

WHT Conservatory Frequently Asked Questions

What is the weekly schedule like? Conservatory participants will be in rehearsal most weekday evenings, and for long days on Saturday and Sunday, working with local, regional, and national professional actors, directors, and designers, on Main Stage productions. Sunday evenings after rehearsal and performance are spent in Collaborative Practice seminars – where participants learn how to more effectively use their talents and the technique they have honed in a professional setting, in order to become more flexible, hireable actors. Monday evenings may be spent in Professional Aspects classes, writing a personal business plan with the support of instructors and mentors. Saturdays when there are no rehearsals, Classical Acting workshops and other masterclasses round out the curriculum. During the weekdays, most students will take on a “day” job – another important aspect of the program, as the young actors learn to balance vocational pursuit with developing healthy, sustainable financial practices.

Students will also attend donor events and workshops conducted by guest artists, learn the art of networking, explore career options in the contemporary theatre, and build confidence and skills toward becoming their own theatrical entrepreneur.

What about having a job? How will I pay my bills while I am enrolled in Conservatory? The WHT Conservatory was designed to give participants the flexibility to hold down a “survival” or “day” job, just as they will likely have to do for much of their early careers in the arts. This is an important part of learning how to make a living while you are between theatre gigs or building up to a full-time career in your chosen field.

What about housing? Currently The Warehouse Theatre does not offer housing for Conservatory participants. Greenville is currently enjoying a housing boom and there are many opportunities at various price points. Finding affordable housing within a workable budget is something you will have to learn how to do in any market and we think it easier and best for a young professional theatre artist to learn how to do that in a smaller market like Greenville.

Is there financial aid available? There is limited financial aid available for admitted students. We will also work with you on a payment plan.

Why Greenville, South Carolina? What can a small theatre offer me that I can't get in a larger market? The Warehouse Theatre is a respected, small professional theatre within a thriving arts and business community in the upstate of South Carolina. Our proximity to larger markets such as Charlotte and Atlanta, the wealth of higher education and other programs of educational excellence in the arts, and the low cost of living plus high quality of life has attracted a wealth of talented artists to the area to make their homes and hubs. Likewise, The Warehouse Theatre's artistic mission, its programming unique to the area, and its professional status and reputation continues to entice regionally and nationally renowned directors, designers, and actors as guest

artists. Thus, though we are in a smaller city, we offer many of the advantages of a larger institution in a larger city – but without the high cost of living.

We believe that The Warehouse Theatre is a great place to launch a career in the arts. You will gain professional experience while developing and solidifying your plans for the future, with mentors who will be able to support and guide you through this important and too often rushed transition into your career.