



2023

ACT PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM



actcapetown
bright lights. mother city.

— Film Acting Academy —

ACT professional program

The ACT Professional Program' affords a select group of student's unrivalled performance experience and exposure. Master classes with top industry professionals together with the internationally recognized LAMDA qualification, complete this unique mentorship program.

A hands-on, fully immersive production year, designed to bridge the gap between the classroom and the profession.

The 2023 program

LAMDA PCERTLAM – INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN PERFORMANCE STUDIES

The LAMDA Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is an internationally recognised, credit bearing qualification on the UK Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

The LAMDA Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is recognised by Ofqual, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation in England and its corresponding regulatory authorities.

The Certificate is comprised of two units:



Unit 1:

Performance Theory

Students will submit a written assignment of between 5000 and 6000 words in the form of a Portfolio of Evidence.

The Portfolio will document the process of preparing a recital, based around a theme, for performance.



Unit 2:

Presenting a Solo Performance Recital

Unit 2 is designed to enable students to develop a wide range of performance skills. Students will perform a recital, based around a theme, which includes the performance of four pieces from memory (a verse selection, a prose selection, a scene from a play and a piece of the learners own choice) and links (an introduction, linking passages and a conclusion). Students will combine physical and vocal flexibility to engage the audience.

Individual students' performance recitals will be examined by an international LAMDA representative and showcased in a public performance.



SCREENWRITING

Under the guidance of a screenwriting coach, the students will learn the fundamentals of screenwriting.

The module includes:

- Finding creativity (where to look for inspiration)
- Developing an idea
- Story structure (3 Acts)
- Scene structure
- Character development
- Writing a script

SHORT FILM PRODUCTION

Under the mentorship of a filmmaker/director students will create and star in a 20-minute short film*.

Students will be given the opportunity to develop their overall understanding of the film medium through the production of a short film. They will gain valuable experience, developing their acting for camera skills as well as sustaining a performance through the entire arc of a film. The module offers the students valuable exposure and 'show-reel' footage.

The module includes:

- Acting for camera
- Production
- Location and logistics
- Visual interpretation of a film (colour palette, costume design and set design)

The completed film will culminate in a public screening.

*approx. length

PRESENTING FOR CAMERA – NEW MEDIA

"What are your strengths, skills, interests and talents beyond acting? How can they inform your craft and enhance your career?"

In this module, students will develop their presenting skills and techniques. A coach will guide students in investigating their strengths and/or discovering new social and other media skills that might be hidden below the surface. The students will develop these, with the aim of showcasing them on new-media. Even if students already have a web, social media presence, they are given the expertise and support to leverage their brand on developing media platforms.

This module includes:

- Identifying and Developing your skill
- Shooting your videos
- Going Live
- Meeting social media influencers

Footage will be generated that can be uploaded to a channel or social media platform.



STAGE PRODUCTION

Actors will work professionally with a writer-director to create an original full-length play for extended public performance.

The central focus will be the development of theatre performance skills, including an engaged and present voice and body on stage. Furthermore, students will develop critical theatre skills, which will include designing and marketing a production. These skills will aid them in creating further opportunities in the professional sphere.

Further skills include:

- Voice and Physical Preparation for Sustained Theatre Performance
- Emotional Preparation
- Theatre Producing
- Theatre Design

The module culminates in a professional run of performances in ACT's Black Box Theatre.

IMPROVISATION – IMPROV TROUPE

Under the mentorship of professional improvisation actors, students develop their improvisational skills and form and perform on stage as part of an 'improv' group.

Students will be given the opportunity to discover the kind of shows (i.e. which formats) they wish to perform during the year, and new formats will be learned and developed. As a theatrical troupe, students will learn how to approach the different administrative tasks required, from finding and booking a performance venue to marketing a troupe and advertising a show.

The module will culminate in a produced and performed theatre show.

DIRECTING FOR CAMERA

Actors will be coached in the core principals of directing camera. Students will be taken through the critical elements needed in directing for the camera by a directing coach. They will also be introduced to some of the technical aspects required and aided in developing their own directing style.

Module covers:

- Story boarding
- Developing a narrative
- Shot size
- Camera angles
- Directing on a set

The module culminates in the directing of a challenging scene.



PROFESSIONAL STUNT TRAINING

Facilitated by leading professional film stunt coordinators, this module equips the actor with techniques in how to deliver believable on-screen fight sequences.

Module covers:

- Fight choreography for screen
- Understanding camera angles
- Reactions
- Combat techniques
- On-screen performance
- Weapons training & Sword fighting

Work will be filmed, and actors will receive a video clip for promotional purposes.

THE BUSINESS OF ACTING

Through a series of master classes with leading industry professionals, this module aims to prepare aspiring actors for professional employment in the entertainment and media industry.

Classes include:

- Tax and Financial planning for freelancers
- SAGA (Actors Guild)
- Marketing and networking
- Producing your own work
- Self-Taping
- Casting Directors & The Audition Room
- Agents, their role and responsibilities, actor contracts & rates, finding an agent
- Head-shots, Show-Reels and the Actors Curriculum Vitae

Module culminates in a head-shot shoot with a professional photographer and the compiling of a show-reel.



INDUSTRY SHOWCASE

The ACT Professional Program culminates in a stylish event, where actors gain valuable feedback and develop networking skills.

Under the guidance of an ACT coach, the students devise an impactful program, selecting material that best showcases their acting talent and skill.

The module includes:

- Preparing and performing a monologue
- Preparing and performing a scene

A select audience of casting directors, agents and theatre/film directors will be invited to attend this exclusive occasion. In addition to the live performance, the students Short Film will be screened.

NB: As part of the course, ACT Professional year students will be required to facilitate the ACT daily warm-up on a rotational basis and to assist as crew on the Advanced Certificate - Live Performance II and Production II modules. As a bridge to a career in the acting profession, facilitating the daily warm-up will aid self-discipline, the understanding of voice training and physical preparedness for performance, as well as providing students the confidence to teach in a controlled environment. Working as crew under the mentorship of the relevant coach gives further insight into the overall macro context of the acting craft and will offer extensive experience to the students for their own future projects.

Course dates

6 February – 24 November 2023

Term 1	6 February – 31 March
Term 2	17 April – 23 June
Term 3	17 July – 22 September
Term 4	9 October – 24 November
Graduation	14 December

Days & times

- Mon – Friday: 9am – 1pm
- Students will be required to coach the ACT 1st and 2nd year warm-up on a rotational basis.
- Students must be prepared to work on weekends, afternoons and evenings during periods of rehearsal, production and exams.
- Students external acting commitments will be considered provided they do not impact on intense periods of rehearsal/pre-production, exams, shoot days or theatre performances.

Tuition fees

ACT PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM: FEES 2023

Enrolment fee	R 10 591
Course Fee	R 95 315
Total Course Fee	R 105 905
Course Fee of R R95 315 to be paid as follows:	
Option 1	R 90 549
Early Bird Payment: due on/before 30 November 2022.	
Option 2	R 95 315
Full Payment: due 14 January 2023.	
Option 3	R 99 128
Payment Plan: 2 instalments of R 49 564 First instalment due 14 January 2023. Second instalment due 31 March 2023.	
Option 4	R 104 847
Payment Plan: 10 instalments of R 10 484,70 Instalment due on 1 st of every month, February to November 2023	
Option 5	R106 753
Payment Plan: 12 instalments of R8 896,07 Instalment due on 1 st of every month, January to December 2023	

The following is not included in the above fees:

- Exam / Admin fee payable to London Academy of Dramatic Art for Certificate in Performance Studies (PCERTLAM), payable mid-year.
- 2023 Fee: Approx. R2500.00 (TBC, subject to exchange rate).

Please note:

- Act Cape Town accepts a limited number of students per course.
- Enrolment fee & signed enrolment contract secures student's place.



Entry criteria

- Minimum NQF level 6 acting qualification or minimum 2 years informal acting training/relevant industry experience.
- An audition before a selection panel is required.
- Audition consists of:
 - 2-4min monologue for camera / show-reel submission
 - 2-4min monologue for live performance.
- Material should be something the applicant can easily relate to and best shows his / her range of ability.
- Cold read
- Cape Town based applicants are required to audition in person.
- For candidates not based in Cape Town, two, 2-4min contrasting monologues, may be recorded, and submitted. Please ensure that the picture and sound is of good quality.

