



## HISTORY

AMDA first opened its doors in New York City in 1964 as The American Musical and Dramatic Academy with the renowned theatre director, producer, teacher and Shakespeare scholar, Philip Burton, as AMDA's first director. AMDA's philosophy is that the training of all performing artists — whether they be actors, singers, or dancers — is greatly enhanced by including an immersive, multi-disciplinary curriculum. AMDA was at the forefront of delivering this concept of "cross training"; no other program offered this innovative form of training. The institution quickly established itself as an integral part of the New York performing arts community, garnering early support from Broadway's theatre elite.

After Philip Burton retired, David Martin and Jan Martin took the reins as Co-Presidents, taking AMDA to national prominence as one of the nation's premier performing arts institutions. Under their leadership, AMDA grew exponentially in both size and scope, developing innovative programs of study.

In 2003, AMDA opened its Los Angeles campus as AMDA College of the Performing Arts. Located in the center of Hollywood, the school was the fulfillment of the Martins' long-standing vision for the school to be rooted in the two entertainment capitals of the world. Today, AMDA's undergraduate and graduate divisions provide students with exclusive opportunities to create and perform original content for stage, media and film in a faculty-mentored setting. AMDA is a thriving institution and community that includes thousands of prominent alumni in every field of the entertainment industry.

## MISSION

AMDA provides rigorous, performance-based training and an industry-focused education experience; one that inspires excellence and prepares artists with an appreciation for the universal power of transformation through art. AMDA's educational philosophy is based on close collegial interaction between instructors and students — in class, in production and through active mentorship.

AMDA is committed to providing an unsurpassed performing arts education to a diverse community of creative artists. AMDA serves as both school and stage, where students are given the support and opportunity to define their own personal objectives and to develop and refine their own distinctive artistic voices.

AMDA strives to create an environment for students to develop the skills, confidence, imagination, and power to contribute to their community as artists, entrepreneurs, visionaries, lifelong learners, and conscientious citizens of the world. Above all, AMDA wants to teach students that commitment and passion are the hallmarks of a successful and joyous career.

## CAMPUSES

AMDA is one institution with campuses located in the hearts of the performing arts districts of New York and Los Angeles. AMDA New York, based in one of the city's cultural hubs in Manhattan's Upper West Side, is surrounded by some of the most renowned performance and arts venues in the world, including the Broadway Theater District and Lincoln Center. AMDA Los Angeles is located in the center of Hollywood on the Walk of Fame, across the street from the iconic Capital Records Building. AMDA also offers online programs to residents of select states. Information on additional state approvals for distance education can be found at [www.amda.edu](http://www.amda.edu).

## ACCREDITATION AND COMPLIANCE

AMDA (American Musical and Dramatic Academy) College of the Performing Arts is accredited institutionally by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 1080 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 500, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001.

Prior to November 10, 2023, AMDA was accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

AMDA is licensed to operate in the state of California by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) under the Department of Consumer Affairs and is exempt from licensure in the state of New York under the New York State Education law Section 5001 2 (f). Information on additional state approvals for distance education can be found at [www.amda.edu](http://www.amda.edu).

AMDA is an approved educational institution recognized by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

AMDA currently does not have any open or pending enforcement actions or prosecutions by State or Federal law enforcement agencies, pending petitions in bankruptcy, is not operating as a debtor in possession and has not filed nor has had a petition in bankruptcy filed against it.

## FACULTY

AMDA's founding philosophy is built on providing students with the opportunity to learn from current industry-working professionals actively engaged in a variety of entertainment settings. Bringing their expertise and wisdom into the classroom along with a profound care for students, AMDA's [faculty](#) deliver a rigorous academic and performance-based education. The unrivaled access and industry insight AMDA's faculty offer produces year after year of well-rounded, business-savvy performing artists.

## STUDENTS

AMDA is committed to providing an unsurpassed performing arts education to a diverse community of creative artists, with students from all 50 states and over 50 countries. AMDA offers a multitude of resources and services to assist students' academic achievement, including academic advising, labs, clinics, workshops, disability services, career services, financial aid and support for international students. AMDA also supports student success in their personal and professional lives by providing physical and mental health services, student activities, clubs, workshops and events.

For detailed information on student demographics, see our [Factbook](#) and [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System \(IPEDS\) report](#). Visit our website for more information on [student resources and services](#).

## ALUMNI

From Broadway veterans to Hollywood's up-and-coming action heroes, AMDA alumni have established themselves among the world's most accomplished artists in their fields. Alumni leave AMDA with the education, experience and resources to achieve success in the entertainment industry and a connection to a vibrant worldwide alumni community. Renowned alumni include Broadway's most notable performers, platinum-selling recording artists and Tony and Emmy Award winners.

To learn more about AMDA, visit [amda.edu](http://amda.edu) or view our [Course Catalog](#) and [Student Handbook](#).