



Tiffany Theatre College



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Tiffany Theatre College is a dynamic and innovative performing arts college structured to provide inspirational and realistic training motivating students and developing their potential. It is committed to provide excellence through vocational, academic and social education culminating in well rounded professional students.

Established in 2001, TTC has become extensively recognised by professionals throughout the industry for its original approach to training in the performing arts.

Tiffany Theatre College offers exclusive one year, two year and three year accelerated courses appealing to a wide range of students. Each gives individual and equal opportunities stretching the student beyond the standard expected to fulfil a career in the profession. Tiffany Theatre College is one of the few vocational colleges to be able to offer a Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) alongside the courses. There are also options to take A-Levels, DDI/DDE qualifications, and re-sit GCSE's.

The Directors pride themselves on a pro-active approach, keeping a watchful eye over every aspect, giving time to each student, helping them achieve their potential and in turn making Tiffany Theatre College a very friendly and 'family orientated' college.

This course is designed for students who have previously taken H.Ed or full time performance courses and require a final 'Top-Up' course launching them into a Professional Performance Career.

Whilst maintaining core technical classes including ballet, jazz and contemporary emphasis will focus heavily on preparation for the professional environment.

Greater performance opportunities will be experienced ranging from solo performance platforms in their chosen genre to repertory workshops with company professionals specialising in street theatre, physical theatre and emerging theatre with the opportunities to develop these workshops through contextual based projects to TIE and outreach programmes

Independent innovative projects are created by students in genres as diverse as sight specific choreography and musical theatre productions. Each project is guided and mentored by an industry professional.

Relevant information is given in professional skills including finance, CVs and audition preparation.

Master classes in Set design and technical theatre give a brief in sight into the other side of professional theatre whilst additional workshops and after hour short courses in other skills such as fencing, give students expertise in other areas.

TTC ONE YEAR PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE COURSE

This full time course prepares the students to become professional performers in the Performing Arts Industry. In the first year students become secure in all forms of dance, musical theatre, singing and drama, progressing at an ambitious rate. Building on the foundation of training they have previously received they develop technical skills and explore different styles of performance. Students increase musical theatre and dance knowledge and many technical classes are personalised according to the students level of ability. This is analysed by assessment thus enabling progression and development requirements tailored to the individual including identifying weaknesses.

In the second year, the training of the previous twelve months is developed and enhanced. The students are encouraged to develop skills that have direct relevance to their careers, for example enhance their image, allow time to become confident with their appearance and learn techniques to set them apart from the crowd. The student refines and polishes performance skills ensuring a well rounded individual performer.

CVs, photos, and Z cards are prepared during the final months and we suggest a choice of photographers and agencies. An audition folder is developed throughout the course and is now personalised to include sheet music from rehearsed songs and monologues that suit the individual student. After their second year, students who have taken this course will go to castings and auditions confident and prepared.

Throughout the two years, assessments are made, initially by the Directors and Heads of Faculties, then by tutors on a regular basis. Our regular timetable of evaluation and review ensures our students an unrestricted opportunity to progress.

The Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) is attached to the Two Year Performance Course and is mandatory for all students who meet the requirements for this qualification. This runs within the full vocational course at Tiffany Theatre College and is equivalent to 2 A-Levels. Where possible BTEC assessments are within the timetabled vocational classes and not extra to the course.

COURSE OUTLINE YEAR ONE

Classical Ballet The students learn correct warm-ups, limbering and placement. They build knowledge of French terminology and vocabulary whilst developing co-ordination and class presentation. Female students prepare for pointe work and males for virtuosity.

Jazz The students are taught basic warm-up and warm down exercises, basic technical steps to include isolations, contraction and release and travelling, whilst developing rhythms, musicality, and syncopation. Students learn jazz routines to increase 'pick-up' speeds and improve flexibility whilst accomplishing the correct technique.

Contemporary Students begin with the appropriate placement of weight. They then progress to experimentation with transference of weight and breathing with movement, abdominal strength, travelling with freedom and dynamics, with attention to rhythmic detail and musicality.

Tap Drawing on both American and English techniques students develop a confidence in rhythm, understand the correct placement of the body, use tonality and progress their technique to a confident elementary level.

Acting Students are gently introduced to various methods of acting. Based on Stanislavsky techniques, students are taught exercises alongside vocal and physical skills.

Social skills are taught building self-esteem and confidence, and studies include text based acting and improvisation, voice work, movement for the actor, textual interpretation and analysis, and audition technique. Presentations of text incorporating Shakespeare, Restoration, and Contemporary playwrights are developed through group projects.

Musical Theatre This incorporates dance and musical theatre history – exploring and identifying key performers, choreographers, directors and composers. Classes in portfolio and performance encourage the student to begin to perform solo and in groups, learning teamwork skills. Students develop stagecraft including production, direction and technical specifications. By combining these essential skills, the student begins to

understand the important role of the musical performer.

Singing This incorporates solo and group classes, introducing harmonies and basic sight reading through notation, aural tests develop the ear and breathing exercises are taught for correct control of the diaphragm. Technical exercises are explained and introduced to help pitch, tone placement and resonance. Communication of lyrics and understanding the intentional and emotional content is explored. The student will begin to compile a repertoire list separated into genres which will eventually make up part of their audition folder.

Combined studies This incorporates fitness, body maintenance, common injuries, nutrition, health and safety.

First Year of BTEC Students complete various compulsory and optional units including 'Performing Arts Business' (compulsory), 'Jazz Dance', and 'Developing Classical Ballet Technique'. The assessments are set throughout the course and work may be resubmitted or repeated if a student wishes to improve on an original grade at any point during the two years. Assessment in year one will be in 'Jazz Dance', 'Classical Ballet' and 'Drama Improvisation'. Assessment is largely practical within this course, occasionally students will be required to research for presentation work which is recorded and submitted for an assessment grade. Classes run within the regular vocational course and are held in the Tiffany Theatre College complex.

Students also:

- Take trips to the theatre and participate in associated workshops
- Participate in Inter College Performance Awards
- Perform in the end of year Showcase
- Participate in the Tiffany Theatre College Outreach programme
- Perform in the various in-house studio productions
- Have the option of studying for DDI (see Qualifications DDI/DDE)

COURSE OUTLINE YEAR TWO

Classical Ballet Students continue to strengthen core stability and further their vocabulary. They study classical repertoire, interpret artistic qualities and learn and perform complex enchainments. Once the ballet tutor is

happy that the student is proficient, pointe work and virtuosity is added to the course.

Jazz Students continue development of techniques and styles learned in the first year, and enhance their knowledge of jazz styles e.g. lindy hop and rock 'n' roll, introducing partner work to these. By developing complex routines the student learns to combine contemporary and ballet techniques including allegro, weight placement, adage and complex turns and jumps. Audition classes help the student to absorb routines correctly at a fast pace and confidence is therefore increased in dance performance.

Contemporary Emphasis is on learning to combine weight, breath and dynamics. Students explore complex travelling combinations incorporating turns and jumps, refining core strength, weight placement, and fluidity of movement. In addition, they will develop secure phrasing within rhythms and musicality, a broad vocabulary of dynamics, and awareness of space around the performer.

Tap Students continue to strengthen technique by incorporating close work and fast footwork, combining intricate beating with music and dance styles and tempos. As they become more competent with complicated rhythm, they will understand syncopation and extend rhythmic response progressing to a level where students will be confident with the diversity of tap.

Pas de Deux This includes the basic principles of partner work, safe technique and advanced lifts whilst learning how to create movement as one.

Acting Students acquire a repertoire of monologues for use at auditions. Skills for audition and interview are also developed. Lessons include screen acting, emotional recall, the continuation of development of character analysis, the spoken word and movement (including period movement), textual interpretation and textual analysis.

Musical Theatre Students develop and refine knowledge of musical theatre composers and music both pre and post 20th century. Students participate in teamwork to develop their experience in ensemble work. The many performance opportunities in Portfolio class encourage students to be able

to sing individually in front of an audience in a confident and professional manner. Workshop and audition based presentation and performance classes prepare the student for auditions and company rehearsals.

Singing Group and solo lessons include technical exercises to develop and improve diction, stamina and further develop vocal technique. Students understand how to interpret songs, and will complete a comprehensive repertoire combining multiple genres that can be used for auditions.

Combined Studies This includes development of CVs and professional employment skills including administrative and contractual procedures, audition confidence and development in fitness, body maintenance, understanding of common injuries, nutritional advice and health and safety.

Second year of BTEC This works much the same way as the first year. Compulsory units in this will include Performance workshop and Performing to an Audience. Students will be assessed on a total of one unit across the two years with further optional units in year two including Urban Dance, Tap Dance and Dance Performance. The second year of BTEC is almost entirely practical with the assessments taking place in existing timetabled classes and scheduled performances throughout the year. They will be taking part in our Inter College Performance Awards as part of the Course and will gain a grade for the BTEC unit 'Performance to an Audience' as a result of this. On completion of the two years BTEC students will gain qualifications equivalent to two A-Levels.

Students also: have the same opportunities as in the first year and have the option to study for their DDE qualification (see qualifications DDI/DDE)

Students wishing to combine A-Level qualifications with our Performance Course can do so by taking the 2 year Performance Course over three years. This allows for the student to have 'release' time in their first two years at Tiffany Theatre College to attend A-Level lessons at Belfairs High School Sixth Form, without compromising the delivery and progression of our vocational Performance Course. After completion of A-Levels alongside the initial two years of training, the students third year will then be spent entirely at Tiffany Theatre College. The greatest advantage of this course is to accelerate their overall training by combining the regular two year academic A-Level programme and our Two Year Performance Course, reducing it from four years to completion in just three years. Students on this course will graduate from college with both a college diploma as well as nationally recognised academic A-Levels.

Most students also qualify to register on the Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) course that has an equivalent value of two A-Levels. The BTEC course runs in the Tiffany Theatre College building within the vocational course. Students who opt for the Exclusive Three Year Performance Course can comfortably graduate with the equivalent of four A-Levels alongside their full Tiffany Theatre College performance training.

COURSE OUTLINE

YEAR ONE

The first year runs as a light programme in combination with academic timetables – see Two Year Performance Course outline for details.

YEAR TWO

The second year runs as a light programme in combination with academic timetables – see Two Year Performance Course outline for details.

YEAR THREE

Training will be exclusively with TTC, focusing on improvement and strength of all Performing Arts disciplines. Our expectation is that all Level 3 (AS/A2) courses will be completed. Assistance will be provided on CVs, portfolios and preparing the student for their graduation. Our regular monitoring will help us to further develop the components of the course that were previously allocated to students' Level 3 (AS/A2) studies. All students should graduate from this course with extensive performance skills and a thorough knowledge of industry requirements for professional performers.

EXCLUSIVE THREE YEAR PERFORMING COURSE INCORPORATING A-LEVELS

We are one of the few vocational colleges to offer BTEC, A-Levels and all units in DDI/DDE as well as the high standard of performing arts training received.

ISTD LEVEL 3 DDI/LEVEL 4 DDE

Tiffany Theatre College is an ISTD Approved Dance Centre, allowing us to enter students for the ISTD dance teaching qualifications, Diploma in Dance Instruction (DDI) and Diploma in Dance Education (DDE). Classes for teaching qualifications are included in the weekly timetable, but are optional and subject to demand.

The DDI and DDE are broken into 8 units all which are undertaken at Tiffany Theatre College. Many students take their DDI in their first year followed by their DDE in their second year.

Children's classes are run throughout the evening at our studios, and students entering for the DDI/ DDE are encouraged to stay to watch and assist alongside our qualified children's staff. This helps the student become knowledgeable of the syllabi, experience teaching children first hand, and covers the first unit of DDI.

Fees for exams, books, candidate portfolio and the ADC supplement are all required for students taking the qualifications, and a price plan is available at reception.

The DDI is aimed at candidates of 17 years+ who have gained ISTD examinations up to intermediate level and wish to prepare for the DDE to become teachers of dance. The DDI is accredited at Level 3 in the National Qualifications Framework, which is equivalent to an A-Level standard.

The DDE is aimed at candidates of 18 years+ who have gained the DDI and the Advanced One examination in the chosen dance genre and wish to become fully qualified dance teachers. Students who achieve this qualification are then able to submit candidates for ISTD examinations. The DDE is submitted at Level 4 in the National Qualifications Framework, equivalent to the first year degree level.

BTEC Please see COURSE OUTLINES for full details.

The BTEC is a specialist vocational qualification and is widely recognised in the employment industry. The majority of it will involve practical learning including practical assessment. Students will study a range of core subjects as well as specialist units designed to match each students needs. All units are graded at a pass, merit or distinction and students will have the opportunity to resubmit work at certain points of the term to improve the grades awarded. TTC offer both the Level 3 Diploma (12 units) which is equivalent to 2 A-Levels and the Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (6 units) being equivalent to 1 A-Level.

A-LEVEL

A-Levels can be taken in partnership with Belfairs High School. Students are encouraged to take our Two Year Performance Course over three years and spend part of the week at Belfairs studying their chosen A-Levels. Prior to commencing at Tiffany Theatre College, students meet with our Head of Contextual Studies and Belfairs Head of Post 16 education to determine student requirements.

Students are required to have 4 GCSEs at C grade or above in three subjects. A-Levels can be taken in Business, Health and Social Care, Performing Arts, History, Maths, Fine Art, Media Studies, Music Technology, ICT, Biology, Engineering, Graphics (Art), English Literature, English Language, Geography, Chemistry, Photography, Textiles, Psychology, Dance, Physics, Philosophy and Ethics, Physical Education, Music, Science in Society, Media Studies.

OTHER COURSES

At TTC we are also able to offer level 2 courses. Students have the opportunity to re-sit GCSEs if necessary and will be integrated into our programme within the college.

LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATION

Tiffany Theatre College is located on the A13 (London Rd, Leigh on Sea). The nearest station is Chalkwell Park. Leigh on Sea is situated on the Thames Estuary 30 miles east of London. Accessed by the A13 and A127 and reached by train on the C2C network between Fenchurch Street and Shoeburyness. Primarily a fishing village, Leigh has become increasingly popular with affluent City workers wishing to live outside London; this has made Leigh a trendy thriving area with lovely boutiques, shops, bars and restaurants. Leigh is a very safe area to live in away from the big city lifestyle making it popular with families.

Tiffany Theatre College is widely recognised in the Southend district and students regularly acquire part time employment with local retailers and restaurants, supporting their living costs.

We aim to assist students find comfortable and safe accommodation within easy access of the college. Over the years we have been able to build up a comprehensive list of host families that are suitable for our students. Once a student has accepted their place at Tiffany Theatre College the list is sent along with the other details for commencement at the college.

STUDENT WELFARE

Our family orientated atmosphere ensures a kind, caring approach, and the students feel they are able to come to us to discuss any problems they may be having at the college or in their personal lives, whether emotional or physical. As a small college we are able to have a strong relationship with each student individually. We always make time to sit with them, listen and advise. Students are safe in the knowledge that everything is confidential and we are registered under the Data Protection Act.

The student handbook handed out during the first week of commencing at TTC, gives further guidance on all areas of college life. We advise that all students register with a local doctor on commencing the course.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

The students are expected to work at their maximum capability at all times and by building a knowledge of the body, they are able to recognise injuries

- when to work through slight discomfort and when to seek professional help. They are taught how to use their muscles correctly for dance, drama and singing thereby diminishing the risk of injury and improving technique. Through combined studies offered, our students will follow a more formal route of safety, health and fitness training. The students will gain knowledge of relevant anatomy, physiology, good nutrition, and understanding of the importance of safe dance practice.

PERFORMANCE

TTC enables each individual student to be given access to recognised performances within the college including our annual London production, showcasing students to established casting directors, agents and prominent members of the theatre industry. Students are encouraged to compete in the college Performance Awards and take part in various in-house musical productions during their training.

All students automatically belong to the Tiffany Management throughout their course and, if they wish, after graduating. Tiffany Management regularly put present students forward for professional work such as pantomimes, summer seasons, modelling and corporate events. Graduating students are lucky enough to have the option to attend castings through Tiffany Management for Cruises, Tours, and Theatre etc in their final term with us.

HOW TO AUDITION

Please complete the application form and medical form and return to us. On receipt of this we will write to you with the audition details including the time and date. If you are unable to make this date please notify us immediately and we will do our best to reschedule your audition.

The audition will take place at Tiffany Theatre College - Entry is by audition only for students of school leaving age upwards.

An audition fee of £35 (non-refundable) should be enclosed with the application form.

The audition day will consist of the following:

- Classical Ballet class – correct ballet wear will be explained in the audition letter. Pointe work may be included for students who have ballet experience.
 - Jazz class – correct jazz wear will be explained in the audition letter.
 - Solo audition comprising of a prepared jazz/ modern dance (1.5 mins)*.
 - Prepared solo song (best 8 bars) with backing track *.
 - Prepared monologue (1 min)*.
 - Candidates will be interviewed by the panel.
- * Please adhere to these time limits.

The panel will consist of Senior Management staff and Heads of Department

Candidates will be assessed on technical potential, confidence, personality, poise, ability and suitability within the classes. We will evaluate level of performance, quality of feeling, vocal ability and pitching, dynamics and movement, confidence with the spoken word and artistic individuality.

During the interview the candidate will be assessed on their temperament and nature and their suitability for the TTC environment. Whilst we maintain high standards at interview, we understand that students will be at different levels of training and are sympathetic to this.

ACCEPTANCE

If the applicant is successful in their audition, they will receive an acceptance letter. This will inform the student if they have been awarded a scholarship/bursary and will include a form for the student to sign and send to us, along with the registration fee of £150.00 to secure their place. After your place has been secured at TTC we will send you a further information pack, within this we will provide term dates, fee payment dates, uniform lists, rules and regulations, terms and conditions, a measurements form and an accommodation list. Any other queries can be dealt with immediately by emailing or calling us.

FUNDING

Scholarships and fee assisted funding are awarded to promising students on the basis of talent demonstrated at the audition, rather than on financial circumstances. TTC currently operate their own program and funding is given at the Directors discretion. Students are notified if they have received funding in the letter of acceptance.

A scholarship will cover the full course fees. Fee assisted funding will cover a percentage of the full course fees and may differ from student to student. Funding from the TTC program will not cover uniform, accommodation, travel, private lessons, extra lessons (outside college timetable), DDI/DDE, exam fees, parental contribution.

Various funding options are available, including applying for a Professional and Career Development Loan, which Tiffany Theatre College can assist with. For more information please log on to <http://pcdl.ypla.gov.uk/>

Alternatively, students can apply for a student loan or ask the local council for help. Local councils vary in their support for the Arts, but may be able to offer individual assistance. Grants can be applied for and, if refused, appeals can be made. Further information can be obtained from the reference section of local libraries in the form of 'A Directory of Grant Making Trusts'. It could also be possible to gain sponsorship from various sources and this option should be explored thoroughly.

In cases of hardship, various arrangements for payment are considered. Once the student has been accepted, details of payment methods are discussed thoroughly.