction Award.

Terrance Cox teaches DART 1F93, Introduction to Drama, and MUSI/PCUL 1F00, Music in Popular Culture. He contributed to the recently published book, *Covering Niagara: Studies in Local Popular Culture*.

Helen Zdriluk has contributed to the growth of Drama in Education (DIE) and Applied Theatre (AT) for 13 years. She has also taught acting at Sheridan College.

Theatre Beyond Words (Robin Patterson, Terry Judd and Harro Maschow of Potato People fame), Brock's resident theatre company, teaches an annual spring intensive course in Physical Theatre.

Other part-time instructors with a variety of skills join our department on an annual basis.

Staff

Brian Cumberland, production manager for DART and the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, has 20 years of experience in professional theatre.

Roberta Doyle, head of wardrobe, teaches Technical Theatre and Costume Design courses, and supervises production work and the department's costume resources. This past summer she worked in professional theatre at the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival.

Douglas Ledingham, technical production assistant, teaches carpentry and shop safety, and supervises production crews. Often moonlighting as a sound and lighting designer, Ledingham also participates regularly in technical and labour conferences throughout North America.

Adrian Palmieri, DART technical director, teaches technical theatre production courses, and is production manager/technical director for mainstage shows.

Field trips

DART's field trips provide students the opportunity to experience a variety of thought-provoking and entertaining theatre performances. Previous trips have included:

- 605 Collective Dance
- Carousel Players
- Canadian Opera Company
- Canadian Stage Company
- Crow's Theatre
- Factory Theatre
- Gallim Dance
- Theatre Gargantua
- The Improvised Shakespeare Company
- Light Wire Theatre
- Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects
- Ronnie Burkett
- Shaw Festival
- Soulpepper Theatre
- Stratford Festival
- Tarragon Theatre
- Theatre Beyond Words
- Theatre Passe Muraille
- Toronto Dance Theatre
- Tottering Biped Theatre
- Volcano Theatre
- Zacada Circus Workshop



eyeGo to the Arts

Are you in high school? Got five bucks? Experience some of the world's best live music, comedy, dance and theatre for less than a movie.

One of Niagara's premier performing arts centres, the Centre for the Arts at Brock University presents another HOT TICKET professional entertainment season.

EyeGO to the Arts is an innovative national program where high school students can experience the performing arts at a price they can afford. A limited number of discounted \$5 student tickets are available for all HOT TICKET events. Students can also access \$5 tickets for events presented by Brock's Department of Dramatic Arts and the Department of Music.



Productions: "Indies," clubs, class outcomes...

ANNUAL EVENTS

Gimme Two Festival: Two-minute original scenes created by first-year students with direction from senior students.

Justified Scenes: Original scenes created by student directors in DART 3P53 Directing I, exploring the relationship of movement to action.

One-Act Play Festival: Classic and contemporary one-act plays directed by members of DART 3P54 Directing II.

COMMOTION: Led by Gyllian Raby in collaboration with Carousel Players, this is an ongoing project with Niagara area high school students that explores the creation of new works.

Mirror Theatre: Students take on the role of actor/researcher/teacher (A/R/Tor) as they improvisationally write, perform and workshop plays on a variety of issues, including substance abuse, assessment, mental health, bullying, teaching, body image and health care. They travel to the community and present at conferences.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2011-12

DART 3F76 – Children's Theatre adapted *The Lorax* for K-3; Robyn Cunningham directed *Androcles and the Lion* (as Commedia) for Grades 4-6. The collectives *The Environment Show* for Grades 4-6 and *Future Steps* – docudrama for Grades 7-8 were presented at Edith Cavell and Connaught public schools.

DART 3F77 – Theatre for a Community wrote and performed *Ball and Chain* (on mental health in the workplace) for Brock HR and Healthy Living Niagara and 4.321 (on assessment) for Brock's Centre for Pedagogical Innovation.

DART 4F56 – Advanced Studies in Theatre wrote and performed *Shadows of a Toymaker* inspired by the gothic stories of writers Edgar Allen Poe and Angela Carter.

Brock Connections performed *Colours in the Storm*, book and music by Jim Betts, directed by Helen Zdriluk and Lesca Poppe. Musical director Emerson Ross; vocal coach Joanna Kula.

Mirror Theatre wrote and performed *Common Knowledge* for the Centre for Academic Integrity, Brock's Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) and the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services, *Escalations* for the Employment Help Centre, *Outside In* for the Niagara Health System, *disPositions* for CPI and two videos *Wanna Drink?* 1 & 2 for Brock's Student Health Services.

Independent productions

Hamlet was directed by Mallory Rivest.

Student awards and bursaries

- Dramatic Arts Scholarship in Academic and Creative Achievement**
- Elizabeth Miller Bursary**
- F. Janet Dolman Prize** in Playwriting
- J. H. and J. F. Harding Prize** in Dramatic Literature and Theatre
- Jane Forrest Prize** in Dramatic and Theatre Arts
- Jean Harding Prize**
- L. Amy Kerr Book Prize**
- M. E. and L. E. Miller Prize** in Drama and Theatre Arts
- Marlene Moser Memorial Scholarship**
- Mike Holmes Heron Memorial Bursary**
- Norah Morgan Book Prize** for Drama in Education
- Theatre Students and Alumni Book Prize** for Theatre
- Warren Hartman Bursary**

For more details visit brocku.ca/safa/

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The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts at Brock University offers students a broad education combining research, practice and creative development.

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dramatic arts

2012-13

DEPARTMENT OF DRAMATIC ARTS (DART) NEWSLETTER

Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts

The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts (MIW SFPA) is comprised of the departments of Dramatic Arts, Music, Visual Arts, and the Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture.

In November 2008, renowned Canadian fibre artist Marilyn Walker donated \$15 million towards the creation of a new multi-purpose facility in downtown St. Catharines. In April 2010, the Ontario government announced that it would provide Brock University \$26.2 million to help build a new home for the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts. In adapting a late-19th century textile mill, planning has focused on developing 95,500 square feet of innovative teaching space, including art studios, digital media labs, music practice spaces, and a 280-seat flexible studio theatre with full production support.

Designed by the world-renowned Diamond Schmitt Architects of Toronto, these superb facilities will enable the school to continue building on its richly diverse and prestigious academic programs. Completion of the project is scheduled for the summer of 2014, in time for fall classes. Please visit us at brocku.ca/financearts

Mainstage productions Season 2012-13

Our mainstage productions serve our students with practical hands-on experience, stimulate intellectual and creative enquiry, and enrich the Niagara community.

The Suicide

A Russian Comedy by Nikolai Erdman

Adapted by Gyllian Raby and Anna MacAlpine
Director ~ Gyllian Raby
Russian consultant ~ Larisa Brodsky
Set design ~ Nigel Scott
Costume design ~ Roberta Doyle

Nov. 8, 9, and 10, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
Matinee: Nov. 9 (Time TBA)

The Blue Room

A play in 10 intimate acts

By David Hare, freely adapted from Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde*.
Director ~ Virginia Reh
Scenographer ~ David Vivian

Feb. 14, 15, 16, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.
Matinee: Feb. 15 (Time TBA)

TICKETS:

- \$15 adults
- \$12 seniors / students
- \$10 groups
- \$5 eyeGo

For more information about our mainstage productions, contact Marie Balsom, Communications
905 688 5550 x4765 | mbalsom@brocku.ca

Come join us in Niagara

The community of students, professors, researchers and staff of Dramatic Arts (DART) offers one of the best opportunities to create and explore the theatrical arts. Join us to be among the first graduating classes to analyze, theorize, practice and perform in our new learning facilities and on the stage of the new DART theatre opening in 2014. Join us to do practicum placements with schools and theatre companies. Join us to witness international touring performances and original creations of the vibrant local community at the new St. Catharines Performing Arts Centre being built right next door... We call what we do praxis. It involves all of these things brought together to create an undergraduate experience unlike any other university in Ontario. We do this very well because our students are remarkable in each of the four areas of study we pursue. And we want you to be one of them.

David Vivian, chair,
Department of Dramatic Arts

BROCK OPEN HOUSE

Visit: experience.brocku.ca

FALL PREVIEW DAY

Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012

SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, March 3, 2013

Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine & Performing Arts

Brock University
Faculty of Humanities



Orpheus Descending, 2011

All DART's programs emphasize "praxis" – the integration of theory and practice – teaching students to analyze, create, initiate, lead and collaborate in essential abilities and aptitudes for any future endeavour. In addition to the general degree routes, DART has four options for a degree concentration that enables students to focus on an area of interest. After completing first-year foundation courses, students can choose to enter a concentration:

- Drama in Education/Applied Theatre
- Performance
- Production and Design
- Theatre Praxis

Alternatively, you can continue in a general Dramatic Arts degree, honours degree or a three-year pass degree.

The DART Invitational



Once you receive a conditional offer of acceptance to the Bachelor of Arts (honours) Dramatic Arts program from Brock, you'll be invited to participate in one of the DART Invitationals.

This stimulating day of workshops and theatre activities allows you to experience all four concentration areas (listed below), while still allowing you to excel in your areas of strength and interest. During the day, you'll help devise a short, original piece of theatre, and meet and work with many of our faculty and staff, current students and recent graduates. Lunch and snacks are provided.

Final offers of admission to our program are conditional upon successful completion of the DART invitational.

Invitationals will take place on a Saturday in April and in May. Detailed information about the day will be included in the offer of admission package.

Further information can be found at brocku.ca/dramaticarts

GRAD PROFILE: Julia Course

Julia Course graduated from Brock University in 2005 with an honours BA from the Department of Dramatic Arts, and a minor in English Language and Literature. Awarded a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) in 2006, she continued her studies at the School of English and Theatre Studies at the University of Guelph. Under the supervision of playwright Judith Thompson, Course completed her MA in dramatic literature and theory. Tired of sitting behind a computer and longing to be in front of an audience again, Course headed to Montreal to train in the acting program at the National Theatre School of Canada, and graduated in 2009.

Course's theatre credits include *Scientific Americans* (Segal Centre), *Write From the Hip* (Nightwood Theatre), *The Penelopiad* (workshop: Nightwood Theatre), *The Ark* (National Arts Centre/National Theatre School of Canada), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *All My Sons*, *Uncle Vanya*, and *The Battery* (National Theatre School of Canada). Course has been an ensemble member at the Shaw Festival since 2010, and has appeared in *Serious Money*, *The Women*, *The Apollo of Bellac* (director's project, 2010), *Drama at Inish* and *The President*. This season she is onstage in *Present Laughter* and *Come Back Little Sheba*. Course will be making her first television appearance this summer on the Canadian series *Murdoch Mysteries*.

Course looks back on her years at Brock fondly: *While studying at Brock, I had the opportunity to take a variety of classes, from theatre history and dramatic literature to stagecraft and acting. The tools and skill-sets I developed at Brock have afforded me the opportunity to continue my studies both at the master's level, and at the National Theatre School. I made close bonds with my fellow students at Brock and lifelong friends. I highly recommend the program to anyone interested in pursuing studies in theatre.*



Julia Course and Ric Reid in *Come Back Little Sheba*. Photo by David Cooper

Visiting artists 2011–12



with LED lighting for stage design.



Prof. Jonothan Neelands, National Teaching Fellow, professor of Drama and Theatre Education and lead academic of the Royal Shakespeare Company/Warwick Teaching Shakespeare partnership, taught DART 3V90 Theory and Practice of Drama in Education in July 2011.

Cheryl Lalonde, production/stage manager of the Toronto Dance Theatre (TDT), spoke to students about her career experiences and creative challenges in the milieu of Canadian contemporary dance. Christopher House, artistic director, and members of TDT led a student workshop and performed *Severe Clear* at the Centre for the Arts.

Kate Trotter (actor and alumna) met with DART students for an evening's discussion about her career prior to receiving a Distinguished Alumni Award.

In conjunction with York University and University of Toronto's Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, DART organized and moderated a panel discussion with artistic director Elizabeth LeCompte and members of the internationally renowned Wooster Group of New York City, held in the Robert Gill Theatre, University of Toronto. The Wooster Group was in Toronto for their highly anticipated production of *Vieux Carré* at the Harbourfront Centre World Stage 2012.

Other guests included:

- Bernie Warren (University of Windsor)
- Carolyn Mae Boras (Singapore)
- Prof. Kari Lynn Winters (Brock University)
- Lindsay Price (Theatrefolk)
- Michael Greves (alumnus)
- David Langlois
- Tess Cartwright (alumna)
- Vid Warren

SHAW

DART at the Shaw Festival

DART 4P92 — Text and Performance of Bernard Shaw

This course is co-taught annually by ensemble members at the Shaw Festival and Brock faculty. Brock's proximity to and strong relationship with the Shaw is a unique opportunity for our students. DART graduate Robyn Cunningham was a summer intern at the Shaw Festival for 2012 under the guidance of associate director Eda Holmes.



DART at the Stratford Festival

DART 3P91 — Shakespeare in Performance

DART 4P51 — Shakespeare: Voice and Text

These courses are offered annually at the Stratford Festival. Students take studio courses in acting, voice and movement, view and analyze productions, study texts, tour backstage and interview members of the Stratford ensemble. DART graduate Eric Frank describes his experience:

In three weeks at Stratford, I acquired an unprecedented amount of knowledge about theatre as a profession. I discovered how to properly read and decipher Shakespeare, and I learned an incredible approach to acting in studio classes taught by the coaches of the professionals. I saw world-class theatre, and discussed and analyzed the performances with the company's actors, technicians and coaches. I will never forget the skills I learned and the incredible lifelong friends I made.

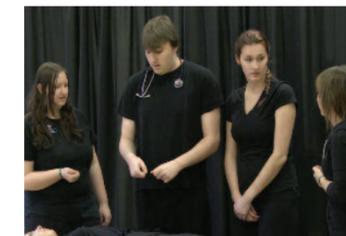
DART in the COMMUNITY

DART students have opportunities to apprentice in acting, administration, design, tech, publicity, etc. with Niagara's theatre companies: Theatre Beyond Words; Essential Collective Theatre Co.; Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects; Carousel Players; Suitcase in Point; and Stray Theatre; to name a few. Students also take on teaching roles in elementary and high schools, and work in summer camps and a number of local companies.

The Centre for the Arts offers students many opportunities to view professional performances at a reasonable cost. Students gain valuable work experience through employment with the Centre.



Mainstage: *Lion in the Streets*, 2012



Mirror Theatre: *Operating Room Politics*



Mainstage: *Ophelus Descending*, 2011

alumni CORNER



Kate Trotter (BA Hon, '75) celebrated actress of film, television and the stage, was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Prize for the Humanities in March 2012 at Brock University.

Kasey Dunn (BA Hon, '11) was awarded the prestigious scholarship for the 2012-13 Erasmus Mundus MA in the International Performance Research program.

Gillian Fournier's (BA Hon, BEd, '11) Gillian Fournier's (2011) play *Crashland* was performed in the Toronto Fringe Festival July 2012, with alumni Geoffrey Heaney, Caitlin Popek, Michael Pearson, and by alumnus Nathan Tanner MacDonald and designed by Finn Archinuk and Sadie Isaak.

Nathan Tanner MacDonald (BA Hon, '11) also produced and directed *The Clockmaker* for the In the Soil Festival 2012.

Eric Frank (BA Hon, '11) received an Equity contract with Theatre London in October 2011 for performing in the play, *To Master the Art*.

Deanna Jones (BA Hon, '02) performed in *Barrel Crank* at the 2012 Summerworks Festival.

Spencer Charles Smith (BA Hon, '11) is pursuing his master's at the Centre for Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies at the University of Toronto. He is the producing artistic director at STRAIGHT CAMP and directing a play in this year's Toronto Fringe Festival, *The Virginity Lost & Found*.

A warm welcome to...



DART welcomes Karen Fricker who joins us in January 2013. She holds a PhD from Trinity College, Dublin, and comes from the Department of Drama and Theatre, Royal Holloway, University of London, U.K. Her areas of teaching and research

interest include theatre and globalization, contemporary Québec theatre (in particular the work of Robert Lepage), popular culture in performance, and critical and cultural theories. She is a professional theatre critic who has written and broadcast for *Variety* (U.S.), the *Guardian* (U.K.), the *Irish Times*, the *BBC*, and the *CBC*, among others.

Faculty members

Natalie Alvarez teaches theatre praxis. She is currently working on three book projects: a SSHRC-funded manuscript on immersive simulations and performance in military training and dark tourism, and two edited collections on Latina/o-Canadian theatre. This past year, her articles appeared in *Theatre Journal*, *The Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism*, and *New Canadian Realisms*. She also co-edited the 150th anniversary issue of the *Canadian Theatre Review*.

David Fancy teaches in DART (Performance and Theatre Praxis) and in the master's programs in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts, and in Social Justice and Equity Studies. Fancy has presented conference papers in Germany and Spain, and is developing a theatre project with migrant workers.

Karen Fricker (see bio on page 3)

Glenys McQueen-Fuentes teaches Performance (movement-based) Drama in Education and Applied Theatre. Her research is in international, physically based (Lecoq School) theatre forms and in using movement and music as a language in the arts and education.

Joe Norris teaches Applied Theatre and Drama in Education. He serves the Niagara community through Mirror Theatre, a research-based theatre company that devises and performs programs on a variety of social issues. He recently received a three-year SSHRC grant to create a website (joenorrisplaybuilding.ca) to disseminate research-based performances through videos.

Gyllian Raby teaches Script Writing, Directing and Advanced Collective Creation. Under her SSHRC grant project COMMOTION, and in collaboration with Carousel Players, she develops new works with Niagara-area high school students. She also collaborated with Suitcase in Point Theatre.

Virginia Reh teaches Performance, Directing and cross-disciplinary Music Theatre practice. She is an artistic associate of Opera In Concert, Toronto. She recently represented Canada at the International Federation of Artists North American and English Speaking Group in Los Angeles. She is currently organizing the next LyricCANADA conference, in collaboration with Brock University and the Shaw Festival.

David Vivian chair, teaches Scenography, Design, and Production Stagecraft. He designs mainstage productions for DART and other companies. He was the recipient of the Humanities 2009 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. From 2009-12 he was director of the Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture.

Danielle Wilson teaches Voice and Performance and does vocal coaching and assistant directing for mainstage productions. She was dialect coach for Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects' *Beauty Queen of Leenane*. With Stolen Theatre, she co-created the original physical theatre production, *The Diary of Adam and Eve*.