

PERFORMING ARTS



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The
Manchester
College®
be amazing

**WE ARE THE NUMBER ONE COLLEGE IN GREATER
MANCHESTER FOR OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT***

**Latest National Achievement Rates Tables.*

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5 Reasons to Study



Performing Arts at The Manchester College



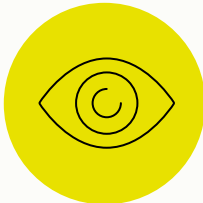
Number 1 in Greater Manchester

Our achievement rates are the highest of all colleges in Greater Manchester for the 8th year running and we're one of the top 3 in the country.*



Progression that opens doors

Over 94% of TMC students move on to a positive destination such as employment, an apprenticeship or degree-level study.**



Ofsted recognition

In our most recent Ofsted inspection, we were rated 'Good' overall and 'Strong' for our contribution to skills.



Over 1,000 employer partners

We work with employers across lots of industries, so you can build your confidence through a meaningful work placement, industry talks and live projects.



Get career ready from day one

Designed with your next step in mind, our courses help you build real-world skills, confidence and experience so you're ready for work, an apprenticeship or university.

* Latest National Achievement Rates Tables.

** Latest Internal Progression Data.



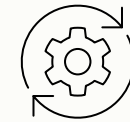
Job figures

There were approx. **2,630** employees working in the performing arts sector in Greater Manchester in 2025. This is predicted to increase by **7.9%** by 2028.



Average earnings

The average wage in Greater Manchester is **£35,840** per annum (2024).



Replacement demand

Around **418** of the current workforce will be reaching retirement in the next 10 years, meaning those jobs will need replacing.

Types of jobs	Skills needed	Examples of GM Employers
Actor	Communication	Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG)
Choreographer	Editing	BBC
Community Arts Worker	Management	Home Manchester
Dancer	Marketing	ITV
Dance Movement Psychotherapist	Planning	Manchester International Festival
Dramatherapist	Project management	NHS
Presenter	Sales	Octagon Theatre Bolton
Stage / Set Designer	Short films	The Bridgewater Hall
Stage Manager	Social media	The Royal Exchange Theatre
Stagehand	Television production	Z Arts

Data sourced from Lightcast April 2025.

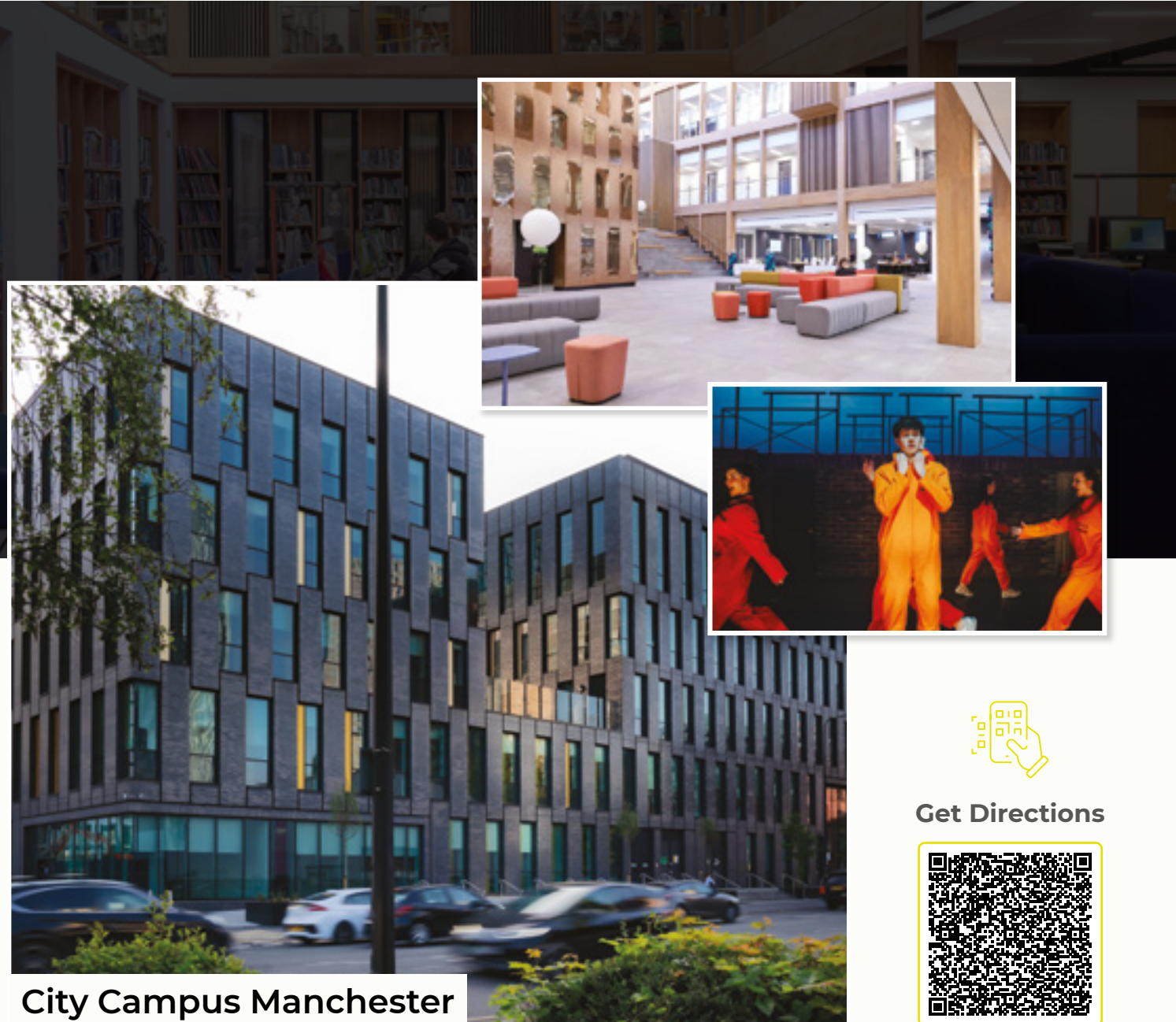
Careers information



Find out
more here

Where to find us

With excellent transport links, modern classrooms and vibrant social spaces, you can study Performing Arts courses right in the heart of Manchester.



City Campus Manchester

- Two professional theatres on-site, including the fully equipped Longmore Theatre with 180-seat capacity
- Five double-height multi-purpose rehearsal studios with semi-sprung floors
- Dedicated performance assessment studio with panoramic city views
- Ensemble and 1-to-1 singing rooms for focused practice.



- On-site scene dock, set design workshop and costume design area
- Grab a Starbucks or a slice from the pizza bar - choose from hot and cold food options
- Hot-desk study zones
- Library with study areas, laptop loans and space for Careers and Support teams.

Get career ready with us

We're here to help you achieve your goals and get career-ready. Our courses are designed with top employers to focus on in-demand skills.

From day one, you'll gain hands-on experience to build confidence. By the end, you'll have the qualifications, knowledge, and experience to stand out and take the next step in your career.



Building your employability

To get you career-ready, you'll take part in activities that boost your skills and understanding of the world of work. You'll be supported by a dedicated Employability Co-ordinator who will support you to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours you'll need to thrive in the workplace.

Real-world experience that counts

As part of your course, you'll complete work experience with an employer. We'll help you find a placement where you can:

- Shadow professionals and see how the job is done day-to-day
- Contribute to real projects that develop your skills and strengthen your CV
- Grow in confidence as you put learning into action.

Many of our students make such a strong impression that they even secure part-time or full-time jobs with their placement provider!

We work with leading employers to deliver our placements, including:



Discover where performing arts can take you

We'll introduce you to a wide range of career options in the performing arts sector through:

- Masterclasses, Q&As and workshops with industry professionals and alumni
- Live auditions, mock interviews and mentorship from sector experts
- Trips and live briefs offering real-world experience in performance and production.



This will help you decide which path to take after your course — whether that's progressing to degree-level study, starting an apprenticeship or going straight into employment.



What you can study

We offer qualifications from Level 1 to Level 3. If you haven't already obtained a Grade 4 GCSE in English or maths, you'll also work towards achieving this alongside your main course.



Acting

Performing Arts (Acting)

Level 3 | City Campus Manchester

Train in the heart of Manchester's thriving arts scene and develop your acting skills for film, TV and theatre. Learn from industry professionals, explore contemporary and site-specific performance, and build your confidence in voice, movement and audition techniques. Gain insight into freelancing, networking and current industry trends, while taking part in real performances and work placements. With access to professional theatres and links to top studios and festivals, this course prepares you for a successful career in acting, either on screen or in a theatre.

Performing and Production Arts (Acting)

Level 2 | City Campus Manchester

Do you want to develop your acting skills and learn more about your future career? This course is designed to give you a taster of what you could expect as a professional in the performing arts sector. You'll discover what it takes to work for a theatre company and explore both on and off stage job roles. Of course, we'll be helping you to develop your own talent. You'll learn different acting techniques and find out how to effectively research a role. This course equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to progress to Level 3.

Music, Performing and Production Arts

Level 1 | City Campus Manchester

If you're interested in performing and want to increase your knowledge and skills, this could be the course for you! Over the year, you'll learn basic professional acting skills and techniques. You'll also discover more about the roles of key people within the performing arts world, such as playwrights and directors. By the end of the course, you'll have grown in confidence and ability and you'll be ready to progress to a Level 2 qualification.

Dance

Performing Arts (Dance)

Level 3 | City Campus Manchester

Train like a professional in the heart of Manchester. Develop and refine your technique across a wide range of styles, including ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary, and commercial. Taught by industry professionals, you'll gain valuable insight into life as a performer, develop your own choreography, and take part in live performances. With expert guidance, you'll be encouraged to focus your training in the styles that showcase your unique strengths, while building essential audition techniques, networking skills, and real industry experience—graduating fully prepared for the next step in your dance career.

Performing and Production Arts (Dance)

Level 2 | City Campus Manchester

Turn your passion for dance into a future career with this hands-on, one-year course. You'll train in a range of styles including ballet, tap, jazz, commercial, singing and acting skills, while developing your technique, creativity and performance skills. Learn to choreograph your own routines, perform in live shows, and gain insights into working as part of a dance company – both on and off stage. With expert tutors and real industry experience, you'll develop strong foundation skills in dance, preparing you to progress with confidence onto our Level 3 course.

Musical Theatre

Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)

Level 3 | City Campus Manchester

Step into the spotlight with this dynamic Musical Theatre course, building your skills as a triple threat in singing, acting, and dance. You'll train with industry professionals in the heart of Manchester, refining your technique in jazz, ballet, tap, vocal performance, and acting, while building a standout repertoire. Through acting workshops and performance-based training, you'll develop strong storytelling skills and stage presence. With audition training, networking support, full-scale productions, and real industry experience, you'll gain the skills and confidence to thrive in musical theatre and move closer to a professional career.

Performing Arts and Production Arts (Musical Theatre)

Level 2 | City Campus Manchester

Turn your passion for performing into a career with this hands-on, one-year Musical Theatre course. You'll train in singing, acting and dance, developing technique, creativity and confidence through rehearsals, live performances and original projects. Learn from industry professionals, explore both on-stage and behind-the-scenes roles and gain real insight into life in musical theatre. With expert guidance and plenty of performance opportunities, this course prepares you for the next stage in your journey as a performer. By the time you finish you'll have the knowledge and skills needed to progress to Level 3.



The Manchester College allowed me to express my creativity and become a more confident, versatile performer. Learning from exceptional tutors and working alongside passionate performers helped me grow both on stage and as a person.



Nadean
Level 3 Musical Theatre

SUPPORTED LEARNING

Promoting independence through accessibility and inclusion.

Have you received learning support in the past? Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan or an identified Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) need? Our Supported Learning team can help students with SEND to achieve their aspirational career goals.

We provide a highly personalised offer for students to create a supportive learning environment for all. Whatever course you choose to study, our provision is specifically designed to support you on your journey to independence and into further education or employment.



Scan here
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Find out more about how we can help you: tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning



Additional Learning Support Team: specialistsupport@tmc.ac.uk
Transition Team: transitionteam@tmc.ac.uk

Thinking about your next step after college?
Discover degree-level courses that'll get you ready for anything.

ROOTED in the NORTH



**EXPLORE
DEGREES**

ucnmanchester.ac.uk

DEGREE LEVEL

Once you've completed one of our Level 3 Diplomas, you'll have the opportunity to progress on to our degree-level qualifications through our higher education partner, UCEN Manchester.

THE ARDEN SCHOOL OF THEATRE COURSES

Benefit from hands-on, practical learning, small class sizes and state-of-the-art facilities.

Choose one of our higher education pathways in:

- > Acting
- > Dance and Performance
- > Musical Theatre
- > Performing Arts (Acting)
- > Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
- > Theatre and Creative Performance
- > Technical Theatre and Stage Management
- > Vocal Studies and Performance.



For more information or to apply
visit ucnmanchester.ac.uk

Your next steps

Applying to study at The Manchester College is really easy. Just follow these steps and you'll be on your journey to amazing in no time.



Open events

Come and see what makes us the number one College in Greater Manchester* for yourself.

Open events are the perfect place to speak to our tutors, explore our amazing facilities and chat to our support teams.

School Leavers

Tuesday 6 October
5-7pm

Saturday 14 November
10am-1pm

Thursday 4 March
5-7pm

Adults

Thursday 20 May
5-7pm



Book your place
tmc.ac.uk/events



* National Achievement Rates Tables.



Find us on social



Contact Us

Got a question about one of our courses, about The Manchester College or just need to get in touch? Contact us:

 **enquiries@tmc.ac.uk**

 **03333 222 444**

All information is correct at the time of publication and may be subject to change. For the latest details, please visit tmc.ac.uk.

The Manchester College is committed to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practices and supporting individual learners. This information is also available in a range of formats, such as large print, on request.

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