

Director of the School of Theatre + Dance

Full-time, 12-month, Tenured Faculty Position

Expected Hire Date of July 1, 2019

Description

The School of Theatre + Dance seeks a dynamic director who will provide a combination of visionary and practical leadership for our diverse programs in theatre, design and production, and dance. Working with faculty, staff, and students, the next director will optimize the potential of the momentum currently defining the University of Florida's evolution and help shape the future of the SoTD as part of a preeminent, top-ten, comprehensive, land-grant research university and College of the Arts.

The University of Florida College of the Arts intends to be a transformative community, responding to and generating paradigmatic shifts in the arts and beyond. As artists and scholars, we embrace the complexity of our evolving human experience and seek to empower our students and faculty to fearlessly shape that experience through critical study, creative practice, and provocation. We seek a colleague who identifies as a change maker. We seek a colleague who will prepare students to access and unsettle centers of power in a radically changing world. We seek a colleague who will position emerging artists and researchers as catalysts for equity on local and global levels.

We are looking for a leader who will be a champion of the arts in a comprehensive research context, one who will support and facilitate a culture of curiosity, experimentation, and growth in theatre, dance, design, and production. We are looking for a leader who works with transparency, diplomacy, and inclusivity. We seek an effective manager, one with capacity to lead with efficient, effective, and thoughtful processes related to curriculum, fiscal management, and program growth in relation to the School's mission and values. We seek a candidate who is highly communicative and who can be a connector of people and ideas to build collaborative potential in a top-ten research institution and in our local, national, and international communities.

The ideal candidate will have a record of success in the development and implementation of effective systems that foster diversity, equity and inclusion. That person will likewise have a record of successful strategic planning, budget management, curriculum

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development, student and faculty recruitment, and guiding faculty through tenure and promotion processes, as well as a commitment to shared governance and the professional development of faculty and staff. Moreover, that person will possess the ability to represent and advocate effectively for the school locally, nationally, and internationally.

The University of Florida is an equal opportunity institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty, seeking faculty of all races, ethnicities, genders, backgrounds, experiences and perspectives. We are especially interested in candidates who can demonstrate their experience in the successful leadership of diverse student, faculty, and staff populations.

School of Theatre + Dance

The light-filled, state-of-the-art Nadine McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion is home to the School of Theatre + Dance (SoTD). The School's international full-time faculty of 27 recognized artists and researchers are complemented by adjunct and guest faculty and staff, including full- and part-time professionals. The School offers MFA curricula in acting and in design/technology, which includes scene design, lighting design, and costume technology; BFA programs in acting, musical theatre, scene design, lighting design, and costume design; and a BA in general theatre. The School features two degree programs in dance designed to develop the individual voice of the dance artist, a BFA and a BA.

Approximately 200 students major in the artistically diverse curricula of the School of Theatre + Dance. Through its production program, outreach, and innovative programming, the School of Theatre + Dance provides multiple cultural opportunities annually to thousands of members of the University and the greater community. The University of Florida is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Dance and the National Association of Schools of Theatre. For more information, visit www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance.

College of the Arts

The College of the Arts fosters creative activity, scholarly and artistic excellence, and innovation across disciplines. We achieve the university's mission by training professionals and educating students as artists and scholars, while developing their critical thinking and inspiring a culture of curiosity and imagination. The College offers baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees. Approximately 1,500 students are pursuing majors in degrees offered by the College of the Arts under the direction of 120 faculty members in its three accredited schools— the School of Art + Art History, the School of Music and the School of Theatre + Dance, and in the Center for Arts in Medicine and the Digital Worlds Institute. In addition, the college comprises the Center for Arts and Public Policy, the Center for World Arts, the

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University Galleries, and the University level of the New World School of the Arts in Miami.

The University of Florida

The University of Florida is a comprehensive learning institution built on a land grant foundation, ranked one of the top ten best public universities in the nation in the 2019 U.S. News & World Report. We are The Gator Nation, a diverse community dedicated to excellence in education and research and shaping a better future for Florida, the nation and the world. Our mission is to enable our students to lead and influence the next generation and beyond for economic, cultural and societal benefit. UF is a graduate research institution with more than 50,000 students and membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities. Gainesville, which is consistently ranked as one of the nation's most livable cities, is located midway between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. Together, the University and the community comprise the educational, medical, and cultural center of North Central Florida, with outstanding resources such as the University of Florida Performing Arts (Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, the Squitieri Studio Theatre, the Baughman Center, University Auditorium), the Harn Museum of Art, the Florida Museum of Natural History and in the community, the Hippodrome State Theatre and Dance Alive National Ballet.

Minimum Requirements

Applicants must hold a distinguished record of achievement in theatre, dance, design and production, or a related field, and a terminal degree or professional equivalency that merits a tenured appointment at the rank of full professor.

Applicants also should demonstrate:

- Leadership or administrative experience at a higher education institution
- Evidence of success in promoting an environment that advances diversity, equity, and inclusion
- A history of effective support of students, faculty, staff, and administrators, and
- A commitment to shared governance

Preferred Qualifications

The successful candidate will bring to the position:

- Demonstrated success as a chair/director, assistant/associate director, or comparable experience as a theatre and/or dance administrator
- Proven skills in budget management
- A record of successful arts advocacy in the public or private sectors
- A record of securing external funding
- Evidence of effective recruitment and retention of students and faculty

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- Experience in leading strategic planning and accreditation processes
- Experience at a large public university
- A commitment to innovative and cross-disciplinary programs
- Experience leading curricular change, and
- A vision for the future of Higher Education in the Arts and in Theatre and Dance specifically

Application Instructions

Applications must be submitted via the University of Florida's online application system at <http://apply.interfolio.com/56976>.

Materials must include the following: (1) a concise letter of application of up to two pages; (2) a curriculum vitae; (3) up to three links to work samples or evidence of professional success (i.e., artistic, leadership, advocacy, or diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives); and (4) a list of three professional references. The letter of application should address leadership style, accomplishments in the development and implementation of effective systems that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as an example of successful arts advocacy or strategic planning.

The search committee may request additional materials, including confidential letters of reference, later.

The search committee will review applications upon their submission. Full applications submitted by **December 2, 2018** will receive best consideration. Applications received after December 2, 2018 may be considered at the discretion of the committee and/or hiring authority.

Nominations and inquiries may be directed to:

UF School of Theatre and Dance Director Search Committee, email kemckee@ufl.edu.