



2027

ACT PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM



— 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 2027 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 learner's 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

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

Students develop directing skills and knowledge as they work towards directing a scene for camera. The module will introduce students to the tools needed to manage the process from pre-production to the production shoot.

Module covers:

- Creating a director's treatment and understanding the casting process
- Understanding pre-production
- Blocking for screen
- Logistics, location recce and design
- Storyboarding and shot listing
- Directing actors for camera

The module culminates in the directing of a challenging scene for camera.

DIRECTING FOR STAGE

Students develop the essential methodology and practical expertise needed to direct live performance on stage. The module will equip students with the tools required to manage the entire creative process, from the initial rehearsal phase through to final performance.

Module covers:

- Stage style and form - intimate theatre to spectacle
- Staging layouts and design
- The auditioning process
- Blocking
- Running a rehearsal process
- Directing actors for stage/live performance



PLAY CREATION

Expanding on the knowledge and skills developed in the Directing for Stage module, students direct a live theatrical performance. This will traditionally be a play but may be a poetry or movement programme. The student is required, under the mentorship of a coach, to find, write, or develop a suitable play or programme, cast using ACT students, and design, rehearse, and produce the play or programme.

Module covers:

- Casting through auditions or selection
- Designing the play or programme
- Directing rehearsals
- Lighting and sound design the play or programme

The final work will be performed for a live audience in ACT's Black Box theatre.

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

In this program, students will learn about the ancillary elements of the acting profession. The module will prepare students for life as a professional actor by engaging with the business aspects of the entertainment and media industry.



Classes include:

- Agents, their role and responsibilities, actor contracts & rates, finding an agent
- Tax and Financial planning for freelancers
- Marketing and networking
- Casting Directors & The Audition Room
- Head-shots, Show-Reels and the Actors Curriculum Vitae
- How to build your brand
- How to conduct yourself in the public eye
- Producing your own work
- Social media and content creation skills
- SAGA (Actors Guild)

Module culminates in a headshot shoot with a professional photographer.

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

1 February – 19 November 2027

Term 1	1 February – 19 March
Term 2	5 April – 25 June
Term 3	19 July – 17 September
Term 4	4 October – 19 November
Graduation	6 December 2027

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 2027

Enrolment fee (10% of the total course fee)	R 13 095
Course Fee	R 117 857
Total Course Fee (excl. LAMDA exam fee)	R 130 952
Course Fee of R 117 857 to be paid as follows:	
Option 1	R 111 964.15
Early Bird Payment: due on/before 30 November 2026.	
Option 2	R 117 857.00
Full Payment: due 15 January 2027.	
Option 3	R 120 214.14
Payment Plan: 2 instalments of R 60 107.07 First instalment due 15 January 2027. Second instalment due 31 March 2027.	
Option 4	R 129 642.70
Payment Plan: 10 instalments of R 12 964.27 Instalment due on 1 st of every month, February to November 2027	
Option 5	R 130 821.27
Payment Plan: 12 instalments of R 10 901.77 Instalment due on 1 st of every month, January to December 2027	

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.
- 2027 Fee: Approx. R3 500.00 (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.

