

PLAYWRITING MFA PROGRAMS

Arizona State University

Location: Tempe, Arizona

Portfolio Requirements: Manuscript sample of either a full-length play (60 pages or more) or a series of one-act plays (30 pages minimum)

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Augsburg College

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Portfolio Requirements: 15-30 pages, standard script format

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Boston University

Location: Boston, MA

Portfolio Requirements: a minimum of one original full-length play or two one-act plays

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Notable Alumni: Lydia Diamond, Zayd Dohrn, John Kuntz, Russell Lees, Melinda Lopez, Molly Smith Metzler, Ronan Noone, Joyce Van Dyke, and Karen Zacarías

Brooklyn College

Location: Brooklyn, NY

Portfolio Requirements: one full-length play, or two or more one-act plays

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Annie Baker

Brown University

Location: Providence, RI

Portfolio Requirements: Two writing samples. The first should be a complete piece of any length in dramatic form ("dramatic" understood liberally). The second may be a part of a whole, and in any medium

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California State University

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Portfolio Requirements: Submission of a portfolio of creative work and performance programs which may include production stills/film/video clips, stage plays, screenplays or television scripts.

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Notable Alumni: Dustin Lee Abraham, Daniel Knauf, Joseph Wambaugh

Carnegie Mellon University

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Portfolio Requirements: One full-length play (or screenplay)

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Notable Alumni: Stephen Schwartz, Stephen Bocho, John Wells, Joshua Harmon, Liza Birkenmeier, Kate Mikere, and James McManus

Catholic University of America

Location: Washington, DC

Portfolio Requirements: A writing sample when applying online. Additional samples may be required by the Department. Send what you believe to be your best work.

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Columbia University

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: One full-length, or two one-act plays.

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Kia Corthron, Migdalia Cruz, Bathsheba Doran

Fordham University

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: Two plays (at least one should be full length)

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Denzel Washington, Patricia Clarkson, Peter Gil-Sheridan

Goddard College

Location: Plainfield, VT

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Notable Alumni: Simone John, Mark Doty, Cara Hoffman, Alexis Smith, Julia Bouwsma, Christian Peet, Matthew Quick, and Selah Saterstrom.

Hollins University

Location: Roanoke, VA

Portfolio Requirements: Manuscripts

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Hunter College

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: Play Manuscript - Submit a full length play or a one act play of at least 40 pages.

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Indiana University-Bloomington

Location: Bloomington, IN

Portfolio Requirements: One complete play that best represents the applicant and demonstrates his or her strength as a candidate. A second full-length play may be requested if a candidate is the finalist for the Fellowship.

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Lesley University

Location: Cambridge, MA

Portfolio Requirements: 15–20 script pages

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Jami Brandli, Barry Brodsky, Ronan Noone, Kate Snodgrass

Louisiana State University

Location: Baton Rouge, LA

Portfolio Requirements: 20 pages of prose, 8-10 poems, or a substantial portion of a script, depending on the genre you plan to pursue at LSU.

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

New Hampshire Institute of Art

Location: Manchester, NH

Portfolio Requirements: 2 writing samples of at least 10 pages but not more than 20 pages each. These may be from plays or screenplays (one-act, short, or full-length), poetry, narrative fiction, non-fiction essay or article.

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Notable Alumni: Sarah Lawrence, AJ Delauder, Jennifer Potts

New School

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: One original full-length play

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Northwestern

Location: Evanston, IL

Portfolio Requirements: A 10-page Writing Sample

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Notable Alumni: Greg Berlanti, John Logan, Matthew Schwartz, Aurin Squire

Ohio University

Location: Athens, OH

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Samples

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Notable Alumni: Laura Jacqmin, Qui Nguyen, Bianca Sams

Pace University

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: 20 page max writing sample

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Pepperdine University

Location: Malibu, CA

Portfolio Requirements: Two full-length screenplays (each 110-120 pages)

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Notable Alumni: Chad Creasey, Jeff Loveness, Candance Lowry

Queens College

Location: Queens, NY

Portfolio Requirements: Two one-act plays or one full-length play

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Regent University

Location: Virginia Beach, VA

Portfolio Requirements: Personal Goal Statement

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Rutgers

Location: New Brunswick, NJ

Portfolio Requirements: One full-length, or two one-act plays.

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Notable Alumni: Will Goldberg, Bryna Turner

Savannah College of Art and Design

Location: Savannah, GA

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Samples

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School of the Arts Institute of Chicago

Location: Chicago, IL

Portfolio Requirements: 1 play or performance text

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Notable Alumni: Deepak Unnikrishnan, Tsehaye Herbert, Emil Ferris, Daniel Borzutzky

Smith College

Location: Northampton, MA

Portfolio Requirements: One or more full-length scripts or the equivalent

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Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

Location: Carbondale, IL

Portfolio Requirements: Two full-length plays

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Spalding University

Location: Louisville, KY

Portfolio Requirements: A writing sample

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Notable Alumni: Amina McIntyre

Temple University

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Portfolio Requirements: A full-length play or two one-act plays

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Texas State University

Location: San Marcos, TX

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Samples

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Mandy Murphy, TJ Young, John Boulanger

Texas Tec University

Location: Lubbock, TX

Portfolio Requirements: A ten-page sample of a representative work

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Tisch School of the Arts, NYU

Location: New York, NY

Portfolio Requirements: A full-length play or screenplay or 2 TV scripts

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Notable Alumni: Annie Baker, Alexa Junge, Meredith Averill, Donald Glover, Neil LaBute, Tony Kushner, Jake Johnson

University of Hawaii

Location: Manoa, HI

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Samples

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University of California, Riverside

Location: Riverside, CA

Portfolio Requirements: 25 page writing sample

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Notable Alumni: Mickey Birnbaum, Carol Damgen, Chuck Erven, Clarinda Ross

University of Arkansas

Location: Fayetteville, AR

Portfolio Requirements: A full-length play and another full-length play, a one-act, or a work-in-progress, or something in a different genre/medium

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University of California, San Diego

Location: San Diego, CA

Portfolio Requirements: One play that you have written that best represents your work

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University of California, Los Angeles

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Portfolio Requirements: Two samples of creative writing. One must be a full length play.

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Notable Alumni: Thanos Papastergious

University of Houston

Location: Houston, TX

Portfolio Requirements: A writing sample consisting of 10-20 pages of the applicant's best scholarly writing.

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

University of Idaho

Location: Noscov, ID

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Samples

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

University of Iowa

Location: Iowa City, IA

Portfolio Requirements: Two scripts: scripts should be full-length (one full-length and one one-act play also accepted)

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

University of Kansas at Lawrence

Location: Lawrence, KS

Portfolio Requirements: A writing sample (no more than 15 pages) that demonstrates your ability to theorize, analyze, and synthesize scholarly information.

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University of Texas at Austin

Location: Austin, TX

Portfolio Requirements: Two original and complete plays

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

University of Missouri - Kansas City

Location: Kansas, MO

Portfolio Requirements: An original "full-length" play

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

University of Nebraska

Location: Omaha, NE

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University of New Mexico

Location: Albuquerque, NM

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University of New Orleans

Location: New Orleans, LA

Portfolio Requirements: 2 plays of any length

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University of Southern California

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Portfolio Requirements: Writing sample of no more than 90 pages

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Villanova University

Location: Villanova, PA

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Sample

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Western Michigan University

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Portfolio Requirements: 15-30 pages of an original play

Application Page: [Click Here](#)

Wilkes University

Location: Wilkes-Barre, PA

Portfolio Requirements: Writing Sample

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Yale

Location: New Haven, CT

Portfolio Requirements: An original play, either an original full-length or two original one-acts

Application Page: [Click Here](#)