



Intensive
pre-professional
training for
young people
and adults

Studios

Acting
Musical Theatre
Directing
Writing

**“Wonderful, glorious, challenging,
frustrating, frightening, liberating,
incendiary, breathtaking, transformational.
I am a different human.”**

Student, Actors Studio



NIDA is one of the world's leading institutions for dramatic arts education and training. For over 60 years, we have been a hub for Australia's performing arts sector, bringing leading artists and industry professionals together to develop the next generation of creative leaders.

Delivered by Australia's leading practitioners, NIDA's Studio program is a rigorous and rewarding experience that supports you in developing new skills, discovering your unique strengths and igniting your creative passions.

Our 6 and 12 month part-time Studio courses are a great way to experience NIDA training in a format that suits your busy lifestyle.

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Led by Australia's preeminent Arts Industry education team, NIDA Open is a place where anyone is welcome to explore their creativity in a safe and supportive environment. Whether it's your first experience of creative education or you have experience and are returning to further develop your craft, we welcome you and trust you will be creatively rewarded throughout your NIDA Open journey.

ABOUT NIDA STUDIOS

NIDA Studios are for committed and creative individuals seeking an intensive and practical training experience.

Designed to develop skills and techniques in the performing arts, NIDA Studios deliver rigorous, practice-driven training in a supportive and collaborative environment. Classes are delivered on weekends over 6 or 12 months with a twice-yearly intake.

Students complete a NIDA Studio having gained an understanding of their personal creative process and a skill set that prepares them for full-time training. NIDA Studios are a first step towards exploring a career in the performing arts, or simply an opportunity to enhance your personal and professional creative life.

Entry to a studio course is by audition or interview only and class sizes are kept to a minimum, ensuring a high-quality and focused course delivery as well as a professional working environment.

AS A NIDA STUDIO STUDENT, YOU ALSO RECEIVE:

- Access to the NIDA library including Drama Online
- Invitations to NIDA productions and events
- 25% discount on selected full-priced adult short courses for the duration of your Studio program
- Access to NIDA's online learning management system
- Individual tutorials with your core tutor (12-month programs only).

PURPOSE-BUILT FACILITIES

Sydney

The NIDA Kensington campus is an award-winning facility tailored to dramatic arts training. The venue includes six professional theatres, rehearsal rooms, a sound stage, a lighting studio, make-up studios, fully equipped production workshops and the latest in audio-visual facilities.

Melbourne

In Melbourne, NIDA Studio courses are held in our NIDA Melbourne rehearsal rooms, located at the heart of the arts precinct in Southbank, and at Abbotsford Convent, a unique learning and cultural centre 4km from the CBD.

Brisbane

In Brisbane, NIDA Studio courses are held at the contemporary performance facilities of TAFE Brisbane, located in the heart of Brisbane's cultural precinct.

EXPERT TEACHING STAFF

NIDA Open tutors are experts in education and performance practice. Selected for their outstanding teaching ability, knowledge, and industry experience, they provide students with feedback, direction and guidance throughout each course. Many of our tutors are also teaching staff on the NIDA Vocational and Degree programs and/or are NIDA graduates.

Current NIDA Studio tutors include:

Pip Edwards

(actor, *Home and Away*, *Anzac Girls*, *June Again*, Melbourne Theatre Company)

Andrea Demetriades

(actor, *Anatomy of a Suicide*, *Mother and Son*, Ensemble Theatre Company, Sydney Theatre Company)

Shaun Goss

(actor, *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*)

Garth Holcombe

(actor, *In Our Blood*, Sydney Theatre Company, Bell Shakespeare)

Zoe Houghton

(actor, director, writer, *All Saints*, *White Collar Blue*, Belvoir St Theatre, Queensland Theatre Company)

Brendon McDonald

(actor, director, filmmaker, *Ten Moments*, *Unbending*, *Spoilers* and *Janet King*)

Ngoc Phan

(actor, *Schapelle*, *The Black Balloon*, Queensland Theatre Company)

Anthony Gooley

(actor, *Joe vs Carole*, Ensemble Theatre, Queensland Theatre Company)

Nick Simpson-Deeks

(actor, *Deadloch*, *Utopia*, *Winners and Losers*, Bell Shakespeare)

Nigel Turner-Carroll

(actor, director *The Tap Pack*, *The Midnight Gang*, *West Side Story*, *Bootmen*)

Clara Voda

(actor, director, *If I Want to Whistle I Whistle*, *The Death of Mister Lazarescu*, L.S. Bulandra Theatre Co, Romania)

Doug Hansell

(actor, *Come From Away*, *Malpractice*, Sydney Theatre Company, Bell Shakespeare)

Ed Wightman

(actor, director *Moulin Rouge*, *Mama Mia*, Sydney Theatre Company, Bell Shakespeare)

Platon Theodoris

(film director, producer, screenwriter *The Lonely Spirits Variety Hour*, *Alvin's Harmonious World of Opposites*).

HOW TO APPLY

Entry to Studio is by audition and/or interview. Information about auditions and interviews for all courses available under each course page on our website at **open.nida.edu.au/studios**.

Please note there are prerequisite requirements for Actors Studio Extension.



AUDITION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

Auditions and interviews provide an opportunity for us to get to know you, for you to ask any questions about the course and will include opportunities to collaborate with others.

AUDITION AND INTERVIEW VENUES

Sydney

NIDA Kensington
215 Anzac Parade,
Kensington

Melbourne

NIDA Melbourne
Suite 4, 52 Sturt Street,
Southbank

Brisbane

Brisbane TAFE
66 Ernest Street,
South Brisbane

CONTACT US

For more information visit **open.nida.edu.au/studios**

To talk to someone about the best Studio course for you and help decide on your study pathway, please call **1300 450 417**.

**SYDNEY
MELBOURNE
BRISBANE**

**SATURDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY INTAKE**

15-18 YEARS

Develop your vocal, physical and imaginative dexterity as you explore and apply NIDA acting techniques. Collaborate with other young artists in an ensemble to develop skills for stage and screen. Work with the support and direction from core tutors and gain inspiration from industry professionals.

**TERM 1
7 FEB – 28 MAR**

Develop skills in improvisation, action-based acting technique and stagecraft. Extend vocal range and flexibility. Collaborate as an ensemble to rehearse and produce a collaborative presentation employing a variety of texts including poetry and spoken word.

**TERM 2
2 MAY – 20 JUNE**

Explore and employ movement techniques to develop physical presence and build stamina for performance. Consider the physical aspect of characterisation; prepare and present classical and contemporary text work.

**TERM 3
25 JUL – 12 SEP**

Learn and apply audition techniques and processes through the preparation and presentation of monologues. Collaborate as a member of an ensemble to devise an original contemporary work. Understand how to employ various production elements to enhance your work. Perform your original work to an invited audience.

**TERM 4
17 OCT – 5 DEC**

Apply acting techniques to scene work for camera – rehearse and shoot challenging scenes. Hone your skills for the industry as you participate in simulated screen tests and casting sessions.

OUTCOMES

- Use improvisation as a tool for devising scenes and creating characters
- Apply appropriate vocal and physical techniques in performance
- Respond to a variety of classical and contemporary texts
- Effectively collaborate with others
- Apply acting skills to the screen context
- Prepare audition materials with confidence.

AUDITION DATES

Sydney
Sat 13 Dec 2025, 10am
Sat 10 Jan 2026, 10am & 2pm

Melbourne
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 10am
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 2pm

Brisbane
Sat 13 Dec 2025, 10am
Sat 17 Jan 2026, 2pm

FEES

\$4,440 payable in four instalments or \$3,996 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies.

YOUNG ACTORS STUDIO

**FAST TRACK YOUR TRAINING
WITH YOUNG ACTORS LAB**

Train at NIDA in a highly motivated ensemble. Work with industry experts in an intensive course designated to deepen your artistic practice. NIDA's Young Actors Lab investigates contemporary approaches to performance and runs twice yearly in Summer and Winter holidays.

For more information go to open.nida.edu.au/lab-series

SYDNEY MELBOURNE

**SUNDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY INTAKE**

18+ YEARS

Develop individual and collaborative performance skills. Craft a structured, personalised approach to your work as a performer through practical actor training focused on skills development and application.

This course provides the opportunity to explore and apply contemporary acting techniques to a variety of contexts, and develop your vocal, physical and imaginative dexterity. Work with support and direction from experienced tutors and gain insight and inspiration from professional industry guests.

This course is ideal for those wishing to explore their potential as an artist or those preparing for higher education.



TERM 1 8 FEB – 29 MAR

Instrument Work: extend your vocal range and find physical freedom through fundamental voice and movement training for the actor.

Imagination and Collaboration: work as an ensemble to develop spontaneity in performance through improvisation and impulse work. Apply vocal, physical and acting technique to develop character and inform work with text.

TERM 2 3 MAY – 21 JUN

Classical Technique: extend your performance range by working with iconic classical texts, re-imagined for the 21st century. Engage with the demands of heightened language, bold physicality and challenging stagecraft.

Contemporary Scene Work: develop performance approaches and techniques to realise a range of challenging contemporary material. Apply rehearsal practices and techniques to produce performances that are truthful and engaging.

TERM 3 26 JUL – 13 SEP

Contemporary Acting and Audition Technique: refine your personal acting process and respond intuitively in a variety of performance contexts. Select appropriate audition material. Identify and apply effective audition techniques for a range of industry demands.

TERM 4 18 OCT – 13 DEC*

Studio Project: collaborate with a director to rehearse a full-length play. Sustain truthful responses while meeting the staging demands of performance. Present the work in a studio setting to an invited audience.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

OUTCOMES

- Employ improvisation as a tool for creating character
- Respond to and perform a variety of classical and contemporary scripts
- Realise a director's vision and writer's intent in performance
- Work as part of an ensemble, applying appropriate etiquette under performance conditions
- Develop authentic characterisation
- Prepare and rehearse audition material
- Apply acting skills to screen performance.

AUDITION DATES

Sydney
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 10am
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 2pm

Melbourne
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 2pm
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 10am

FEES

\$5,215 payable in four instalments of \$4,693 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies.

**SUNDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY & JULY INTAKE**

18+ YEARS

Working closely with industry professionals, this course explores advanced audition and screen acting techniques to further enhance your individual strengths in performance. Expand your technical skill set by adopting the roles of key personnel in the creative team to gain greater understanding of the collaborative nature of bringing work to the screen.

Actors Studio Extension is ideal if you have completed our Actors Studio or Screen Actors Studio, or if you have equivalent industry training or experience.



**TERM 1
8 FEB – 29 MAR**

Contemporary Performance Craft: receive comprehensive coaching to extend your practice and skill set. Apply a variety of contemporary acting techniques to challenging theatrical texts.

**TERM 2
3 MAY – 21 JUN**

Advanced Camera Technique: receive in-depth coaching and work autonomously on your on-screen performance. Identify how to consolidate your strengths and expand your potential in both studio and on-location performances. Shoot multiple scenes with two contrasting narratives.

**TERM 3
26 JUL – 13 SEP**

Screen Tests and Industry Practice: enhance your performance technique, learn to deliver impressive screen auditions, and gain insight into self-promotion.

Voice Over Technique: develop a synthesised approach to interpreting text and employ vocal technique to bring unique characters to life in a recording studio. Record material under the guidance of a voice over industry professional.

**TERM 4
18 OCT – 13 DEC***

Mike Leigh Project: inspired by the working processes of award-winning filmmaker Mike Leigh, collaborate with a professional director to develop your own devised screen project. Plot and craft your character arc and sustain that journey in performance. Receive a copy of your material.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

OUTCOMES

- Deepen your individual performance practice and personal skill set
- Embrace technical factors in performance across a variety of screen contexts
- Develop production content with a creative team
- Apply in-depth practice of screen tests to current industry standards
- Identify professional opportunities and understand how to position yourself according to industry needs.

PREREQUISITES

Previous experience necessary. We recommend applicants complete **Actors Studio** or equivalent training before applying to this course. Entry to the Actors Studio Extension is by application and selective audition only.

AUDITION DATES

Sydney
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 2pm
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 10am

FEES

\$5,215 payable in four instalments or \$4,693 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies.

**SYDNEY
MELBOURNE
BRISBANE**

**SUNDAYS
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**

**SATURDAYS
BRISBANE**

**11AM-5PM
JANUARY & JULY INTAKE**

18+ YEARS

Craft a structured, personalised approach to your work as a screen performer. Gain experience in casting and insights into industry practice through practical actor training focused on skills development and application.

This one-year Studio provides the opportunity to explore and apply acting techniques and develop your vocal, physical and imaginative dexterity for screen. Work with support and direction from experienced tutors as you develop self-assurance in relating to the camera.

This course is ideal for those wishing to explore their potential as a screen artist.



SCREEN ACTORS STUDIO

**TERM 1
8 FEB – 29 MAR
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**

**7 FEB – 28 MAR
BRISBANE**

Instrument Work: develop vocal and physical presence specifically for the screen. Extend vocal range and freedom and explore how physical action informs character objectives.

Imagination and Relationship to Camera: develop spontaneity in performance through impulse work. Apply vocal, physical and acting technique to improvised and scripted scenes performed to camera.

**TERM 2
3 MAY – 21 JUN
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**

**2 MAY – 20 JUN
BRISBANE**

Performance for Visual Storytelling: explore and apply appropriate acting techniques for screen under the direction of an industry professional.

Characterisation and Screen Presence: realise a character arc and employ a variety of acting techniques to develop a truthful and engaging performance. Explore ways to connect with audiences through the lens. Rehearse and shoot contemporary scene work.

**TERM 3
26 JUL – 13 SEP
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**

**25 JUL – 12 SEP
BRISBANE & MID-YEAR STUDIO
MELBOURNE**

Applied Instrument Work: learn and apply an American accent to text. Utilise physical impulses to create spontaneous performance on screen.

Style and Genre: develop your performance technique and explore the contrasting genres of drama and comedy. Shoot scene work in onsite locations.

**TERM 4
18 OCT – 13 DEC*
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**

**17 OCT – 5 DEC
MID-YEAR STUDIO MELBOURNE**

**17 OCT – 12 DEC*
BRISBANE**

Advanced Acting Techniques for Screen: explore challenging contemporary acting processes and learn how to apply these to complex scene work.

Screen Tests and Castings: refine the skills required to approach both prepared scenes and cold reads. Respond to casting briefs and work toward meeting industry expectations.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

Note: Term dates for July intake TBC.

OUTCOMES

- Interpret a range of scripts for performance in a variety of screen contexts
- Develop truthful characterisation
- Collaborate effectively with others to create dynamic scene work
- Embrace the technical demands of acting for screen
- Confidently deliver screen test materials
- Form productive relationships with a director and crew.

AUDITION DATES

**JAN INTAKE
Sydney**
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 10am & 2pm
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 10am & 2pm

Melbourne
Sun 14 Dec 2025, 10am & 2pm
Sun 11 Jan 2026, 10am & 2pm

Brisbane
Sat 13 Dec 2025, 2pm
Sat 17 Jan 2026, 10am

**JUL INTAKE
Sydney**
Sat 27 Jun 2026, 10am & 2pm

Melbourne
Sat 27 Jun 2026, 10am & 2pm

FEES

\$5,215 payable in four instalments or \$4,693 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable fee of \$38 applies.

SYDNEY

**SATURDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY & JULY INTAKE**

18+ YEARS

This course is designed as a two-term program that focuses on developing a secure approach to acting through song. Gain confidence in your approach to storytelling and enhance your performance technique with consistent, practical application.

Collaborate with a director and musical director in rehearsing solos, duets, and ensemble repertoire.



TERM 1

**JAN INTAKE | 7 FEB – 28 MAR
JUL INTAKE | 25 JUL – 12 SEP**

Instrument Work: develop your vocal range and physical presence with classes tailored towards acting through song. Explore how physical action and the use of appropriate vocal technique informs character objectives.

Storytelling and Performance: create engaging characters and learn how to communicate a visual narrative as you apply technique in solo performance contexts, including auditions. Learn effective approaches to transition from scene to song and synthesise your skills within an ensemble.

TERM 2

**JAN INTAKE | 2 MAY – 27 JUN*
JUL INTAKE | 17 OCT – 12 DEC***

Genre and Style: explore a variety of singing and dance techniques to interpret contemporary and classical repertoire.

Rehearsal and Performance: create dynamic and truthful performances through the application of singing and acting techniques. Meet the demands of challenging staging in a theatrical context and present a selection of material to an invited audience.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

OUTCOMES

- Develop truthful characterisation
- Respond to a variety of musical theatre genres
- Perform material in a variety of performance contexts
- Deliver audition material with confidence
- Identify professional opportunities and how to position yourself according to industry needs.

AUDITION DATES

**JAN INTAKE
Sat 13 Dec, 2pm
Sat 10 Jan, 10am**

**JUL INTAKE
Sat 27 Jun, 10am**

FEES

\$3,225 payable in four instalments or \$2,902 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies.

FAST TRACK YOUR TRAINING WITH A SUMMER SCHOOL LAB FOR ADULTS

Train at NIDA and deepen your artistic practice. Led by industry professionals and designed for people with a passion and curiosity for rigorous training, NIDA's Lab Series offers a range of opportunities for theatre makers and performers.

Applications are accepted Australia wide as well as internationally to create a vibrant cultural hub.

For more information visit open.nida.edu.au/lab-series

SATURDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY & JULY INTAKE

18+ YEARS

This course is designed as a two-term program that develops skills for both Live Performance (Term 1) and Screen/ Digital Media (Term 2). Examine techniques best used in contemporary story-making. Receive guidance and direction in a supportive studio environment and collaborate with actors to test your ideas for stage and screen.



TERM 1

JAN INTAKE | 7 FEB – 28 MAR
JUL INTAKE | 25 JUL – 12 SEP

Stage: explore the principles of effective storytelling for a range of live performance contexts. Activate stories by developing action and dialogue. Hone your craft through redrafting, editing and collaborative peer review.

TERM 2

JAN INTAKE | 2 MAY – 27 JUN*
JUL INTAKE | 17 OCT – 12 DEC*

Screen: examine small and large screen formats. Investigate style and genre, understand how to transform your ideas to create an effective plot, premise, protagonist and dramatic problem. Build your story into a narrative structure specific for your chosen format.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

OUTCOMES

- Create a strong synopsis
- Consider a range of possible structures and genres
- Develop a dynamic narrative
- Develop engaging scenes for a range of characters
- Work in small and large screen formats
- Use cinematic and visual storytelling methods
- Identify professional opportunities and how to position yourself according to industry needs.

INTERVIEW DATES

JAN INTAKE
Sat 13 Dec, 10am
Sat 10 Jan, 2pm

JULY INTAKE
Sat 27 June, 2pm

FEES

\$2,800 payable in four instalments or \$2,520 (10% discount for payment upfront).

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies

**SATURDAYS
11AM-5PM
JANUARY & JULY INTAKE**

18+ YEARS

This course is designed as a two-term program that develops skills for both Live Performance (Term 1) and Screen/ Digital Media (Term 2).

Consider the director's role and examine the specific directorial demands for stage and screen. Explore the principles of effective storytelling for both media and collaborate with actors to pursue your creative vision and create dynamic performances. Learn how to lead a creative team, motivate a cast and inspire audiences.



TERM 1

**JAN INTAKE | 7 FEB – 28 MAR
JUL INTAKE | 25 JUL – 12 SEP**

Stage: gain insight into the actor's process and explore ways to realise text and concepts in performance for the stage. Critically analyse the work of other directors and develop an understanding of the language and technical challenges of live performance.

TERM 2

**JAN INTAKE | 2 MAY – 27 JUN*
JUL INTAKE | 17 OCT – 12 DEC***

Screen: explore the visual, dramatic and technical challenges that directors face when applying their skill to storytelling for the screen. Consider script requirements, shot composition, visual detailing, lighting and sound techniques, continuity and the actor's journey.

***Please note this is a 9-week term**

OUTCOMES

- Form collaborative working relationships with actors
- Interpret a stage or screen play
- Develop creative concepts
- Apply a structured rehearsal process for stage and screen
- Practise different rehearsal techniques
- Create storyboards and frame shots
- Explore creative possibilities in stage and screen direction.

INTERVIEW DATES

**JAN INTAKE
Sat 13 Dec 2025, 2pm
Sat 10 Jan 2026, 10am**

**JUL INTAKE
Sat 27 Jun 2026, 10am**

FEES

\$2,800 payable in four instalments or \$2,520 (10% discount) for payment upfront.

A separate non-refundable audition fee of \$38 applies.



FEES

APPLY NOW

Applications to all NIDA Studios can be made online at open.nida.edu.au/studios

NEED HELP?

If you're looking for advice on which course to do, the NIDA Open team can assist you.

Call **1300 450 417** between 9am and 5pm weekdays. You can also contact us at open@nida.edu.au

UPFRONT PAYMENT DISCOUNT

Course fees paid up-front receive a 10% discount. Alternatively, fees can be paid in four term instalments as listed in the payment option below. A full fee payment schedule will be sent to you on acceptance into the course.

CONCESSIONS

Holders of the following valid concession/membership cards will receive a 5% discount on the full price of their studio course: Department of Veterans Affairs, Pensioner, State Health Care, ArtsHub or MEAA.

STUDIOS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	DURATION	FEE	PAYMENT OPTION
Young Actors Studio	12 months	\$4,440	\$3,996 upfront or \$4,440 in instalments (\$1,200 and 3 × \$1080)
STUDIOS FOR ADULTS	DURATION	FEE	PAYMENT OPTION
Actors Studio	12 months	\$5,215	\$4,693 upfront or \$5,215 in instalments (\$1,500 and 3 × \$1,238)
Actors Studio Extension	12 months	\$5,215	\$4,693 upfront or \$5,215 in instalments (\$1,500 and 3 × \$1,238)
Screen Actors Studio	12 months	\$5,215	\$4,693 upfront or \$5,215 in instalments (\$1,500 and 3 × \$1,238)
Singing and Acting Studio	6 months	\$3,225	\$2,902.50 upfront or \$3,225 in instalments (\$1,725 and \$1,500)
Directors Studio	6 months	\$2,800	\$2,520 upfront or \$2,800 in instalments (\$1,500 and \$1,300)
Writers Studio	6 months	\$2,800	\$2,520 upfront or \$2,800 in instalments (\$1,500 and \$1,300)

NIDA thanks the following organisations for their ongoing support:



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications
Office for the Arts



NIDA Sydney

215 Anzac Parade
Kensington NSW
2033 Australia

NIDA Melbourne

Suite 4/152 Sturt Street
Southbank VIC
3006 Australia

TAFE Brisbane

66 Ernest Street
South Brisbane QLD
4101 Australia

CONTACT

Phone 1300 450 417
Email open@nida.edu.au
Website open.nida.edu.au/studios
ABN 99 000 257 741

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@NIDACommunity    

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