

THEATRE OR DANCE EDITION

Interview Tip:

Behavioral Interview Prompts

Employers often ask questions about how you responded to specific situations. For example:

- Tell me about a time when you experienced a conflict while working on a team.
- Describe a time when you had to work well under pressure.
- Give me an example of a time when you showed initiative and took the lead.
- Tell me about a time when you made a mistake, and how you handled it.

S.T.A.R. Method

You can use STAR as a framework to structure your response to behavioral interview questions.

- Describe the context and background for a **situation** that's relevant to the question.
- Explain the **task** that needed to be completed. What was the goal?
- Outline specific **actions** you took. How did you exhibit transferable skills?
- Share the **results** of your actions. What was the outcome? What did you learn?

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MARKET

YOUR EXPERIENCE

LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Students who participate in the performing arts are prepared to lead, collaborate, and innovate. The Rollins College Department of Theatre and Dance prepares students to make imaginative, purposeful, and skilled contributions to a variety of industries. Use this guide to help you elaborate on these skills on resumes, cover letters, and interviews.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Leadership and Team Management Theatre and dance provide many opportunities for leadership. As a Crew Head, a Designer, a Dance or Fight Captain, etc., you have set a vision and led a team of your peers in its execution. Employers like to see potential employees exercise a high level of responsibility and the ability to think big.

Teamwork and Communication Emphasize the complex types of projects you completed, the number of students that you worked alongside and the essential communication skill you put to practice. Working with diverse groups successfully, and communicating effectively, is a desirable skill across industries. Employers are especially looking for creative and hardworking individuals who have a knack for powerful storytelling.

Time Management Aside from being a full-time student, you held an on-campus job, were involved in student organizations, and spent many hours honing your craft. You were able to juggle so many activities because you were organized, disciplined, and goal-oriented. These are handy skills that you can take with you to any profession.

Critical Thinking/Problem Solving While working in theatre and dance, you had many opportunities to solve problems quickly – from interpersonal conflict to technical malfunctions. As a result, you are better equipped to analyze issues logically, make decisions and overcome challenges.

Project Management/Production You learned about the design and build processes of theatrical and dance production. You worked alongside directors and designers to execute projects that ultimately culminated in opening night. Employers value the discipline, organization, and motivation that come with this high-level management experience.

Professionalism/Work Ethic You understand, are committed to, and demonstrate the mission and core values of Rollins College in a professional and enthusiastic manner. You learned about the importance of accountability, mindful listening, attention to detail, commitment, punctuality, and time management. The integrity you portrayed will help you excel as a professional in your chosen career.

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Crowd Management Training
- **Software** Salesforce CRM; Audacity; CAD Design
- **Technology** Lighting and Sound Boards
- **Technical** Sewing; Carpentry; Electrics
- **Social Media** Facebook, Instagram, Email Marketing platforms

**Because each student's experience is different, use this as a general guide to help you articulate your unique experience.

SAMPLE RESUME ACTION STATEMENTS

Directing/Choreography

- Collaborated closely with the actors, dramaturg, and the design team in order to bring a unified vision to the stage
- Analyzed script to identify the most pertinent themes and develop a compelling dramatic vision
- Fostered a safe and healthy environment for artists to explore their creativity and make bold choices

Design/Technical Theatre

- Managed crew members' tasks throughout production
- Created and executed original design, working in concert with the Director and within the constraints of a limited budget
- Collaborated with all other members of the design team to create a cohesive product
- Demonstrated ability to accept direction and execute time sensitive tasks
- Assisted in construction of # scenic/costume pieces
- Collaborated with other students to execute build instructions from Designers, Studio Managers, and Technical Directors.
- Produced high-quality products on a strict timeline
- Adhered to Annie Russell Theatre shop safety guideline and regulations

Stage Management

- Provided quick and lasting solutions for a range of challenges that may arise during production (including interpersonal conflicts, technical malfunctions, etc.)
- Supervised # of cast and crew members for the run of the production
- Created and enforced policies and procedures for crew and actors to follow to ensure a smooth rehearsal and performance process

Performance/Musical Theatre/Dance/Rollins Improv Players

- Embodied characters and situations outside my personal realm of experience
- Analyzed script to develop character and interpret, learn, and memorize lines
- Adjusted quickly to changes made by the director and/or offers made by scene partner

Dramaturg

- Developed reference resources for cast and creative team
- Conducted in-depth research of the play/musical for cast and directors
- Advise cast, directors, and designers on context of the play

Rollins Players (Second Stage Producers)

- Collaborated with faculty and student artists to produce the Second Stage Series
- Publicized productions through print and social media to the campus and greater Central Florida community
- Fostered a safe and creative environment for student artists
- Managed the budget for # productions, including the allocation of resources for set, costumes, lights, sound, and publicity

Box Office/Marketing

- Developed rapport with season subscribers, faculty, staff, students, and single-ticket buyers
- Processed ticket orders with the Salesforce Customer Relationship Management platform
- Served as a passionate and articulate advocate for the Department of Theatre and Dance
- Corresponded with patrons via phone and email about ticket sales and current production information for multiple organizations