

Wyoming Community College Commission
Request for
New, Pilot or Revised Degree or Certificate

A. College: Laramie County Community College

B. Date submitted to WCCC: _____

C. Program

1. Request for:

New Program Pilot Program Revised Program

2. Program Title: Theatre

3. Degree or Certificate to be awarded:

Degree: AA AS AAS Other
 Certificate

4. Educational Pathway:

Energy Construction Hospitality Technology
 Health Care Other

5. Total number of credit hours: 62-63

6. Suggested CIP (Classification of Instructional Program) code (6-digit):

50.0501, Drama and Dramatics/Theatre Arts, General

7. Planned semester/year new program will begin: Fall 2017

8. Will any part of this program be provided by non-accredited vendor(s)?

YES (Provide details) NO

9. Will all or part of this program be available to students via online or other distance education technologies?

At the start of the program? Within three years of the start of the program? No

While no theatre courses are offered online due to their physical instruction method, most GenEd Core classes can be completed online.

D. Program description as it will be included in college catalog:

The Theatre Associate of Arts introduces students to the disciplines within theatre arts through practical, production based work. Students complete comprehensive foundation theatre and humanities courses, preparing them for transfer to University theatre programs or a career in theatre arts.

1. Expected Student learning outcomes from completion of the program:

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Apply skills to the creation of performance.
- Analyze and responded to texts and performances both in writing and orally.
- Demonstrate knowledge of theatre history and literature and drawn connections between theatrical practices and social contexts in and across historical periods.
- Apply collaborative skills in a variety of theatrical contexts.
- Develop and refined process skills in rehearsal, production and studio settings.
- Demonstrate problem-solving skills in the creation of artistic work.
- Demonstrate proficiency in one or more area-specific skills: acting, technical theatre, or management.

2. Program Layout by Semester:

Course	Title	Credits
COLS 1000	Introduction to College Success: First-Year Seminar	3
THEA 1000	Introduction to Theatre	3
THEA 1100	Beginning Acting	3
THEA 2000	Theatre Production	3
ENGL 1010	English I: Composition	3
MATH 1010 OR MATH 1400	Problem Solving College Algebra	3
Semester Credits		18
THEA 2000	Theatre Production	3
THEA 2100	Acting II	3
ANTH 1200	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
FREN 1010 OR SPAN 1010	First Year French I First Year Spanish I	4
	Choose from approved STEM courses.	3-4
Semester Credits		16-17
THEA 2000	Theatre Production	3

THEA 2010	Backgrounds of Drama I	3
HUMN 1010 OR HUMN 1020	Introductory to Humanities I Introductory to Humanities II	3
CO/M 2010	Public Speaking	3
	Choose from approved U.S./Wyoming Constitution courses.	3
Semester Credits		15
THEA 2000	Theatre Production	3
THEA 2020	Backgrounds of Drama II	3
THEA 2160	Introduction to Stage Make-Up	3
	Choose from approved LAB Science courses.	4
Semester Credits		13
Total Credits		62-63

E. New course prefixes, course credit hours and/or course numbers:

1. Recommended level of instruction (LOI) code if the community college is using a course prefix which is new to Wyoming public higher education institutions:

No new prefixes ___ Suggested level of instruction

2. New Course prefixes, numbers and/or credit hours have been coordinated:

with UW (transfer) ___ Yes ___ No Not Applicable
or WCCC (career technical) ___ Yes ___ No Not Applicable

F. New course descriptions:

1. The following are course descriptions for each new course in the program (include prefix, course number, title, credit hours and description):

All courses within the program are currently offered on campus.

G.* Can this program be delivered by current faculty? If not, what are the plans, budget and timeline for bringing on needed instructors?

Yes. LCCC has one full-time theatre faculty with the skills to deliver current courses. This instructor has been delivering the same course sequence as a concentration for 12 years.

H. Summary of input from and coordination with citizens, business and industry or k-12 education:

A recent (Fall 2016) advisory committee meeting with high school theatre teachers revealed great interest in the establishment of an AA in Theatre in southeast Wyoming and the state capitol. Among the input was the following important point: Many high school students seeking this degree and planning to transfer to UW require access to a smaller, inexpensive college that suits certain academic and personal needs relating to academic performance and the advantages that come with the personal attention a college like LCCC can offer.

I.* Resources required to start and sustain the program and the current plan to meet those resource needs through college or other external funds:

A theatre program has existed as an area of emphasis for some time. All resources are in place, both physically and financially.

J.* Projected demand in Wyoming and Nation for five years from the proposed implementation date (career technical programs):

1. State and National Trends

United States	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings
	2014	2024		
Producers and Directors	122,600	133,800	9%	11,100
Wyoming	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings
	2014	2024		
Producers and Directors	101	109	7.92%	8

Source:

- National Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/entertainment-and-sports/producers-and-directors.htm>
- State Data Source: Wyoming Department of Employment Research & Planning, https://doe.state.wy.us/LmI/projections/2016/long_term_occupation_projections_2014-24.pdf

2. State and National Wages

Location	Pay Period	2015				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly			\$32.91		
	Yearly			\$68,440.00		
Wyoming	Hourly	\$14.06	\$16.81	\$20.86	\$29.12	\$40.69
	Yearly	\$29,242.00	\$34,968.00	\$43,385.00	\$60,563.00	\$84,648

Source:

- National Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/entertainment-and-sports/producers-and-directors.htm>
- State Data Source: Wyoming Occupational Employment and Wages at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LmI/EDSMarch2016ECI/page0016.htm>

Other wage information or comments that would assist the Commission:

While there are some opportunities for theatre professionals in Wyoming, there is limited data available. As Wyoming comes to rely on tourism (a more diversified economy generally) for more of its revenue, theatre professionals will become an increasingly vital part of local, seasonal economies at Wyoming’s numerous cultural sites, venues, and geographic areas.

3. Primary student audience identified for this program:

The primary student audience for this program is any and all students interested in transfer to a four-year university theatre degree. A secondary student audience is those students interested simply in completing the A.A. and moving into professional theatre work either in Wyoming or nearby metropolitan areas (such as Denver) where they may pursue professional opportunities.

4. Anticipated enrollment in the three academic years after WCCC approval (unduplicated headcount) with the basis for the estimate:

15 Year One 20 Year Two 25 Year Three

LCCC Theatre as an area of concentration has established a strong tradition and seeks to grow as an AA. These estimates above are conservative only to acknowledge the challenges facing the arts in Wyoming in the foreseeable future.

K.* Student recruitment and program marketing strategies to attract the broadest range of individuals for this particular program:

For this particular program, state-wide and regional recruiting will take place just as it always has for the concentration. Each year, LCCC attends Wyoming State High School Drama, an annual gathering of high school drama students. Regionally, the college has broad plans to extend our marketing reach into northern Colorado and western Nebraska. The new AA in Theatre will be a part of those marketing efforts as they develop and strengthen.

The most effective recruiting is done by high school visits by faculty, workshops, coaching and outreach to as many high schools as possible, focusing on those with strong traditions in the performing arts. We will work closely with our admissions staff on specific recruitment strategies.

L.* Identification of similar programs at Wyoming Community Colleges and an overview of results of discussions with faculty and administrators at the relevant colleges regarding curriculum and possible joint projects:

Theatre faculty are always looking for ways to collaborate and work jointly. Understandably, LCCC is in a geographic position to collaborate closely with UW. The current theatre faculty member at LCCC is a graduate of the UW Theatre program. That close relationship has already borne fruit. As of this writing, a joint stage combat workshop is planned, and we have discussed the possibility of sharing design and technical resources should needs arise. As Wyoming's budget situation seems to be somewhat precarious in the near-future, these kinds of collaborations, aside from their benefits to students, have a financial benefit as well.

With regard to other Wyoming Community Colleges, geography makes some forms of collaboration difficult, but faculty regularly see each other (at State Drama) to share plans and discuss best practices within program development.

Wyoming Community College Programs (Identify title, degree/certificate and number of credit hours)						
Casper College	Central Wyoming College	Eastern Wyoming College	Laramie County Community College	North-west College	Northern Wyoming Community College District	Western Wyoming Community College
Theatre AA (66 credits)	Theatre AA (60.5 credits)	N/A	In Process (62-63 credits)	N/A	Theatre AA (61 credits)	Theatre AA (65-67 credits)

M. Note available program and course articulations with other likely transfer institutions in the region, particularly for transfer AA and AS programs. (Note regional Bachelor of Applied Science transfer options in addition to UW.)

In its current form (Interdisciplinary Arts: Theatre Concentration) each course individually and the degree is fully articulated with the UW B.A. Theatre Program. Articulation of the AA with UW is considered a formality since this proposed AA contains no changes to the courses or the sequence of the Theatre ILA.

N. When appropriate, note partnerships with business, industry, associations or agencies that have contributed to the design of the proposed program and/or who will contribute to the delivery of the program.

Not applicable.

O. Assessment of student learning and completer follow-up per performance indicators. How will the assessment outcomes be used to assure student learning and improve the program?

Measuring success in the arts can be difficult because there are so many definitions for success. However, the broadest standards of success are two-fold.

1. Student learning outcomes achieved through culminating courses and program course success rates

2. Feedback from university theatre programs to which our students transfer
3. Student success after transfer
4. Surveys from students after completing program courses
5. Graduate surveys and employer surveys
6. The continued participation in third part assessments such as the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival to review and respond to student work.

P.* Other program information or comments that would assist the commission in making a decision using the Guidelines for Use of this Evaluation Tool found in Appendix A of the 2010 WCCC Statewide Strategic Plan.

This program addresses Wyoming and regional interests in the following ways not addressed earlier in this request:

EDUCATED CITIZENTRY – The arts are essential to the creation of an educated citizenry. The performing arts expose people to new and diverse ways of thinking, expand emotional intelligence and communicative boundaries, and generally contribute to a sense of well-being. This is true for those who participate in the arts and for audiences of the arts. As well-educated citizenry means a broadly educated one. As Wyoming seeks to diversify its economy in the coming years, the best skills are broad skills.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – Among the most sought after skills in the 21st century workforce are communication skills and problem solving skills. Even if a person who studied theatre does not work in theatre, the skills are transferable and practical.

For the best explanation of this, please read this article, written by a theatre major: <https://tomvanderwell.wordpress.com/2012/01/16/10-ways-being-a-theatre-major-prepared-me-for-success/>

ACCOUNTABILITY and IMPROVEMENT – In the arts we seek to improve. From the rehearsal hall to the program planning, improvement is always the goal.

OTHER CRITERIA-

- **Resource Needs** – No new resources are requested with the establishment of this program.

*Community colleges are not required to complete sections G, I, J, K, L, and P for **pilot** program requests.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Submitted by V. P. for
Academic Affairs**

Signature Date

Printed Name Title

Approved by the WCC Academic
Affairs Council

Signature Date

Printed Name Title

Approved by Program
Review Committee

Signature Date

Printed Name Title

**Signature by the Community College Vice President for Academic Affairs verifies that institutional curriculum approval processes have been completed and that the Community College Board of Trustees has approved this program request as per institutional policy.

Date: January 7, 2017

Dear Board of Trustees:

My name is Nichole Killion, and I am an alumna of Laramie County Community College class of 2011. I graduated from LCCC with an AA in English and General Studies in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Theatre. It has come to my attention that LCCC is going to have Theatre be its own AA program. I would like voice my utmost support for this program, for I can say with great confidence I would not be where I am today without that program or Jason Pasqua.

In the three years that I attended LCCC I received a through and well-rounded arts education. Even though it was not a full program, Professor Pasqua was constantly trying to expand for the students to get the most out what he taught. I learned more and had more opportunities in the three years I was a student at LCCC than I would have if I just gone to a four-year university. During my tenure as a student I was an actor, a stage manager, director, playwright, designer, and stage crew. I also was able to take classes and participate in events that were not available at the university that I attended after finishing my AA, such as makeup, armed and unarmed stage combat, and student run shows such as Dionysus and the 24 hour play festival. Lastly, every year Jason picked thought provoking plays to put on, allowing students to see how art can be a conversation starter for many controversial topics. Through all this I learned what I wanted to do professionally and I was much better prepared when I went on to pursue my BA in Theatre from Colorado State University and even further while I have worked professionally as a stage manager throughout Colorado.

Jason Pasqua did so much for his students with very little; with a full Theatre AA program he can do so much more. In a time where art has unfortunately began to decline I am proud of my alma mater for stepping up and proving that the arts are important not just for theatre students but for the LCCC community as a whole. Theatre teaches interpersonal communication skills, and problem solving in ways that also teach a good work ethic and team building. I can honestly say I would not be where I am today if I had not attended LCCC, and with a full theatre program the school will continue to build a legacy of great students for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nichole Killion". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nichole Killion

January 10, 2017

Greetings!

I'd like to take a moment of your time to express my appreciation and gratitude for my experience in the theatre program at Laramie County Community College under the direction of Jason Pasqua.

You may be able to recall, from either a somewhat or far distant past, the "Drama Nerds" from your high school. They were loud, eccentric, liable to burst into songs from Rent (or Pippin) at any given moment, and overall very, well... dramatic. These recollections may come with disdain or fondness, depending on your high school experience. However, I'd like to begin this letter by stating: That was not me in high school. I was not a drama nerd.

I was an athlete, actually. I started for the varsity soccer team in a state very serious about the sport. I excelled in academics as well, graduating a half year early with a 3.9 and a handful of AP classes. I was also from Utah, married at 19, and turned down scholarships for marriage bliss and babies.

Fast forward to 2009, three years and two babies later, when I decided to return to school to reclaim myself and my passion. To be honest, I didn't know who I was or what I wanted to do. I took Intro to Theatre as an elective; something to fill a schedule but ease my workload.

My first day in that class changed the course of my life forever. I left the introductory lecture by Jason knowing one thing: Whatever I did with my life, I wanted to have as much passion for it as Jason Pasqua did about theatre. I changed my degree from "undecided" to Associate of Arts that day. I took as many theatre classes as the degree would allow. What followed was a rich and powerful education of the arts, its effect on the world around us, and the power of my own talents within my community.

Today I am the Director of Religious Education for the Unitarian Universalist of Cheyenne with the side job as their Music Director. I would like to share the "skills" section from my resume submitted for both jobs:

Strong communication skills	Adaptable
Creative thinker & problem solver	Works well under pressure
Motivated & committed	A leader
Team player	Respect for authority and colleagues
Great time management	Personally disciplined
Ability to listen & learn quickly	Goal oriented

Every single one of these skills were developed or sharpened within LCCC's theatre program. These skills, along with the confidence I gained, directly influence the success I have had leading our small congregation to a stronger religious education and music program. I can confidently say that these skills will support me as I further my education within a field that I am truly passionate about as I pursue a Masters of Divinity.

Aside from the professional skills, I have made many lifelong friendships at LCCC. Some of my fondest memories happened on that small, thrust stage. I will cherish the life lessons learned during my time at LCCC and be forever gracious of the skills and relationships I cultivated from my experience in the program.

Best Regards,

Marcie Kindred Smith