

FOUNTAIN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS
Theatre Award Terms and Deadlines

The Fountain School's Student Affairs Committee is responsible for overseeing all student awards, unless otherwise noted. Awards are listed in order of the time of year they are presented to students. Values given are based on spending available for 2026-27.

PRESENTED AT FIRST PLAY

Andrew and David Stitt Memorial Prize: Two prizes (this year valued at \$950 each)

To honour the memory of Theatre students Andrew and David Stitt. Awarded annually to two students entering the third year of the Acting Program who have shown promise in, and passion for, acting. Recipients are selected by the Acting Faculty at their first meeting in September each year.

PRESENTED AT SECOND PLAY

(October 15 deadline for nominations and/or student letters as applicable)

Bader Bursary in Costume Studies and Theatre: Two awards of \$5000 each

The two bursaries, valued at \$5000 each, are funded by the Isabel Bader Charitable Trust, in memory of Isabel Overton Bader. Both bursaries are available to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre program at the Fountain School of Performing Arts and are intended to support students who have demonstrated financial need, with preference given to students in their third or fourth year. One bursary is specifically designated for a student specializing in Costume Studies, while the other is available to Theatre students across all specializations.

Charles and Mary MacLennan Bursary in Theatre: Five bursaries of \$4,000 each

Established to honour the memory of Charles G. MacLennan, who was active in the musical life of Dalhousie University, and his wife, Mary Jackson MacLennan, who had a lifelong interest in amateur theatre. Four bursaries are awarded to undergraduate students in Theatre who have shown artistic excellence in theatre (acting, writing, design, etc.). For students in their 3rd and 4th year of study towards a BA in Theatre with a GPA of 3.5 or higher - based on artistic excellence in Theatre and financial need. Applicants must complete the regular Dalhousie University online bursary application process to help determine financial need. King's students must apply to the bursary program at King's. Applicants will also apply in writing to the Student Affairs Committee, which will make the final selection decision. If a case arises where there are more than three students eligible for a bursary, the students in a position of greater financial need shall be chosen.

Christine Zinck Scholarships: Four awards of \$1500 each

Awarded in each of the four Theatre program areas. Faculty members from each area will nominate students to the FSPA Student Affairs Committee. Awarded to fourth-year undergraduate students who clearly demonstrate that they are working towards a degree. Academic standing will be a factor in selecting the recipients and the minimum GPA of the recipient will be 3.5. The students selected will also demonstrate commitment and dedication within the Fountain School of Performing Arts above and beyond the academic requirements.

Neptune Blackmore Award: Funded by Neptune Theatre & DalTheatre – value this year \$500

This award was created by Neptune Theatre to honour master scenic carpenters John and William Blackmore. It is awarded annually to a student in their third year of a Design and Technical Theatre program who has shown promise in, and passion for, work in technical theatre and stage design. The recipient of this award is chosen by the Faculty and Staff in the Design and Technical Theatre program and communicated to the Student Affairs Committee.

Costume Studies Scholarship: \$2500

Awarded annually to the in-course student entering the final year of the Costume Studies Program who has attained the highest marks in Costume Studies classes (with no mark below B in any of the classes). The award is made possible by the alumni and friends of the costume Studies Program as well as from proceeds from the Costume Studies end of year show. The Student Affairs Committee, with the knowledge of the FSPA Director and in conjunction with Costume Studies faculty, decide on the recipient. The amount of the Scholarship is determined by how much Investment Revenue is available from the fund each year. Revenue from the year-end show is deposited to this account to build the investment.

Lyn Gratwick Theatre Arts Guild Scholarship in Costume Studies: \$2500

Awarded annually, in memory of Lyn Gratwick who was for many years an expert costumer for the Theatre Arts Guild, one of Canada's oldest community theatres. Given to one (or more) student(s) in the Costume Studies program who has or have demonstrated artistic excellence in costume-making for theatre and intend(s) to pursue a career as a costumer for a professional theatre company or an historic site. Eligible applicants must have completed at least three years of study in their undergraduate program at Dalhousie. To apply, students must submit a letter to the FSPA Student Affairs Committee describing their artistic excellence in the field of costume-making and outlining their career plans. In the letters, students should:

- provide details demonstrating their pursuit of artistic excellence in costume-making. (For example, have you successfully created a challenging costume or costumes? Have you been invited to work at professional theatre companies or historic sites over the summer? Have you achieved highly in costume-related classes?)
- say a few words about how their career plans fit into the award criteria. (Do you plan to pursue a career in professional theatre or in historical site costuming? What steps do you hope to take to achieve your goals?)

Fountain Prize in Theatre: \$4000

The Student Affairs Committee awards the prize to a students **who demonstrate exceptional artistic merit**. Students must have completed one year of study to be eligible.

AWARDED IN FALL TERM (NOT PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS)**Fountain In-Course Performing Arts Scholarships**

To support GPA achievement of students in Theatre degree programs. GPA based, no nominations needed.

PRESENTED AT FINAL PLAY

Theatre Awards: Four awards of \$500 each (nominations due by February 15)

For students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the programs of Theatre, with a minimum GPA of 3.3. The awards will normally be made at the completion of the student's third year of study in the Theatre program. ***The exception will be the Basil Cooke Award which will be available to students in the second year of their program.*** These awards are not necessarily annual. FSPA will have the discretion to use the funds to supplement other student awards in a given year.

- a) The Basil Cooke Award – for students enrolled in the Costume Studies program. The award is named in memory of Basil Cooke, a longtime supporter of the Dal Theatre.
- b) The Blanche Potter Award – for students enrolled in the Stage Design and Technical Theatre program. This award is named in memory of Blanche Potter, a former administrative officer of the Theatre Department.
- c) The Robert Merritt Award – for students enrolled in the Theatre Studies program. This award is named in memory of Robert Merritt, a longtime Theatre Studies professor
- d) The Martin Surette Award – for students enrolled in the Acting program. This award was founded in memory of Martin Surette, a passionate student of Dal Theatre.

Marcel Boulet Bursary in Stage Design and Technical Theatre: \$1000 (application deadline is Feb 15th)

The bursary was established to honour the memory of Marcel Boulet who was a talented technical theatre and acting student at Dalhousie University in the early to mid 1990s. Marcel was also known for having a "can do" personality and was gifted in dealing with others effectively and positively. Marcel's career as an Entertainment Technician took him on many adventures, including to Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and Mexico with a children's theatre as their Stage Manager. He even toured with the band "Chicago" as their rigger. Marcel later went on to become a President of IATSE Locals 680 and 849, where he served with distinction until his health made him step down. As a tribute to his legacy and his love for theatre, Marcel's family established a bursary in Marcel's memory to help stage design and technical theatre students in financial need.

Jopling Award for Out-of-Country Studies: \$3000 (application deadline is February 15)

Awarded to one student annually. To assist students enrolled in Theatre at Dalhousie University to further their knowledge of theatre by study in another country during the summer period. The successful recipient will hold a minimum GPA of 3.5 and make a strong case in writing (250 – 500 words) outlining how their intended course of study outside the country will enhance their overall educational goals. Criteria:

- Students must be enrolled full-time in a Theatre program at Dalhousie University and will have completed at least one year (both fall and winter semesters) of their program.
- Students will have been accepted to study theatre at an institution in a country other than Canada. This program of study will be approved by FSPA; however, it is not mandatory that such study be eligible for credit towards the student's program of study at Dalhousie University.
- Although the award is for study in a country other than Canada, this does not preclude (the) eligible recipient(s) being enrolled in a course offered by Dalhousie University or another Canadian educational institution, with a portion of that course being conducted in Canada.
- The FSPA will be solely responsible for the final selection of (the) award recipient(s) and may base this decision on selection criteria added at their discretion in a given year.

- In the event that no student fits these criteria in a given year, earnings from the fund will be reinvested into the principal of the fund.
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CONVOCATION AWARDS (awarded at end-of-year reception)

These awards are determined in consultation with the Associate Director (Theatre) and the FSPA Director, upon review of the year-end GPA report, and recipients' names are reported to the Dal Awards office for the Convocation program.

University Medal in Theatre

To the top First Class Honours graduate a medal in recognition of superior achievement based on the highest GPA in all classes.

Christine Zinck Book Award

Given to the best Theatre Studies graduating Honours student who is not receiving the University Medal. The recipient is given a book or books that are significant to their area of study.

Women's Division – Dalhousie Alumni Association Medal in Costume Studies:

This medal is presented annually to the graduating student with the highest cumulative GPA in the Costume Studies Program.