What People Have Said About Us...

“I have watched three of Professor Patrick Sims' productions, and found them to be one of the most effective means of bringing issues home that I have experienced. TCSA is one of the best additions to positive campus climate in the past three years.”

Professor Bernice Durand
Former Vice Provost for Diversity and Climate

“Not only were the skits professional and exciting, filling my eyes with tears of laughter, but they also provided a safe venue by which we could discuss and unpack important social and personal issues that permeate academe and our cultural communities.”

Mark Finster
Professor of Business and Engineering

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Theatre for Cultural and Social Awareness

Interested in outreach? Interested in theatre? Interested in finding new and exciting ways to dialogue about difficult subjects like religion in the workplace and sexual orientation?

Then become a part of the Theatre for Cultural & Social Awareness
What is TSCA?

TCSA (Theatre for Cultural & Social Awareness) is an outreach initiative of the Department of Theatre & Drama that fuses live theatre performances with staff trainings/outreach efforts that address sensitive subject matter for U.S. businesses and institutions. Past collaborations include: Harley Davidson, Miller Brewing, WE Energies, Yale University and Blood Center of SE Wisconsin. We have also worked with campus units School of Business, Wisconsin Alumni Association and the UW Hospitals & Clinics.

From concept to fruition, the journey is a collaborative one between TCSA and the community partners. Organizations provide TCSA with the real-life situations that serve as the foundation for creating engaging dramas that pave the way for skilled facilitated dialogue. TCSA faculty, students and staff must first come to terms with their own attitudes and biases before they can create material that will be relevant and transformational for all involved. This multi-layered experiential-learning process allows students to enhance their cultural competency skills at a regional, national and global level, preparing them for integration into the global community of the 21st century. The world’s concerns are our concerns!

“Patrick [and TCSA] did a great job of creating an atmosphere where people felt it was OK to be imperfect. That was refreshing for this type of event, where people can often feel tense and concerned that they do not have the ‘correct’ feelings or perspectives on an issue.”

Michael M. Knetter, Dean
UW- Madison School of Business

Who Can Help?

Students will participate and experience theatre training models used to promote healthy discussions about difficult topics like gender equity, hostile work environment, and race relations to name a few.

No performance experience is necessary! …… but it doesn’t hurt.

Intro to TCSA (357) - Is designed to address the challenges of sensitive subject matters present in U.S. workplace and school/community settings through the conventions of theatre. Students will engage in discussions and in-depth analysis of plays, films and current events that explore topics such as race-relations, gender, hostile work environment, sexual orientation and cultural diversity. In addition, students will experience and participate in theatrical training models used to encourage a greater sensitivity and healthy dialogues about such topics.

# of credits: 3 -- Pre-req: Soph. Status -- Meets: MW 4-6pm (Fall Only)

Advanced TCSA (557) - Serves as the practical implementation of performance theories and skills developed in the Intro to Theatre and Cultural and Social Awareness. Students nurture critical analytical and facilitative skills necessary for constructive dialogues around sensitive subject matters by participating in 3-5 service-learning experiences throughout the semester.

# of credits: 3-6 -- Pre-req: 357 or Instr. Consent -- Meets: MWF 11-1:30pm (Spring Only)