

JANUARY 2026

Newsletter

Department of Theatre, Film and Media Production



WELCOME

Welcome to the Department of Theatre, Film and Media Production's newsletter.

There's always lots going on in our busy, diverse and creative department and this edition contains just a few of the highlights so far this year from staff and students across our courses.

I hope you enjoy reading it and, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Rachel Ammonds
Head of Department



**UNIVERSITY of
WORCESTER**

Student lands job with Worcester Theatres after encounter with drag icon

Theatre, Acting and Performance BA (Hons)

Third-year student Kate Evans recently secured a paid role as a storyteller for Worcester Theatres, after meeting Drag Race UK season two icon Ginny Lemon during a workshop as part of her course (pictured).

Kate performed as Esther the Jester, the fictional sister of Fester from the Swan Theatre's *Sleeping Beauty* pantomime. *Esther the Jester's Story Time* took place in Worcester's Chapel Walk, offering free entertainment for young children throughout December.

The opportunity came after Ginny Lemon delivered a lecture on creating a stage persona. Following a competitive audition process, Kate was selected to star in the storytelling event, which was directed by Ginny Lemon.

Students benefit from strong links with local theatres and artists, which also support third-year work placements. Pantomime remains an essential part of regional theatre, helping sustain venues and providing valuable experience for aspiring performers.



Animation Student's Film Competes in RTS Awards

Animation (Joint Honours)



We're proud to announce our latest entry into the Royal Television Society (RTS) student competition: *Offshore*, an animated short by talented student Rebekah Arnaboldi.

Set against a stormy coastline, *Offshore* follows a lighthouse keeper whose peaceful life is disrupted by mischievous crabs. As a fierce storm approaches, an unexpected alliance forms between the keeper and his unlikely visitors.

Rendered in a striking 2D cutout style, the film showcases Rebekah's creativity and the high standard of work produced by our Animation students. The RTS competition celebrates outstanding student filmmakers and animators, providing a platform for emerging talent to shine.

Offshore is a testament to the dedication and skill nurtured within the course and marks an exciting milestone in Rebekah's artistic journey.

Spotlight on Millennium Performing Arts

Musical Theatre BA (Hons)



Millennium Performing Arts (MPA) is home to the University of Worcester's Musical Theatre programme. The college combines a friendly atmosphere with a professional focus, preparing graduates to meet industry demands and succeed as versatile, employable performers. MPA alumni can be found in a wide range of roles across the performing arts.

Students benefit from expert training in the Isolation Jazz Dance Technique, taught by Artistic Director Zak Nemorin. This distinctive method draws on traditional dance foundations and, combined with talent and dedication, helps create exceptional performers.

MPA also offers unique opportunities to learn from West End stars and leading creatives who regularly visit the college. Recent guest artists include Simon Greiff, Gemma Fuller, Daniel Crossley, Jemal Felix and Ryan Hughes.

Student dance company premieres bold new production

Dance and Performance BA (Hons)

Second-year Dance and Performance students at the University of Worcester are set to premiere *MOVED* this January before taking it on a regional tour. Over three months, students collaborated with a professional choreographer, technical team, and peers from Theatre, Acting and Performance to create a show that pushes creative boundaries.

MOVED blends projection, live vocals and contemporary dance to explore a powerful question: "As AIs explore loneliness in humans, do they begin to feel it too?" The theme aims to resonate with young people and spark deeper conversations.

A striking 2.5-metre parkour rig (pictured) forms the centrepiece of the production, designed to be visually thrilling and uplifting. Amber, one of the performers, said: "Being part of Surge Dance Theatre has taught me so much. It's allowed me to create work I never imagined and develop life skills for after university."



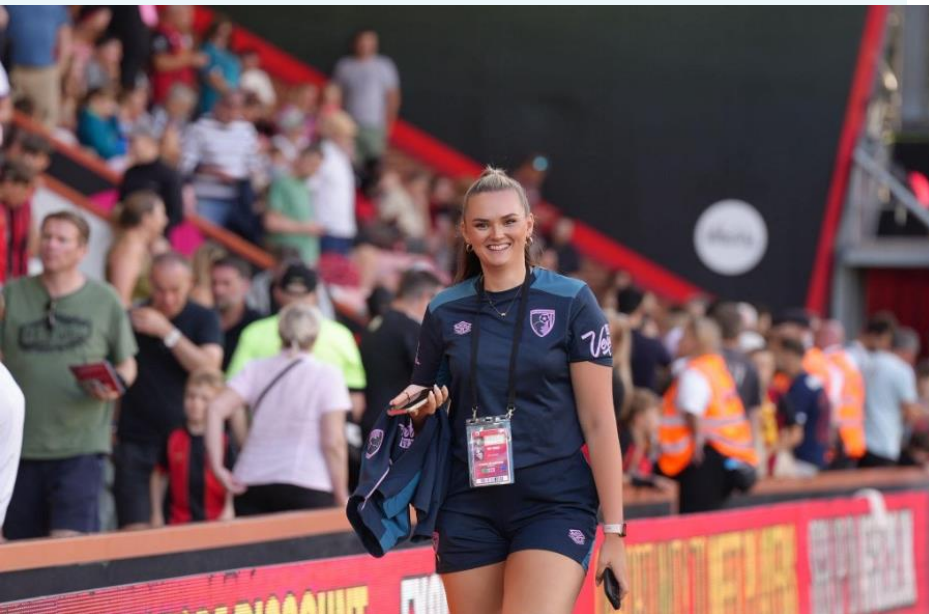
Celebrating Molly's year with Bournemouth AFC

Journalism BA (Hons)

From location shoots to playing two-touch with Antoine Semenyo, no two days are the same for University of Worcester Journalism graduate Mollie Geehan, who joined AFC Bournemouth as Content Executive in 2024. She now heads up the club's influencer programme, bringing external talent on board to boost social media engagement.

"I'm able to showcase performances on the pitch and bring out players' personalities, which is what I enjoy most," Mollie says. She credits her Sports Journalism module and football placement at Worcester for giving her the confidence to apply for the role.

After graduating in 2022, Mollie worked with England Netball as a content creator, covering the Roses and Netball Super League matches. She was also part of the student reporting team at Birmingham's Commonwealth Games. Two years later, she's thriving at Bournemouth and loving being part of the team's journey.



Series of masterclasses for third year students

Screenwriting BA (Hons)



As part of our initiative to give students an authentic introduction to the media industry, we hosted a series of guest speakers offering unique perspectives on their craft. The lineup included a writer, a TV actor, an advertising producer, a script editor, and a TV showrunner. Each session featured a talk, a Q&A, and a practical task designed to reflect real-world industry work.

Writer and producer Dominic Minghella, creator of *Doc Martin* for ITV, shared his experience of breaking into screenwriting: "Really, it all comes down to having a cracking story, and then a realisation that it is 90% determination, and not giving up."

Rhiannon Lewis (pictured), CEO of The Gate Films in Manchester, highlighted the growing opportunities in Digital Media. She encouraged students to "go where the jobs are in media, get experience, then move from there to where you want to be."