Facilities for Theatre and the Arts
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching spaces</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Hall Complex</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Nuffield Theatre</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Minor Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Great Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Playroom</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Jack Hylton Room</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nuffield Theatre workshop</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fine Art Workshop</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Design workshop</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional facilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Music rooms</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Edit suites</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Film and video equipment</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Arts</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Lancaster Arts venues</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Lancaster Arts Volunteer programme</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Black box installation and exhibition space</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Societies</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Lancaster University Theatre Group</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- LUDanS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- LA1TV</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University resources</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Theatre at Lancaster University is based in the LICA Building (right in the above photo), and in the Great Hall Complex on the north side of the campus.

Designed specifically for Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts students, the LICA building houses bright, open performance spaces, versatile installation spaces, well-equipped workshops and computer suites.

The Great Hall Complex, which is just a short walk from the LICA Building, is the home of the on-campus Arts organisation, Lancaster Arts. The complex houses the Nuffield Theatre, the Playroom, rehearsal spaces, music rooms and performance halls, as well as the Peter Scott Art Gallery.

As a student of Theatre, you will have access to the majority of the facilities held by the Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts. This information brochure will give you details of these facilities and more.
Teaching spaces

The LICA Building

• **LICA Event space**

The LICA Building houses one of the largest event spaces in the university. With the ability to divide it into three separate rooms, this space has semi-sprung floors and sound and lighting rigs. It is used principally for teaching, rehearsals, dance classes, film screenings and student performances. It is also used for university events such as Job Fairs, exams, the Freshers fair, Open Days and both internal and external conferences.

• **Black Box Installation and Exhibition space**

For purposes such as group and individual performance rehearsals, controlled filming conditions and installations, we have a large Black Box studio space within the LICA Building. This is a purpose-built facility enabling, for example, live performances to be filmed, large construction to be lit and photographed, or film and video to be projected, or screened on a large scale and ‘in the round’.
The Great Hall Complex

- The Nuffield Theatre

The Nuffield Theatre is one of the largest black box theatres outside of London. It hosts a full programme of performances throughout the year, open to the public. However, it is also a key teaching and performance venue for Lancaster University Theatre students.

It can be booked by groups and individuals for rehearsals and is the main hub for the third-year degree show performances.

As part of the Theatre degree, you can also choose to specialise in the technical aspects of theatre production. If this is your interest, you will receive training in the use of sound and lighting equipment in the Playroom and the Nuffield Theatre.
• **The Minor Hall**

The minor hall is a medium-size space that is used for teaching and also for rehearsals and performances. Again, this is a bookable room for students.

• **The Great Hall**

This space is one of the largest venues in the university, being the hub for events, exams and the university graduation ceremonies. It also hosts Lancaster Arts’ music concerts, which brings big names in international contemporary classical music to campus.

In addition, the Great Hall is occasionally used to stage large-scale performance events such as circus theatre performances.
• **The Playroom**

The Playroom is one of the main teaching spaces in the Great Hall Complex. With a fully-sprung Harlequin dance floor, lighting rig, sound system and moveable mirrors, it is a popular choice for our dance and physical theatre classes and student dance groups. It is also used as a performance space.

• **The Jack Hylton Room**

The Jack Hylton Room is used for music and theatre productions, theatre rehearsals, and life drawing classes. It is bookable by students, either for rehearsing or by societies, such as Lancaster University Theatre Group for performances.
Workshops

LICA has three workshops in all, but Theatre students principally use the purpose-built workshop in the Nuffield Theatre. The other two workshops, in the Design Lab and Bowland Annex studios, can be used by arrangement for more specialised work, such as laser cutting, 3D printing, metal cutting or very large fabrication.

- **Nuffield Theatre Workshop**

As a Theatre student, if you are interested in the learning the more hands-on skills of Theatre, such as set construction, you will have the opportunity to access the Nuffield Theatre Workshop. A team of dedicated theatre technicians are on hand to support you in the use of the equipment, which includes a dimension saw, radian arm saw, bandsaw, planer/thicknesser, lathe, mortise drill, and pillar drill. In addition to these items, the workshop has a small metalwork area with cutting and welding equipment, a plasma cutter and various metal working equipment.

- **The Fine Art Workshop**
The Fine Art workshop houses an extensive range of wood and metal working tools, equipment and machinery. Supervised by a full time technician, students are taught how to use equipment such as large and small bandsaws, a pillar drill, grinder, heavy duty belt sander, but some machines such as the circular saw, only the technician may use. There are also power tools and hand tools, such as jigsaws, drills, heat guns and again, students are shown how to use them and are encouraged to become expert.

The workshop itself is open and supervised during working hours for all students to use, whilst the fabrication space and a suite of hand tools is accessible 24/7.

- **Design Workshop**

For more specialised work, you will have access to the Design workshop, equipped with a bandsaw, bandfacer and a pillar drill, as well as hand and power work tools. The workshop also contains CO2 laser cutters, a vacuum forming machine and 3D printers (fdm and polyjet). A dedicated technician supervises this workshop to help you to learn how to use the machinery safely and efficiently.
Additional facilities

- **Music rooms**

  These rooms are located in the Great Hall Complex. Although we do not offer a Music degree, there is a piano and drums that students can book out.

- **Edit suites**

  If you are interested in editing and manipulating digital material (both sound and visual) we have three specialist, sound-proofed edit suites, equipped with all the software needed to complete the practical elements of your degree. The software is kept under review, and varies from time to time, but currently includes Adobe Creative Cloud, Animate, Audition, Bridge, Character Animator, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Flash, Builder, Illustrator, Incopy, Lightroom, Prelude, Speedgrade.

  These edit suites are used for formal teaching but, as with many LICA spaces, they can be booked by individual students for their own use.

  For simpler editing and other tasks, students may use the computer labs across campus, including one in the LICA building.

- **Film and Video equipment**

  For students interested in working with video, film or the digital, alongside the well-equipped editing suites, LICA has a host of equipment that you can access. We have a wide array of cameras including a range of still DSLR cameras, simple point and shoot cameras, video and high-end film cameras with integral sound.
There is equipment for recording and producing sound, including a variety of mic’s and digital devices for sound recording. Alongside this, there are digital projectors, including large, long and short throw, medium scale and the small, almost handheld. The full list of equipment is extensive, as it supports students’ creative work across Film, Fine Art and Design, as well as Theatre. There is an online catalogue and booking system for the equipment and LICA technicians are available to train you in the best use of the equipment.

Lancaster Arts

Lancaster Arts, is our on-campus independent Arts Organisation. Part of the Arts Council England, they have a long-established artistic reputation for the creation, development and presentation of cutting-edge contemporary arts. As a multidisciplinary arts centre, they commission, produce and present work through three main arenas:

- The Peter Scott Gallery
- The Nuffield Theatre
- The Great Hall
• Lancaster Arts venues

The Peter Scott Gallery

The Peter Scott Gallery produces an annual series of exhibitions and events. A key element of Lancaster Arts, the Peter Scott Gallery is also the custodian of the University’s art collection, which includes works by Picasso, Dürer and Miró. The Gallery also supports student and young artist’s exhibitions, including the annual final year Degree Show.

The Nuffield Theatre

The Nuffield Theatre, the biggest black box theatre outside of London, brings professional and world-renowned contemporary performance, dance and theatre onto campus and offers students the chance to partake in professional workshops as well as showcase their own performances.

The Great Hall

The Great Hall is the venue for the renowned classical music programme, bringing world-class contemporary classical and world music and musicians onto campus. Performances have included the BBC Philharmonic.

Take a look at the Spring 2020 programme to see the diversity of performances and events that are offered by Lancaster Arts at Lancaster University.
Lancaster Arts Volunteer Programme

The Lancaster Arts Volunteer Programme allows Lancaster University students to gain a variety of experience in a professional arts organisation. Volunteers play a key role in the running of Lancaster Arts' programmes, and in supporting projects. Each position offers a unique insight into the workings of an established arts venue, and provides a hands-on introduction to the range of roles within the organisation. It is an opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills, receive specialised training, and access valuable developmental opportunities.

Opportunities include:

- **Concerts and Theatre Volunteers**, working as part of the Front of House Team, providing support and assistance for our performances.
- **Gallery Volunteers**, supporting exhibitions and events, and the care of our Collections.

VIP ACCESS

As a volunteer you get to experience Lancaster Art’s internationally renowned shows, concerts and other events for free. You will have the opportunity to assist behind the scenes, and meet and work with visiting artists.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Lancaster Arts Volunteer Programme boasts an annual calendar of Professional Development events. Past events have included Marketing and Branding workshops, conservation workshops and festival set-up and management.
Many of our students choose to join societies alongside their studies. These societies not only allow you to increase your social circle, but they can also help you to develop skills and experience in things that interest you. Run entirely by students, there are many drama, theatre and performance societies to choose from, such as The Comedy Institute, The Belly Dancing Society and The Magic and Circus society, so whatever your interest, there will be something for you. Three of the most popular societies with our Theatre students, however, are LUTG, LuDans and LA1TV.

- **Lancaster University Theatre Group (LUTG)**

LUTG is one of the biggest and most active societies on campus. It’s our dedication to stage at least three shows every term – all directed, produced, managed and performed by students, giving you the opportunity to see your favourite shows brought to life. Whether you’re an actor, singer, producer, director, writer, stage manager – LUTG has something for you!

For more information, have a look at their website: [www.lutg.org](http://www.lutg.org) or follow them on Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/LUtheatregroup/](https://www.facebook.com/LUtheatregroup/)
LUDanS (Lancaster University Dance Society) is the largest dance society at the university. The society offers weekly classes in a range of dance styles, including: Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical and Street. Some classes are taught by students and others by external, professional dance teachers. Each year the society hosts a two-day dance show for all members to take part in, plus opportunities to audition for a place on the range of intermediate and advanced teams that compete against other universities across the country throughout the year, as well as competing in Europe’s largest inter-university varsity competition, Roses, against York University.

The society also provides numerous performance opportunities for both competition and non-competition members, hosts socials, puts on events (including a home competition) and fundraises for two charities: Mind UK and The Birchall Trust are the chosen charities for 2019/2020.

For more information, take a look at their website and Facebook page.
• LA1TV

If you want to develop your skills and experience in TV, then this is the society for you. From Management, to Software Development, to Production, LA1TV offers you the chance to get involved.

**Opportunities with LA1TV**

Whether you want to be in front or behind the camera, there are many ways to get involved with LA1TV: Directing, Presenting, Producing, Camera Operating, Graphic Design, Video Editing, Publicity, Acting, Script Writing and so much more.

Throughout the academic year, LA1TV provides members with many opportunities, ranging from livestreaming events for societies, to live coverage of the traditional Lancaster University sporting tournament, Roses, to the production of recap videos for the end of year college extravs.

Due to LA1’s prestige they are often able to get a hold of press passes for many on-campus events and even some off-campus events too, such as Highest Point, Lancaster’s music festival. Not only will you be involved in local student events, but potentially large-scale external ones too.
University resources

You will also benefit from additional resources across campus, including:

- PC clusters, one of which is situated in the LICA Building.
- Free Wi-Fi across campus.
- [Lancaster University Library](#), which houses an extensive collection of printed and electronic resources. It also provides a high quality academic study environment, with spaces for both individual and collaborative study. All workspaces are equipped with power for personal devices and larger rooms have interactive technology for practising presentations.
- Moodle, the University's Virtual Learning Environment, where you can access course materials, enter into discussion with staff and students and submit assignments.
- The Employment and Recruitment Service- offering the opportunity to find part-time work within the university.
- The Base, which acts as a first point of contact for students. As well as offering advice, staff can refer students to specialist services such as Counselling, Disability, Funding and the Visa and Immigration team.

The information contained in this document was correct in 2020. Details will vary from time to time, but it is the University's intention to maintain a similar level of provision in future.