

**University of Maryland, College Park  
School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies  
Acting for Live Digital Performance**

**Position Summary/Purpose of Position:**

The University of Maryland, School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies (TDPS) is searching for a 9-month full time (non-tenure eligible) faculty position to begin August 2022. This is a two-year appointment with a possibility of renewal. This position is one of three new faculty lines that will begin in Fall 2022. It is one of two additional artist/scholar faculty lines funded by the creation of the *Maya Brin Institute for New Performance*, joining three new artist/scholar faculty lines in 2021. *The Maya Brin Institute for New Performance* is committed to the exploration of technologically enhanced live performance in all its current, emerging, and future forms. (See announcement here: [\\$9M Gift Founds New Institute for Performance and Technology in the Arts](#) ) *The Maya Brin Institute* is part of the **Arts for All** initiative, announced in 2021 (details below).

**Duties** will focus on acting and performance for multiple platforms, including stage, virtual, and hybrid. Teaching responsibilities in area of expertise as related to current curriculum in Acting, Acting for the Camera, and Voiceover. In addition, the candidate will design and teach new courses that contribute to curriculum in arts and technology. The successful candidate will maintain a program of research/creative activity appropriate to the University of Maryland's standing as a Research I University and will regularly disseminate the results of their investigations in appropriate national/international forums. The Maya Brin Institute faculty, in addition, build their teaching portfolios by teaching general education classes and required graduate courses as appropriate to their training and experience. TDPS faculty are required to be actively involved in School governance, the intellectual and artistic life of the School, the College of Arts and Humanities, and the University community.

We seek candidates whose research, teaching, and service have prepared them to contribute to diversity and inclusion.

**Minimum Qualifications**

- Demonstrates knowledge of acting and the performing arts
- Experience with digital platforms and creative technologies
- Teaching experience at the university level
- Potential to achieve high national/international professional standing in the field
- Demonstrated ability to incorporate diverse perspectives into teaching and research
- Potential to work collegially
- MFA in acting and/or directing and/or dramaturgy

**Preferred qualifications**

- Significant digital performance experience
- Experience teaching in a culturally diverse environment

- Ability to teach in Black, Latinx, Indigenous, or Asian/Asian American theatre/performance
- Experience working with graduate students
- Proficiency with developing and delivering online courses
- Professional experience in the performing arts
- Record of effective communication on the value of technologically enhanced live performance and immersive experiences for the general public

Please send the following materials to Lisa Nathans, Chair of the Search Committee, School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, [nathansl@umd.edu](mailto:nathansl@umd.edu)

s

- Curriculum vitae
- Name, email address, phone number for three current professional references
- Statement of Research and Artistic Practices
- Teaching statement/pedagogy philosophy
- Statement of contributions to diversity. (Contributions might include leadership in teaching, mentoring, research or service towards building an equitable and diverse scholarly or professional environment and/or increasing access or participation of individuals from historically underrepresented groups.)
- Optional: Digital portfolio or website

**For best consideration: 16 March 2022**

**Interviews may be conducted remotely.**

#### **Facilities/Location:**

The School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies is housed in the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, a state-of-the-art complex that also houses the School of Music, and the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library. This 318,000 sq. ft., facility features six performance venues, rehearsal rooms, dance studios, production shops, four World Outreach classrooms, the Applause Café, and the Encore bar. The Maya Brin Institute for New Performance is renovating and significantly upgrading the equipment for four studios, two labs, and three makerspaces. All TDPS performances are supported by Clarice Smith professional production staff.

#### **Additional Information:**

The School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies (TDPS) is nationally recognized as an innovator in performing arts education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Part of the College of Arts and Humanities, TDPS has approximately 200 undergraduate and 70 graduate students enrolled in its programs. The School offers: separate BA programs in Dance and in Theatre, an MA in Theatre and Performance Studies, separate MFA programs in Dance and in Design, and PhD in Theatre and Performance Studies. TDPS faculty are professional artist/scholars whose numerous awards include Tony Awards, Bessie awards, Emmys, Helen Hayes Awards, and prestigious national and international fellowships.

The Maya Brin Institute for New Performance gives support to the practice and scholarship of creative technologies in performance by allocating resources for the acquisition and application of emergent technologies. The institutional support initiates courses, expands research, and funds new teaching positions as well as undergraduate scholarships, classroom and studio renovations, and instructional technology. The additional programming advances our role as innovators in the transdisciplinary field of arts and technology. Students experiment with emerging media formats such as immersive design

technology, webcasts, and virtual reality performance that enhance their creative projects and prepare them to push the bounds of theater, dance, and performance studies. Emphasizing collaboration and experimentation, this work generates a dynamic research environment where rigorous creativity and discovery can thrive, putting the school at the forefront of education in the performing arts.

The School's International Program for Creative Collaboration and Research (IPCCR), funded by the Robert H. Smith Family Foundation, provides TDPS students with an international perspective by offering grants for international research and creative projects to faculty and graduate students and operating the World Outreach classrooms. Members of the faculty also work on collaborative projects with the David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora; the Latin American Studies Center; the Center for the History of the New America; the Center for Research on Latino Educational Success; the Center for East Asian Studies; the Roshan Center for Persian Studies; and the Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity, Brain and Behavior Institute, the Teaching and Learning Transformation Center, and the DeVos Institute of Arts Management.

In 2021, University of Maryland President Darryll Pines announced **Arts for All**, a new initiative at the University of Maryland that expands arts programming across campus at the intersection of technology, innovation and social justice. The School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies actively participates in the initiative within our curriculum and productions. The new Arts for All initiative partners the arts with the sciences, technology and other disciplines to develop new and reimagined curricular and experiential offerings that nurture different ways of thinking to spark dialogue, understanding, problem solving and action.

### **Campus/College Information:**

Founded in 1856, University of Maryland, College Park is the state's flagship institution. Our 1,250-acre College Park campus is just minutes away from Washington, D.C., and the nexus of the nation's legislative, executive, and judicial centers of power. This unique proximity to business and technology leaders, federal departments and agencies, and a myriad of research entities, embassies, think tanks, cultural centers, and non-profit organizations is simply unparalleled. Synergistic opportunities for our faculty and students abound and are virtually limitless in the nation's capital and surrounding areas. The University is committed to attracting and retaining outstanding and diverse faculty and staff that will enhance our stature of preeminence in our three missions of teaching, scholarship, and full engagement in our community, the state of Maryland, and in the world.

The region is home to more than 80 professional performance venues, including Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, Baltimore Center Stage, Dance Place, Washington National Opera, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington Ballet, Ford's Theatre, Dance Exchange, Wolf Trap, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Folger Theatre, GALA Hispanic Theatre, Studio Theatre, Signature Theatre, Round House Theatre, and Olney Theatre Center, among many others. TDPS graduates are a major source of talent for the more than 130 professional companies that make up the Washington –Baltimore theatre and dance market. World-class research facilities of institutions such as the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Smithsonian Institutions, and Dumbarton Oaks are all within a short commute.

The University of Maryland, College Park, actively subscribes to a policy of equal employment opportunity, and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry or national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.