

AMDA

NEW YORK CITY
Welcome and Orientation Guide

CONTENTS

Welcome to AMDA.....	2
Spring 2024 Orientation	3
Move-In and Housing	5
Financial Aid / Student Employment	6
COVID-19 Information	7
Before Your Arrival	8
Preparing for Success.....	10
Required Campus Supplies.....	12
Textbooks.....	13
Required Dance Attire	14
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at AMDA.....	18
Healthcare Services	22
Getting to AMDA.....	24
Area Hotels.....	26
Contacts.....	27



WELCOME TO AMDA

Congratulations on starting your education and performing arts career at AMDA! We are eagerly anticipating the start of our Spring 2024 Semester, and sincerely look forward to welcoming you to the AMDA family.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020, our official AMDA Safety Task Force has been tracking current updates daily both domestically and globally to ensure that we take every precaution necessary in preparing our campus to be a safe and healthy learning environment for our faculty and student body. We pledge to train, develop, and equip you with the tools, knowledge, and experience needed to be competitive and successful in today's industry.

During your hybrid orientation, you will be introduced to AMDA's resources and the tools available to you to help you be successful.

We encourage you to read this guide prior to orientation and to share this information with your parent, guardian or support team. If you have questions regarding orientation or any information contained in this guide, do not hesitate to contact your Admissions Advisor.

For additional orientation schedule information, visit:

<https://www.amda.edu/student-life#orientation>

SPRING 2024 ORIENTATION

The AMDA Spring 2024 Orientation begins soon and will be hybrid! We have two different components of our orientation: Virtual Orientation and In-Person Orientation. Incoming students will be joined by Orientation Leaders on AMDA's online platform, Canvas as well as in-person. Throughout this journey, students have an opportunity to hear from various departments at AMDA, connect with your Orientation Leaders and peers, meet with a variety of staff and learn about the resources available to you for success at AMDA NY! The Orientation Committee is eager to get to know you and welcome you to our incredible community! We encourage you to read the entire guide for important dates and information.

- **Tuesday, February 13th-Friday, February 16th:** Required Virtual Orientation
- **Thursday, February 22nd-Sunday, February 25th:** Required In-person Orientation Activities
- **Thursday, February 22nd:** Required Orientation Check-in - **Incoming students will receive an In-person Orientation Schedule at Orientation Check-in.**
- **Thursday, February 22nd at 3:30PM (EST):** Parent Q&A Meetings
- Spring 2024 Semester Begins: Monday, February 26th

Please note:

Parents should not schedule activities with their students during the Orientation week(s) and weekend(s) beginning the first day of Orientation through Sunday, February 25th. Above dates are subject to change.

Hybrid Orientation will be a mix of pre-recorded sessions, Zoom presentations, group or departmental meetings and in-person activities. Orientation schedules will be available to students on the first day of Orientation. It is recommended that each student dedicate between 4-6 hours each week for Orientation assignments and meetings, as well as spending at least a small portion of each day logging in to the online platform (for emails, notifications, etc.). Our Hybrid Orientation will also include optional activities to introduce students to a wide variety of resources to help prepare them for the rigors of classwork.

For Return to Campus FAQ:

<https://storage.amda.edu/media/documents/NY-Return-to-Campus-FAQ.pdf>



MOVE-IN AND HOUSING

AMDA's residence hall, Greenwich House, is located in the West Village in Manhattan, where students have access to city markets (including Whole Foods and Trader Joe's), Washington Square Park, the iconic Friends Apartment Building, The LGBTQ+ landmark Stonewall Inn, the Museum of Illusions, the original Magnolia Bakery—and of course the Broadway Theatre District. Please review this document for more information on the New Yorker, including a FAQ page: [AMDA NY | New Yorker Information](#)

AMDA's residence hall, the New Yorker is located in Midtown West, steps from Penn Station, Times Square, and Madison Square Garden, the New Yorker has been a striking component of the New York skyline, towering above all others since her 1930 inception. Today, the New Yorker continues to enchant visitors, offering an upscale stay in a historical icon. Please review this document for more information on Greenwich House, including a FAQ page: [AMDA NY | Greenwich House Information](#)

St. George Towers is located in Brooklyn Heights and is made up of three towers (Clark, Studio and Weller), each featuring access to an enormous community center. With a communal kitchen, study room, screening room, pool table, and flat screen TVs, you'll enjoy college life in one of New York's most coveted neighborhoods. Brooklyn Heights is a posh residential area of elegant brownstones where celebrities such as Matt Damon, Emily Blunt and John Krasinski live! It's known for its tree-lined promenade along the East River, with unrivaled views of Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty. The neighborhood also attracts visitors and local families to the landscaped walkways and playgrounds of waterfront Brooklyn Bridge Park. Please review this document for more information on St. George Towers: [AMDA NY | St. George Information](#)

AMDA New York Residence Life

Welcome to AMDA's Residence Life community! We are excited to welcome you to campus! We have worked hard to provide you with support, interactive programming and resources to ensure that the transition to your new "home away from home" will be just that, a place you can call home!

Residence life is the experience of a lifetime, a rewarding opportunity to meet lifelong friends and share incredible experiences. As you encounter each new challenge, AMDA offers a supportive, and caring group of Resident Advisors to guide you every step of the way. AMDA creates events for all our students, including, fitness-focused events, meditation sessions, themed hangouts, shared reflective spaces, academically-focused offerings, skill-building activities, and other fun and useful options.

While preparing for Orientation, take a few moments to review the following information. As always, don't hesitate to contact your Admissions Advisor with any questions or concerns

About Our Residence Halls

Led by the Office of Student Affairs, AMDA's residential life is structured to foster a sense of community through

student leadership and program planning in which learning is supported and extended beyond the classroom.

All of AMDA's residential halls are staffed with 24-hour front desk staff and security guards, 365 days a year. A Residential Safety Officer (RSO) is on duty overnight and available to assist students and staff as needed.

Move-In Day

All students will be sent specific information about their move-in day and time in a separate mailing. In this mailing, students will receive a link to sign up for their move-in time slot.

On move-in day, please report directly to your assigned residential hall at your scheduled appointment time to begin the process of moving into your room. Please limit what you bring for move-in to what you can carry yourself.

Additionally, cars cannot be left unattended in front of the residence halls while students are moving in.

Double parking is only permitted for unloading student belongings but not while moving items into student rooms. Please unload your car and then find either street or garage parking.

FINANCIAL AID

For Students:

If you are receiving Federal Direct Stafford Loans, AMDA will not be able to process your Stafford loan funds until you submit your Federal Stafford Master Promissory Note (MPN), and Stafford Entrance Counseling. These are required federal documents that must be submitted prior to disbursement of your loan funds.

For Parents:

If you are receiving Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan, parent borrowers must also complete a Federal PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN). If there is a co-signer on the loan, parent borrowers must also complete Federal PLUS Loan Credit Counseling.

Please submit these documents as soon as possible at www.studentaid.gov so we can process these funds and post them to your student account. Please note that disbursement of Stafford loans for incoming first semester students does not proceed until after the required 30 day hold period. If these documents are not received prior to the scheduled disbursement date of your loans, your loans may be canceled. If canceled, you will be billed for these full loan amounts.

In order to complete the Stafford and/or PLUS Master Promissory Note and Stafford Entrance and/or PLUS Credit Counseling, you will need to have your US Department of Education federal login information, which you used to sign your FAFSA. Once you have your federal login information, please follow the below link to complete these forms: www.studentaid.gov

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

AMDA offers a limited amount of on campus student employment, but most positions are hired before school begins. Production applications may be available the FRIDAY before the semester begins, and are due that first THURSDAY. Look for all other applications around week 7, that begin the following semester.

In order to apply, one must be and remain in good standing academically and financially, and follow all campus and COVID protocols laid out in the Student Handbook. Domestic students must complete a FAFSA, though you need not qualify for Federal Work Study to be hired. International students must be on an F-1 Visa.

While on campus employment is not guaranteed each semester, be sure to check the Weekly Digest for opportunities that may arise. If you are eligible to work off campus, we can be a good resource for you. Any questions, feel free to reach out to Stefani Miller at smiller@amda.edu.



COVID-19 INFORMATION

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020, our official AMDA Safety Task Force has been tracking current updates daily both domestically and globally to ensure that we take every precaution necessary in preparing our campus to be a safe and healthy learning environment for our faculty and student body. AMDA is committed to operating our campus in a safe and healthy way, following all guidance and recommendations from our New York State and New York City government agencies, as well as guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO).

AMDA has assembled an Emergency Response Team (ERT) on campus in order to create direct responses to ensure that safety and health are the top priorities for our community. The ERT is composed of staff members from every department to reflect the needs of our entire campus. The ERT's responsibility is to create processes and responses that are effective in mitigating the risk of contracting COVID-19. AMDA's Emergency Response Team can be reached at NYERT@amda.edu.

Vaccination Policy

The COVID-19 vaccination, including a booster or 3rd dose for those who are eligible, **will be recommended for all AMDA Community members.**

Masks and Other PPE

AMDA will be operating as a mask optional campus. Please note that you are welcome to wear a mask at all times but are not required to while on campus. :



BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

Student Email and Wi-Fi Information

All AMDA buildings plus Student housing have Wi-Fi. It is recommended that you set up your Wi-Fi connection before you arrive on campus. Please visit it.amda.edu/wireless/setup for setup instructions.

AMDA Students receive an @amda.edu email address used to access many services including Wi-Fi, Canvas and StarRez.

To access your AMDA email information:

From Desktop / Laptop:

- Log into Portal.amda.edu
- On the left-side menu, click My Profile.
- Click My Information to access your account information.
- Click My IT Information to access your personal AMDA email login.
- The top half of the page contains your AMDA email information.

From Mobile Device:

- Log into Portal.amda.edu
- Tap on the 3 line Menu on the top right
- Tap on My Profile
- Tap on My Information
- Tap on My IT Information
- The top half of the page contains your AMDA email information.

Financial Aid

Please make sure to complete your Stafford Entrance Counseling and Stafford MPN (Master Promissory Note) at www.studentloans.gov prior to Orientation. Financial Aid counselors will be available for any questions.

Student Accounts

Please be sure that your payments are current; that you have verified your billing address; and that the Student Accounts Office is up-to-date on stipend and refund contacts before your arrival. If you have not done this prior to your arrival, you will need to check in with Student Accounts. A Student Accounts representative will be available to answer questions.

Accessibility Services

The mission of AMDA's Accessibility Services Office is to ensure that all students are afforded an equal opportunity to fully participate in and benefit from AMDA's unsurpassed performing arts education and diverse community of creative artists. We believe that disability is an integral part of the diversity of experience that fuels creative excellence. Therefore, it is our goal to remove access barriers to allow every student to reach their fullest potential. If you feel you may need accommodations while you are at AMDA, or if you have any accessibility concerns, please get in touch with the office by emailing NYAccessibility@amda.edu.

Mental Health Counselors

We have licensed Mental Health Counselors who provide free and confidential mental health services to help meet the emotional and psychological needs of our students. Services include programming/workshops, crisis response, assistance with referrals, and individual short-term counseling sessions. Please email any questions or concerns to CounselorNY@amda.edu.

Health and Wellness Center

We have a full-time Registered Nurse and Athletic Trainer on campus who is available to provide emergency care, injury consultation and assessment, health education, and referrals to outside physicians. Appointments are available in person or virtually via Zoom. Please email any questions or concerns to NYHealth@amda.edu.

Athletic Performance Services

Our Athletic Performance team provides free injury consultations, injury prevention, and performance enhancement services. Appointments are available virtually via Zoom or in person on-site. Please email any questions or concerns to NYHealth@amda.edu.

BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

Student Store

During Orientation, students will be able to purchase any required textbooks, AMDA merchandise, as well as any required dancewear needed for classes via the student store. Please note that we do not sell any dance shoes at the student store.

Students will also be sent a link to complete the required form for their AMDA Student ID cards to access campus that they will pick up during Orientation week. This is a separate ID from your residence hall ID. The student store will be open at 61st street for all transactions.

Electronic methods of payment are preferred. For any questions please email our Student Store Manager, Abby Kowalczyk, at akowalczyk@amda.edu.

International Students

F1 International Students should make sure to show your I-20 certificate and your valid passport with F-1 student visa (unless you are Canadian and do not hold a F1 visa) to the Customs Officer at the airport. Inform the officer you are coming to the US to attend a full time program at AMDA and you have a F1 student visa. This is especially important for people with valid tourist visas in their passports!

There will be a required International Student Orientation for all F1 international students that will go over the rules and regulations you must follow while studying in the US as well as information on work options, opening a bank account, getting a NY state ID, following the laws in the US, etc...

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Leslie Cummings, Director, International Student Affairs at InternationalNY@amda.edu



PREPARING FOR SUCCESS READY FOR DAY 1 OF CLASS

Orientation is designed to prepare you for success for your entire AMDA journey as well as your first day of class. Your training for the performing arts path you have chosen begins the moment that you walk onto campus. Student Success seminars detailing how to negotiate your safety, health, awareness, and academics are a critical part of the AMDA experience.

We ask that all students approach orientation with an open mind and ready for a flood of helpful information. Students must prepare for the AMDA experience with the same preparation required for a professional audition or rehearsal, both in terms of work preparation and personal appearance. Additionally, please use the guide below for specific information needed for orientation and for the initial class meetings so that you are fully prepared to begin your program successfully.

PASSPORT TO CANVAS

All students will receive an invitation to our Canvas training course: Passport to Canvas. Passport to Canvas consists of eight modules of content that takes students through everything they need to know about using Canvas as a student. We encourage students to go through the modules prior to the first day of class and continue to use the course as a reference for any questions they may have throughout the semester.

Within canvas students have the ability to indicate their pronouns, as well as change their Full Name, Display Name, and Sortable Name. This is available under Account, Settings, Edit Settings. Students are encouraged to review this information to be certain their name and pronouns appear exactly as they would like to be referred to in the classroom. *Full Name: This name will be used by instructors for grading. | Display Name: Faculty and classmates will see this name in discussions, messages and comments. | Sortable Name: This name appears in grade reporting by faculty & staff.*

Integrated Students

Musicianship Placement: You are required to take an online musicianship test. This test will assist us in placing each student in the appropriate level of Musicianship 1. All students are required to take Musicianship 1. If you haven't already, please complete that here.

DANCE THEATRE STUDENTS

Dance placements will happen during the first week of classes. This placement will be used by our Dance Department to place you in the appropriate levels for your dance coursework. If you have questions about your Dance Placement, please reach out to your Admissions Representative

STUDIO STUDENTS

Studio students are required to make their elective selection prior to arrival. The selection process is currently closed. If you have not submitted an elective choice at this time, Education Services will place you in an elective based on enrollment. If you have any questions about your elective selection, please reach out to your Admissions Representative.

PREPARING FOR SUCCESS

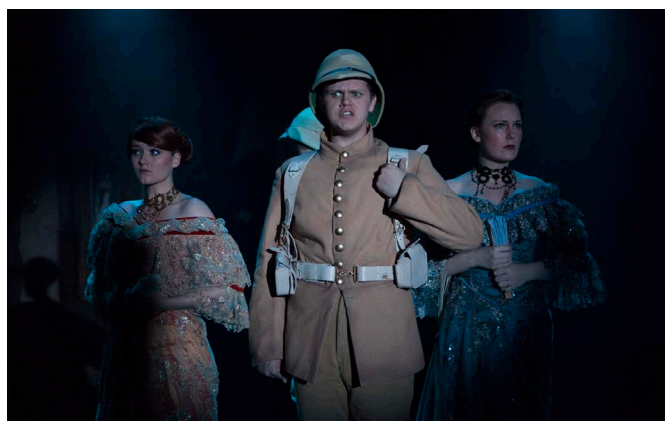
ACTING FOR CAMERA STUDENTS

Acting for Camera students should come prepared to participate in all course work as assigned in Canvas and the Enterprise scheduling portal. There is not any preparation prior to arrival or at arrival to note.

ALL STUDENTS: FOUNDATIONS ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Every student at AMDA is enrolled in innovative Performing Arts/General Education courses. These courses are ineligible for transfer credit evaluation but will be an important part of your learning experience at AMDA. These courses are available for General Education (GE) transfer to the AMDA BFA programs.

During the first and second semester, in the performance aspect of this course, students learn about key historical events and artistic movements within their respective programs. In the General Education aspect of first semester courses, students are challenged to think critically about complex ideas and express their responses through well-structured, logically reasoned, and effective written prose. In the second semester formal and informal oral presentations connect with performance class curriculum and cultivate verbal and nonverbal elements of communication including topic selection, organization, research, language use, persuasion, ethics and effective delivery. In the third semester, students begin to learn about what it means to become a working actor and the tools needed to do so and in the General Education aspect students develop an understanding of the field of ethics and how thoughtful and reflective decision making can impact their careers as artists, as well as important life choices. Instruction for all of the General Education components is provided virtually via Zoom. Course completion is required for Certificate graduation. Foundations Across the Curriculum courses will be offered in students' 1st, 2nd and 3rd semester across all programs.



REQUIRED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

You are required to have specific items for your first day of classes, including textbooks, dancewear, dance shoes, and basic classroom supplies.

Please budget accordingly for these materials. You may already own some materials, such as dancewear, so be sure to bring them with you to school. Other materials will be requested per specific class/instructor throughout the term.

REQUIRED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

- spiral notebook
- 1.5" 3-ring binder
- Yoga Mat
- recording device (a cell phone may be used at the discretion of the instructor)
- pens and pencils
- highlighters
- small hand mirror (for Voice Production and Speech class)
- **Smart phone or Tablet/Laptop Device**

RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- daily planner (can be electronic)
- Stylus/ Pen
- Yoga Mat Strap
- rolling carry-on suitcase or duffle bag (to carry dancewear and/or props)

RECOMMENDED PHONES

- iPhone 11 or newer

- Google Pixel 5 or newer
- Samsung Galaxy S10 or newer

PHONE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- 1080p Video recording
- 20+ GB of free storage for video recording

RECOMMENDED COMPUTERS

- Low end:
 - o Lenovo Chromebook S330 Laptop
- Mid-Range:
 - o HP Chromebook 15-Inch Laptop
- High-End:
 - o Microsoft Surface Laptop 2 (Windows)
 - o MacBook Pro 13

Sheet Music and Plays

Throughout the semester, you will be required to read plays and/or acquire sheet music. The AMDA Performing Arts Library has a wide selection of sheet music, plays, and various additional collections available for in-house reading, copying or borrowing, depending upon the item. Copies of material can be made for classroom or personal use at \$.05/page in black and white and \$.10/page in color. Three student copy machines are located in the Library. Other resources for locating material include NYPL, the Drama Bookshop, Inc. (dramabookshop.com), or Amazon.

Costumes and Props

For acting scene, camera scene and musical theatre work, you will need to bring or purchase costume and prop materials. Materials will vary depending on the scene or song chosen. Students are responsible for the storage of all costumes and props used for any class work. These are suggested standard costume guidelines:

- An elegant dress outfit, such as a skirt and top or a dress with dress shoes, or a sport coat or blazer with dress slacks, and black hard-soled shoes such as loafers or dress shoes.

TEXTBOOKS

You are able to purchase all books at the [AMD A Student Store](#) during Orientation Week. Additionally, most are available for purchase via [Amazon](#) and other major booksellers.

Students are only required to purchase the books listed for your program under the "Program(s)" column. There are five required textbooks for Integrated students, two for Studio students, and three recommended (but not required) for Dance Theatre students. There are no required textbooks for the Acting for Camera programs at this time. All students may need to purchase additional textbooks in their 2nd and 3rd semesters. For 1st Semester Studio Students in Stage Combat, it is required that you also purchase the following: <https://amzn.to/2ZRBerD>.

TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	AMD A PRICE	ISBN NUMBER	PROGRAM(S)
Broadway: The American Musical	Laurence Maslon & Michael Kantor	\$34.99	978-1-42349-103-3	Integrated
Pocket Music Dictionary	Hal Leonard	\$9.99	978-0-7935-1654-4	Recommended for Integrated
Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet, 3rd Revised Ed.	Gail Grant	\$5.99	0-486-21843-0	Recommended for Dance Theatre Conservatory
ACTIONS: The Actors Thesaurus	Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloud-Williams	\$15.99	978-0-7935-1654-4	Recommended for Integrated and Dance Theatre Conservatory
Appreciating Dance (4th Ed.)	Harriet Lihs	\$24.99	978-0871273185	Recommended for Dance Theatre Conservatory
They Say / I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing (5th Ed.)	Cathy Birkenstein, Gerald Graff, and Russel Durst	\$26.99	ISBN-10: 0393538737 ISBN 13: 978-039358731	Required for all first semester students
The Natural Speaker (9th Ed.)	Randy Fujishin	\$72.99	ISBN-10: 1138700908 ISBN-13: 978-1138700901	Required for all second semester students
Ethics: The Fundamentals	Julia Driver	\$35.99	ISBN-13: 978-1405111546 ISBN-10: 140511154	Required for all third semester and NY Experience students
The AMD A Musicianship, Sight Singing, and Theory Workbook	Peter Susser	\$17.99		Integrated
The Norton and Anthology of Drama, Shorter Third Edition	J. Ellen Gainor, Stanton B. Garner Jr., Martin Puchner	\$74.99	ISBN: 978-0-393-283-50-1	Required for studio

ALL PROGRAMS: REQUIRED ATTIRE AND FOOTWEAR FOR MOVEMENT AND DANCE COURSES

Below you will find the attire required for movement and dance courses within each program. On the first day of class, be sure to follow the guidelines on the syllabus. Instructors will announce in class if they will permit you to wear other colors or items. You may already own some of the items listed, so be sure to bring them with you.

Though some language is gendered, students are encouraged to wear items that best fit their identity. Most items are available for purchase at the AMDA Student Store: amdastudentstore.com.

Please note that students in all programs will take a Dance & Movement/ Theatre Dance course during their first semester, while Integrated and Dance Theatre students can expect to take other listed disciplines within their program.



THEATRE DANCE/DANCE & MOVEMENT

ACTING FOR CAMERA, STUDIO, INTEGRATED, & DANCE THEATRE

Character shoes or jazz oxfords; leotard with tights or form fitting tank/tee with form fitting leggings or jazz pants. Required during later semesters: Black Rehearsal or Character Skirt (knee-length and circular, 24" in length is recommended).

BALLET

INTEGRATED & DANCE THEATRE

Leotard with tights that match ballet slippers, form fitting tank/tee with tights that match ballet slippers, or form fitting tank/tee with form fitting leggings. Skirts will not be worn in AMDA ballet classes. *Pointe shoes are recommended only for Dance Theatre students who already own them.*

JAZZ

INTEGRATED, DANCE THEATRE & STUDIO

Leotard with tights that match jazz oxfords or form fitting tank/tee with form fitting leggings or jazz pants (no bell bottoms or baggy legs).

TAP

INTEGRATED & DANCE THEATRE

Leotard with tights or form fitting tank/tee with form fitting leggings or jazz pants (no bell bottoms or baggy legs).

MODERN TECHNIQUE/IMPROVISATION

DANCE THEATRE

Leotard and footless or transition tights or form fitting tank top with leggings or fitted jazz pants.

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

DANCE THEATRE

Sneakers with clothing that the dancer can move in easily.

THEATRICAL GYMNASTICS

DANCE THEATRE

Leotard and footless or transition tights or form fitting tank top with leggings or fitted jazz pants. Sneakers may be worn.

HIP-HOP & HEELS

DANCE THEATRE

Leotard and tights or form fitting tank top with leggings or fitted jazz pants. Sneakers, as well as heels or boots (minimum 2" heel) will be required for students of all genders.

*Jazz is offered as an elective within the Studio program.



Convertible/Transition Tights: Recommended for wear with leotards; to be worn inside the shoe or slipper. Transition opening allows the tights to be worn as a full foot or footless and should be the same color as the shoes or slippers you are wearing in class.

Black Full-Length Dance Theatre Tights: Recommended for male dancers. Must be worn inside the shoe or slipper. Must be “men’s tights,” which are thicker than “women’s tights.” An elastic waistband with suspenders is recommended to keep tights in place.

Solid Black Leotards and Form-Fitting Tees/Tanks: While some instructors may permit other colors, black will be required for midterm and final performance days. Dance shorts may be permitted at instructor’s discretion.

Supportive Undergarments, including dance belts, sports bras, etc. as needed. Multiple straps should not be visible. If students are unfamiliar with the function of a dance belt, we recommend this resource:

<https://dancejox.com/purpose-of-dance-belts>

All shoes should be black or skin-toned with the exception of ballet slippers, which may be pink.

Character Shoes can be either oxford or heeled. Oxford style should be black. For heeled style, the shoe should be black or skin-toned and have either a single strap or T-strap that buckles over the instep. Heels must be a minimum of two inches. Rubber must be added to the bottom sole, which can be done at any shoe repair shop. Bracing heels for additional support is recommended.

Tap Shoes can be either oxford or heeled, and should have regular solid taps with no jingle. Heeled shoes should have either a single strap or T-strap that buckles over the instep. Heels should be between two inches and two and a half inches.

Jazz Oxfords can be either lace-up or slip-on.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION AT AMDA

AMDA is committed to dismantling existing structures that historically exclude and oppress minoritized groups. This commitment requires each of us to take responsibility to actively grow and preserve AMDA's diverse community and culture. AMDA will actively elevate and prioritize equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging in our curriculum, creative productions, services, and administration. Most crucially, we will continue to work towards the recruitment, retention, and advancement of students, faculty, and staff from underrepresented populations in higher education and the performing arts.

As an integral part of our mission, AMDA expects all of its community members to exemplify the following principles:

Accountability: We build trust with others by following through on our mission and commitments. We endeavor to normalize giving and receiving feedback in the inevitable areas of growth in this work and continue to confront implicit biases and systems of oppression.

Collaboration: We acknowledge that our work is a shared responsibility and we best achieve our goals when we work together in an effort to create a more equitable and inclusive campus.

Innovation: We empower our community to define and own their unique artistry, connecting our personal experiences to our creative work. Through intentional representation, narrative reframing, and personal agency, we allow the art we create to increase our understanding of one another.

Integrity: We live our institutional values in our work across campuses and with each other. We show up authentically when challenged, and acknowledge that part of our wholeness is the continuation of growth and learning.

Transparency: We develop healthy relationships by sharing information, policies, and procedures openly with each campus and with each other, while protecting confidentiality where needed.

AMDA recognizes that honoring this commitment requires us to create and maintain campus resources, offer frequent EDI-focused learning opportunities and establish consistent and clear systems of accountability for all community members. Accordingly, AMDA rejects and condemns all forms of harassment, wrongful discrimination and disrespect, and expects that this core value will be reflected in the behaviors of all its employees and students.

THE OFFICE OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI) is committed to and responsible for institution-wide leadership to build, strengthen, and sustain a culturally conscious and responsive environment. The office provides resources, coaching, consultation, and strategies to help lead the college and conservatory and its diverse community toward a more equitable and just future through policy, classroom practices, activities and addressing workplace climate.

STAFF

CHIANTI C. BLACKMON (she/her/ella)

VICE PRESIDENT OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

HANNAH ENENBACH (she/her)

DIRECTOR OF ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES/
ADA COORDINATOR

STEPHANIE HARING (she/her)

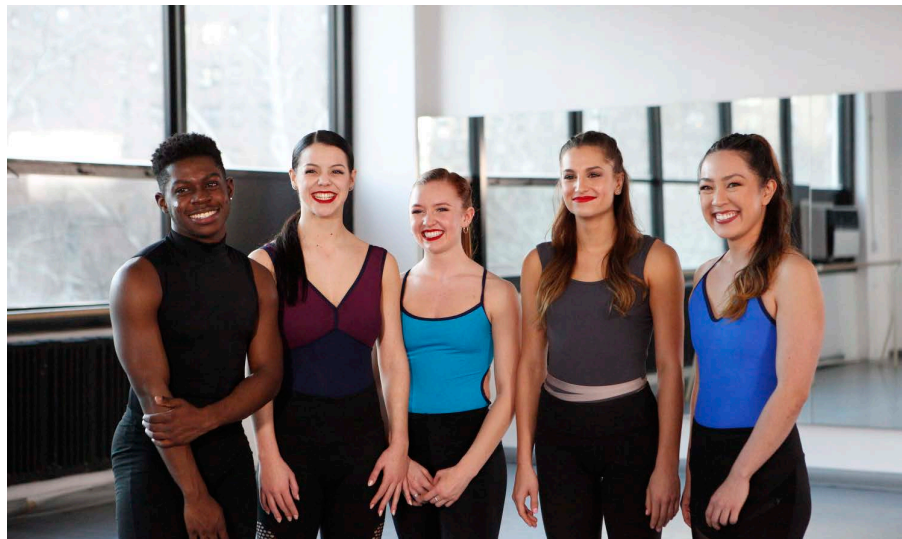
DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND EQUITY

AVERY PEARSALL (he/him)

STUDENT DIVERSITY & ACCESS SPECIALIST

PHILOSOPHY AND STANDARDS REGARDING CASTING PRACTICES

At AMDA, we are committed to creating and upholding the best standards and practices regarding casting for our students in our classrooms, on our stages, and for our on-camera work. We hope one day soon to see these standards and practices realized across platforms for performing artists including Broadway, national and international stages, film and television. [Click here to view our full casting policy.](#)



REPORTING HATE-BIAS INCIDENTS

A hate-bias incident is a hostile act of conduct, speech, or expression motivated, in whole or in part, by intolerance, bias, or prejudice against another. Unlike a hate crime, the hostile act is not a criminal act; like a hate crime, the hostile act is motivated by prejudice. It differs from a hate crime in that no criminal activity is involved but its effect is to discriminate, demean, embarrass, assign stereotype, harass, or exclude individuals because of their identities, including but not limited to: race, ethnicity, national origin, language, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, or religion.

It should be noted that the mere expression of viewpoints and disagreements on political or social issues as protected under the First Amendment, and which does not create a material disruption to the operations of AMDA or the rights of individuals, does not constitute a hate-bias incident.

AMDA is committed to addressing incidents of hate-bias and needs your assistance in bringing these incidents to our attention. To report information about hate-bias related incidents [please submit this form](#). By documenting incidents, we can better protect and educate our community, and best enable the college and conservatory to prevent this behavior and to address it properly when it occurs.

If you have any questions about the form, its use, or the Hate-Bias Incident Protocol, please contact Chianti Blackmon, Vice President of the Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion at cblackmon@amda.edu. Once an incident is reported, you will receive an acknowledgement of the report either from the Vice President of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, or from one of their designees, within 3 business days, wherein they will notify you of next steps and available resources.





HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Student Health Insurance (SHIP)

AMDA requires that all full-time students maintain active health insurance to cover medical diagnosis and treatment. This year, AMDA will not be providing a Student Health Insurance Plan, and all students are required to submit proof of adequate health insurance on their own. For assistance finding a health insurance plan please email Insurance@amda.edu.

Whether it's a physical or a psychological need, health insurance provides vital resources to ensure AMDA students are healthy in body and mind for continued success in their education. We have multiple health care providers on campus who can assist with the referral process, if needed.

Mental Health Counseling

AMDA offers free mental health services with licensed Mental Health Counselors to help meet the emotional and psychological needs of our students. Some of these services include individual sessions (30-40 minutes long) and help with referrals. Our goal is to create a campus environment that facilitates the health and well-being of all of our students while advancing our academic and performance mission. Please email counselorNY@amda.edu to get in contact with a licensed Mental Health Counselor or to make an appointment.

- AMDA NY's Mental Health Counselors offer remote counseling sessions on a video platform
- Counselors may be available in person for urgent matters. Their offices are located on the 4th Floor of the 61st street building.
- Video sessions will be offered through a HIPAA-compliant platform. Limits of confidentiality will be discussed with each student during the first session
- Mental Health Counselors will remain available by email to schedule sessions, answer questions, and assist with referrals

Athletic Performance Services: Physical Health & Wellness (COVID Adjusted)

Our Athletic Performance team provides free injury consultation, injury prevention, and performance enhancement services. Our mission is to empower

students to become active participants in their well-being and support a vibrant, healthy and engaged campus community. Please email NYHealth@amda.edu to get in contact with an Athletic Trainer or schedule an appointment.

- NY Athletic Training Services will be available for injury prevention, new injury evaluation and management, strength and conditioning programming as well as general health and nutrition concern support.

Health & Wellness Center: Nursing Services

The primary goal of our nursing service is to promote the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of each student so they can achieve academic success. Please email NYHealth@amda.edu to get in contact with our nurse or to schedule an appointment. Our nurse provides the following services:

- First Aid
- Emergency Care
- Injury Assessment
- Referral's
- Wellness Management
- Health Education

Off Campus Community Resource Locations

Northwell Health-GoHealth Urgent Care is located a few blocks from AMDA's Stratford Arms building; AMDA has a relationship with their physicians. This facility – open 7 days a week – is ideal for common illnesses, injuries and minor emergencies. It is fully equipped with x-ray machines and other equipment necessary for immediate evaluation. They accept SHIP and most major providers.

NY Counseling Center

160 West End Avenue, Suit 1N, New York, NY 10023
(212) 362-1086
www.nycgs.com

CityMD West 88th Urgent Care

2398 Broadway, New York, NY 10024
(212) 721-2111
www.citymd.com

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES



For emergencies requiring more than a primary care physician or an urgent care center, **Mt. Sinai Roosevelt Hospital** is located two blocks from our main campus at 58th Street and Amsterdam Ave. Please speak with Student Affairs during Orientation for additional resources for pre-existing medical, mental health, and specialist needs or concerns.

J's Cleaners has been providing full-service dry cleaning in New York City for over 30 years. They process all clothes in their state-of-the-art facility and offer services such as, dry cleaning, wash and fold, pick up service and more. All AMDA students will receive a 20% discount for any services provided by J's Cleaners.

J Cleaners

155 West 70th Street (and Broadway)

New York, NY 10023

212-501-9431

GETTING TO AMDA

FROM REGIONAL AIRPORTS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

From LaGuardia and JFK Airports

TAXI OR YELLOW CAB: A cab should cost approximately \$45-\$60 plus tip and tolls to get to AMDA. All cabs originating from JFK to Manhattan have a set flat rate of \$52 plus tolls and tip. Cabs originating from LaGuardia will run on the meter and should cost approximately \$45. Depending on the best available route your driver might have to go over a toll bridge or through a tunnel, which should cost approximately an additional \$8.00-\$13.00. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare. Cabs should only be picked up at designated cabstands.. *Do not accept a ride from a driver who solicits you outside of a cabstand or is not a NYC Yellow cab driver.*

UBER / LYFT: these apps will charge you around \$65. From LGA, the price comes down to around \$50. The prices will vary depending on the demand when you request your car and the traffic during that specific time.

PRIVATE CAR COMPANY OR LIMO SERVICE: There are many private companies through which you can arrange a curbside or baggage claim area pickup. It is advisable to ask for a rate in advance when scheduling the pick-up. Two companies you might contact are High Bridge at 212.927.4600 or Dial-7 Car Service at 212.777.7777. Many others are available and can be found online.

SUBWAY OR PUBLIC BUS: Cost and instructions of use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](https://www.mta.info).

FROM LAGUARDIA: Take the M60 Bus and ask the driver for a transfer to the "A" train at 125th Street. Take the "A" train Downtown and exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street.

FROM JFK: Take the "A" train to Manhattan. Exit the train at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street.

From Penn Station

TAXI OR YELLOW CAB: A cab should cost approximately \$25 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

SUBWAY: Take the "A" train Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](https://www.mta.info).

From Port Authority Bus Terminal:

TAXI OR YELLOW CAB: A cab should cost approximately \$20 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

SUBWAY: Take the "A" train headed Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](https://www.mta.info).

From Grand Central Terminal:

TAXI OR YELLOW CAB: A cab should cost approximately \$30 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

SUBWAY: Take the "S" (Shuttle) train to 42nd Street/Port Authority. Then transfer to the "A" train headed Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](https://www.mta.info).

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO AMDA NEW YORK CITY

Approaching from the South or West

1. Take I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike) to the Lincoln Tunnel (Exit 16E)
2. Go thru the Lincoln Tunnel (toll)
3. Exit to the left 40th Street/ West Side Highway (Joe DiMaggio Hwy)
4. Follow signs to West Side Highway North (follow Dyer Ave and turn left onto 42nd Street)
5. Follow 42nd Street to the entrance of the West Side Highway North.
6. Exit West Side Highway at 79th Street (exit is to the right)
7. Turn right onto West End Avenue to 61st Street
8. Turn left onto 61st Street

Approaching from the Northwest

1. Take I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike) south to the George Washington Bridge
2. Go over the George Washington Bridge (toll)
3. Exit onto Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway/ 178th Street
4. Merge onto Henry Hudson Parkway/ Rt. 9A South
5. Take the West 79th Street exit
6. Go around rotary to West 79th Street
7. Turn right onto West End Avenue
8. Turn left onto 61st Street

Approaching from the Northeast

1. Take I-95 South/ I-678 South
2. Take Exit 6A (towards the George Washington/ Whitestone Bridge)
3. Merge left onto I-95/ Cross Bronx Expressway
4. Exit at the Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway (towards 181st Street)
5. Take Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway South
6. Take the West 79th Street exit
7. Go around rotary to West 79th Street
8. Turn right onto West End Avenue
9. Turn left onto 61st Street

Parking

Street parking is at your own risk. Please read parking signs carefully! NYC tows illegally parked cars frequently and parking/towing fines are considerable. Garages are located near AMDA housing and main campus.



Helpful Hints When Driving or Cabbing in New York City

Most streets in Manhattan (at least the ones on the Upper West Side) are set up as a grid. Most avenues run north or south. Broadway is an avenue that runs both north and south. Streets run east to west. Generally, even numbered streets run west to east; odd numbered streets run east to west. They are numbered sequentially south to north from 1 to 214 (in Manhattan). For example 42nd Street is 30 blocks south of 72nd Street. AMDA is located at 211 West 61st Street between West End Avenue and Amsterdam. West End Avenue runs north and south; Amsterdam runs only north.

AMDA is located on the Upper West Side. Manhattan is divided into two halves or sides by 5th Avenue (below 59th Street) and Central Park (Above 59th Street). This creates the East Side and the West Side. Addresses therefore read as 112 West 72nd Street or 222 East 59th Street. These two locations are on opposite sides of town. The lower the building number, the closer to the center dividing line the location will be. Building addresses increase as they get further from the east/west divide.

When looking for any location (e.g. a restaurant or hotel) make sure to ask for cross streets. Finding a location is simple when you know the cross streets involved. Two examples: AMDA is located on 61st Street between Amsterdam and West End Avenue. The Stratford Residence is located on 70th Street between Broadway and Columbus Ave. The Amsterdam Residence is located on 85th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam.



AREA HOTELS

The following is a list of some hotels near AMDA. You are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible. You may also visit websites that list availability of hotels and room rates, such as: [hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com), [expedia.com](https://www.expedia.com), and [roomkey.com](https://www.roomkey.com).

Comfort Inn Central Park West

31 West 71st Street
New York, NY 10023
(212) 721-4770
[comfortinn.com](https://www.comfortinn.com)

Fairfield Inn and Suites

538 West 58th Street,
New York, NY 10019
(212) 757-8550
[marriott.com](https://www.marriott.com)

[*Click for AMDA Discount Rate](#)

Hotel Belleclaire

250 West 77th Street
New York, NY 10024
(212) 453-4036
[hotelbellclaire.com](https://www.hotelbellclaire.com)

Salisbury Hotel New York City

123 W 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
(1800) 760-7718
[nycsalisbury.com](https://www.nycsalisbury.com)

Washington Jefferson Hotel

318 W 51st Street
New York, NY 10019
(212) 246-8458
<http://www.wjhotel.com>

Warwick New York

65 West 54th Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 247-2700
<http://www.warwickhotels.com>

Newton

2528 Broadway
New York, New York 10025
(212) 678-6500
<https://www.thehotelnewton.com>

Hotel Beacon

2130 Broadway
New York, NY 10023
(212) 787-1100
[beaconhotel.com](https://www.beaconhotel.com)

The Jane Hotel

113 Jane Street
New York, NY 10014
<http://www.thejanenyc.com/>

Hotel 309

309 W. 14th Street
New York, NY 10014
<http://www.hotel309.com/>

Chelsea Pines Inn

317 W 14th St, New York, NY 10014
www.chelseapinesinn.com

CONTACTS

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

When mailing or contacting the AMDA New York Admissions Office, please use the information provided below:

211 W. 61st Street
New York, NY 10023
(800) 367-7908

Rosa Chapa • Assistant Director of Admissions
rchapa@amda.edu (212) 957-3311

Robert Gorrie • Director of Enrollment Services
rgorrie@amda.edu (917) 921-6231

Sue-Yenn Ng • Senior Admissions Advisor
sng2@amda.edu (212) 957-3383

Ashton Williams • Senior Admissions Advisor
awilliams@amda.edu (212) 957-3310

Caitlin Fell • Admissions Advisor
cfell@amda.edu (917) 522-9758

Robert Michaels • Admissions Advisor
rmichaels@amda.edu (646) 430-1359

STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE

Vianni Kelso • Student Affairs and Orientation Coordinator
NYOrientation@amda.edu

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS

Leslie Cummings • Director of International Student Affairs
InternationalNY@amda.edu (646) 830-1162

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

The Office of the Registrar at AMDA is dedicated to delivering exceptional and efficient service to students,

faculty, and staff. Our unwavering mission is to ensure accessibility and timeliness in all our interactions.

During your entire journey at AMDA, our Office stands ready to be your reliable companion. With a team of dedicated professionals, we are here to provide invaluable assistance in various areas. From seamless registration processes to program changes or transfers, enrollment verifications to transcript requests, and even certification inquiries, we are committed to supporting our students every step of the way.

Moreover, we are more than just a service provider. We serve as a knowledgeable resource for all inquiries related to academic records and AMDA's academic policies. Our expertise enables us to guide and empower students throughout their entire academic journey, from enrollment to graduation, and even beyond.

Our esteemed members of our New York Registrar Staff are:

Yamil Rivera • Registrar Coordinator
Wyatt-Sepa Newell • Registrar Coordinator
Stephanie Hock Logan • Assistant Registrar
Tara Kent • Director, Office of the Registrar

You may contact the NY Registrar at NYRegistrar@amda.edu or (212) 957-3319

Class and Room Scheduling

Your class schedule and rehearsal room reservations will be made available via the Student Portal in the Class Schedule menu option. You will access the Enterprise Portal which will show your schedule and options to Self Book any rehearsal space options. Specific policies around room reservations and exactly how to access our schedule will be covered during the "Scheduling Services and Registration" seminar during Orientation.

A man wearing a light-colored fedora, a purple blazer, a pink shirt, and a patterned bow tie is captured in a dynamic dance pose. He is pointing his right index finger towards the camera. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and purple gradient.

CONNECT WITH AMDA

VISIT: 211 West 61st Street, New York, NY 10023

CALL: 800.367.7908

LEARN MORE: amda.edu

LIKE US: facebook.com/amdanyla

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @AMDAofficial

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: @AMDAofficial

WATCH: amda.edu/videos
