

A man with a surprised expression, wearing a light-colored fedora, a red shirt, a patterned bow tie, and a dark blue jacket, is pointing his right index finger towards the viewer. He is standing against a solid blue background.

# AMDA

**2020 NEW YORK CITY**  
**Welcome and Orientation Guide**  
New York Experience/LA Transfer Students



# CONTACTS

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

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**INSIDER  
TIP**

**Visit every borough:  
The Bronx, Manhattan, Queens,  
Brooklyn and Staten Island!**



## Welcome to AMDA New York

**We are eagerly awaiting your arrival on campus!**

This will serve as your orientation guide for the weekend as well as a guide to the city and upcoming events.

During orientation you will move-in, register, be introduced to AMDA's campus and student life, and take your first steps as a New Yorker on the Upper West Side. We encourage you to bring this guide with you during 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 a member of the AMDA NY Student Personnel team.

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**For additional orientation schedule information, visit:**  
**[amda.edu/student-life#orientation](https://amda.edu/student-life#orientation)**



# CAMPUS MAP

- 1 61<sup>ST</sup> Street (Main Campus)**  
211 West 61<sup>st</sup> Street
- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>CLASSROOMS, OFFICES, STUDENT SERVICES</b> | <b>2nd FLOOR:</b>                |
| <b>CLASSROOMS:</b>                           | Student Lounge                   |
| Rooms 100 - 407/408                          | Vending Machines                 |
| Voice Rooms: 2A - 4F                         | <b>3rd FLOOR:</b>                |
| <b>1st FLOOR:</b>                            | Student Lounge                   |
| Media Room                                   | AMDA Café                        |
| Performance Theatres (101 & 104)             | <b>4th FLOOR:</b>                |
| Reception                                    | Library                          |
| Room Reservations                            | Student Store                    |
|  | Student Success and LMHC Offices |
- 2 W. 54<sup>TH</sup> Street**  
421 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES</b> | IT                     |
| Admissions                    | Financial Aid          |
| Education Services            | Int'l Student Services |
| Student Accounts              |                        |
- 3 The Ansonia**  
2109 Broadway, Entrance on 73<sup>rd</sup> Street
- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>CLASSROOMS, OFFICES</b>     | Reception, Room Reservations |
| <b>CLASSROOMS:</b>             | Student Employment Office    |
| Studio 1-6                     |                              |
| Voice Rooms: 3A - 3D           |                              |
| Performance Theatre (Studio 1) |                              |
- 4 The Stratford Arms Residential Hall**  
117 West 70<sup>th</sup> Street
- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <b>CLASSROOMS, OFFICES, STUDENT HOUSING</b> | <b>AMENITIES:</b>       |
| <b>CLASSROOMS:</b>                          | 24 Hour Security        |
| SA1, SA2                                    | Hideaway Lounge         |
| <b>1st FLOOR:</b>                           | Outdoor Patio Space     |
| Office of Student Affairs                   | Communal Kitchen        |
| Reception                                   | CWC Snackford Arms Café |
| Room Reservations                           | Laundry Room            |
- 5 The Amsterdam Residential Hall**  
207 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street
- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>STUDENT HOUSING</b> | Vending Machines      |
| <b>AMENITIES:</b>      | Communal Kitchen      |
| 24 Hour Security       | Laundry Room          |
| Student Lounge         | CWC Snacksterdam Café |
- 6 Shetler Studios**  
244 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street
- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>CLASSROOMS</b>  | 12th Floor Studios |
| <b>CLASSROOMS:</b> | Penthouse Studios  |
| 11th Floor Studios |                    |

Student Campus Map - Updated February 2020



## INFORMATION

Please refer to the following sources for more information regarding AMDA policies and student life.

### HOUSING LICENSE

Complete policies for those residing in AMDA housing, including those regarding guests, roommates, keys, security, maintenance, and conduct.

### AMDA CATALOG

The Catalog is the primary source of information on academic life at AMDA: academic policies, financial aid and student accounts, program information, and course descriptions.

### STUDENT HANDBOOK

The essential guide for student life at AMDA, the handbook contains information on living in the city, transportation, AMDA departments and resources, and our Code of Conduct. All student are required to complete the Student Handbook and Course Catalogue Acknowledgement Form before the first day of class.

You will either receive copies of these publications or can download them from [amda.edu](http://amda.edu).

# MOVE-IN AND HOUSING

AMDA residence halls are located on the prestigious Upper West Side of Manhattan where students have access to city markets (including Zabar's, Fairway, Whole Foods and Trader Joe's), the American Museum of Natural History, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the famed Lincoln Center—home of the Metropolitan Opera and New York Philharmonic—and of course the Broadway Theatre District.

## AMDA New York Residence Life

We're excited you've chosen to live on campus! 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, caring group of Resident Advisors to guide you every step of the way.

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.

Both 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.

Common areas are cleaned twice daily, and both residential halls have comfortable lounge spaces, Wi-Fi, cooking and laundry facilities.

Our two AMDA Student Residential buildings are historic buildings converted from residential hotels. New York City housing regulations require that when a residence building undergoes a change in ownership and tenancy, the original residents may choose to stay in their housing units. Therefore, in each of the AMDA Residential Halls, there are a small number of original tenants living in their original apartments.

## Move-In Day

We want to make your move as exciting (and stress-free) as possible! Move-in takes place either the Wednesday or Thursday before the first day of class. Upon your arrival, Resident Advisors will help unload cars. Please

move your car as quickly as possible after unloading; do not double park or block traffic. The residence halls are on quiet residential streets; we strive to minimize disruption to our neighbors. Nearby parking garages are listed on [upperwest.com/parking-garages](http://upperwest.com/parking-garages).

You'll be given a move-in form and your room key when you check in. Students will drop off their belongings in their room and head directly to Orientation Registration. Don't worry—you'll have plenty of time to unpack later! Double-check your room, note anything that needs attention on the move-in form, and immediately bring it to the front desk. This form helps us document who's moved in and any maintenance the room might need.



**THE STRATFORD ARMS:** Once a famed hotel, the "Strat" is located one block from Central Park. This 10-story building offers a communal kitchen, a Kitchen with Corey satellite location, expansive outdoor patio space, as well as dance and acting rehearsal studios.



**THE AMSTERDAM:** The "Dam" is a short walk from Central Park in one direction, or Riverside Park in the other! This building offers a communal kitchen, a Kitchen with Corey satellite location, and a lounge space where students can study and relax.

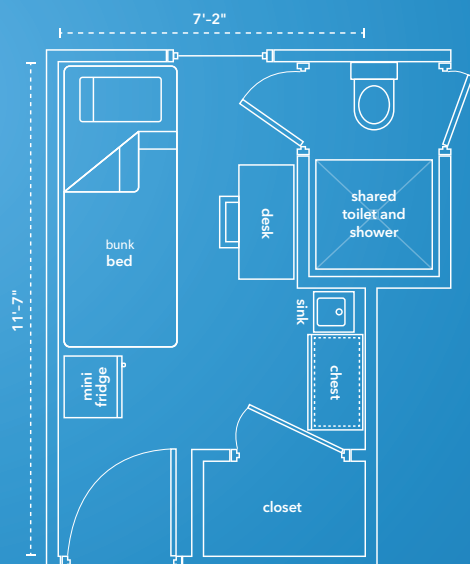


# Typical Room Configurations

Both buildings offer rooms which include a normal twin-sized bed (not extra-long), dressers, desk and chair (on request), sink, mini refrigerator, air conditioner and closet. Please pack accordingly and leave drawer space for your roommate, if you arrive first. Do not bring personal furniture. For any questions regarding this, please contact the NY Housing Manager.

## THE STRATFORD ARMS

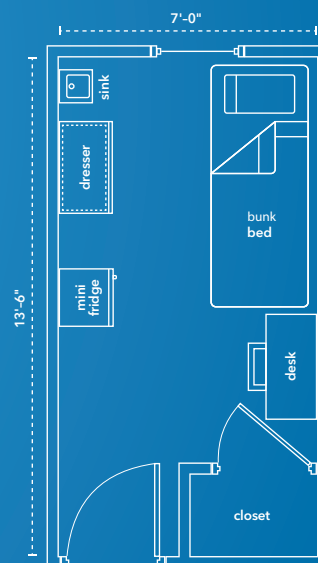
117 West 70th Street, New York, NY, 10023



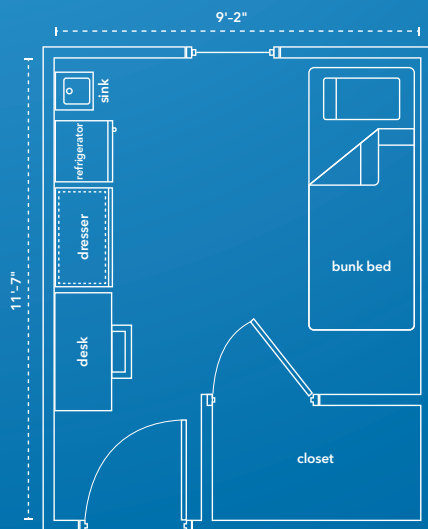
Stratford Arms Room Option: (blueprint)  
83 sq. ft.

## THE AMSTERDAM

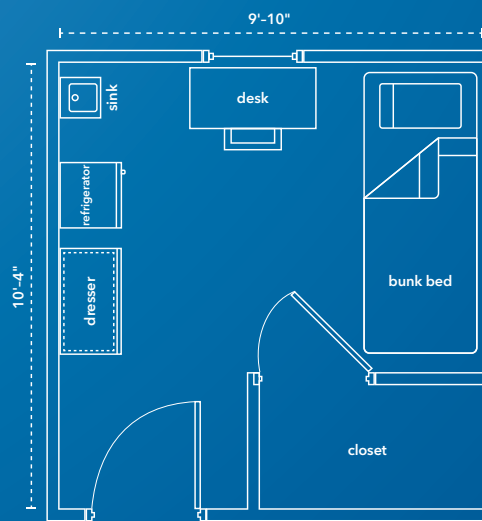
207 West 85th Street, New York, NY, 10024



Amsterdam Room Option: (blueprint)  
94.5 sq. ft.



Stratford Arms Room Option: (blueprint)  
106 sq. ft.



Amsterdam Room Option: (blueprint)  
101.6 sq. ft.

Size of rooms, location of furniture, closets, and other details may vary from sample floorplans above.

We encourage students to live with other students in order to promote a sense of community, while also aiding in the adjustment of living in a new setting.

# SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PLAN (SFP)



**AMDA NY has three on-site cafés (The 61st Street Cafe is pictured above) that serve grab-n-go options everyday!**

AMDA recognizes that being a student in higher education can be stressful - *and costly* - and being hungry may only add on to the stress. We have a solution to ease these concerns.

AMDA New York's Supplemental Food Plan for students! While this declining balance meal plan isn't meant to carry you day-and-night, it's a great way to ensure that you're able to have a meal and/or snack(s) on campus throughout your busy day of classes and rehearsals. **AMDA New York requires all 1<sup>st</sup> year students to be enrolled in the Supplemental Food Plan (SFP).**

AMDA New York currently has three on-site cafés, powered by *Cookin' with Corey*, an independently owned and operated full catering food plan service. Two of these cafés are located in our Residential Halls and the third is located on the 3rd floor at the 61<sup>st</sup> Street location! All Locations offer breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack options, as well as toiletries and other res life essentials! Vegetarian, Vegan and Gluten Free options are also available. Forms of payment: AMDA SFP Card, card, cash and credit card.

For more information on SFP, please visit this



**THE SNACKFORD ARMS CAFÉ**



**THE SNACKSTERDAM CAFÉ**



# ARRIVAL ON 61<sup>ST</sup> ST. CAMPUS

The Office of Student Affairs organizes several orientation activities designed to help new first year and transfer students become acquainted with AMDA, The Office of Student Success, program coordinators and classmates. Because the orientation program is key to successful transition to AMDA, **participation is required.**

## Welcome Table

You will receive your orientation packet and weekend schedule, a welcome bag, and your group assignment.

## Admissions

This will be your last chance to turn in any missing documents. Admissions will have copies of forms. In order to expedite the registration process, please be sure that you have mailed in all documents before you arrive. All students are required to submit their official final high school transcript and complete medical record with immunization history prior to arriving for orientation.

## Financial Aid

Please make sure to complete your Stafford Entrance Counseling and Stafford MPN (Master Promissory Note) at [www.studentloans.gov](http://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 Student Accounts 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.

## Office of Accessibility

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 provide accommodations that remove access barriers and allow every student to reach their fullest potential. To meet with Accessibility Services, please call 323-603-5984, or email [NYAccessibility@amda.edu](mailto: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

## Student Store

A temporary student store is set up during Orientation so that students may be photographed for their Student Identification Cards and may purchase textbooks, dancewear, and school merchandise. Please note that you will need your textbooks for the first day of class. Cash and all major credit cards will be accepted for purchases.

## International Students

International student check-in is a chance for AMDA's International Student Advisors to meet with international students individually prior to the start of classes.

**NOTE: You will need to bring your I-20, passport and visa with you to the international student check-in.**

The International Student Registration table will retrieve and print your I-94 number. If you would like to retrieve your I-94 number before registration, you may do so at <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html>. Your number will be available 24 hours after your arrival in the United States. There will be a scheduled meeting for all new international students and their parents during orientation. It will be part of your orientation schedule.



## FOR THE PARENTS: AMDA ADMINISTRATION Q&A

Parents, family and guests are invited to a Q&A reviewing what to expect and introducing some important members of the AMDA Administration. An informal reception follows. ***This session is not mandatory.***

# PREPARING FOR SUCCESS: READY FOR THE WEEKEND & 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.

## ATTIRE FOR ORIENTATION

Because the AMDA experience reflects a professional environment, students must maintain a neutral appearance for orientation and all class sessions. Remember that you are presenting yourself for the first time as a student to the members of the AMDA faculty and administration. Clothing should be age-appropriate and professional. Long hair should be worn up or pulled away from your face. No excessive body ornamentation is permitted. All jewelry, including body piercings, must be removed. Hair coloring of an extreme nature is not appropriate. Flip-flops are not permitted.

## INTEGRATED STUDENTS

**MUSICAL THEATRE:** Be prepared to sing either a memorized 32 bar or one-minute song selection from the musical theatre or classical repertoire during orientation. You are encouraged to present the same song you performed for your admissions audition, although the song must be shortened to the required length. Please remember to bring sheet music in your key and in a 3-ring binder. A professional accompanist will run your song for you in preparation for your musical theatre class.

**Musicianship Placement:** Prior to your arrival on campus you will be required to take an online sight-singing/

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 at [www.amda.edu/student-life/new-york-orientation/voice-sheet](http://www.amda.edu/student-life/new-york-orientation/voice-sheet)

**Dance Placement:** During the first week of class, you will be asked to demonstrate basic steps and techniques in a series of combinations that are suited for your level and experience in each dance discipline. No preparation is necessary. AMDA offers beginner, intermediate and advanced classes in most dance disciplines. Appropriate clothing and shoes are required. Please see the Dance Attire page for details.

## DANCE THEATRE STUDENTS

**DANCE PLACEMENT:** During the first week of class, you will be asked to demonstrate basic steps and techniques in a series of combinations that are suited for your level and experience in each dance discipline. No preparation is necessary. AMDA offers beginning, intermediate and advanced classes in most dance disciplines. Appropriate clothing and shoes are required. Please see the **Dance Attire** page for details.

## STUDIO STUDENTS

**Studio students are required to make their elective selection prior to arrival.**

**MONOLOGUE PREPARATION:** You will be required to present one memorized monologue during orientation. Monologues should be one minute in length and should be from a published play. You are encouraged to present one of the same pieces from your audition for admission, although the monologues must be shortened to one minute. It may be helpful to bring a copy of your monologue.



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

All students are required to have the appropriate **dance attire**. Below you will find the attire items required for each program. Colored tops or bottoms may be permitted in class, but only at the teacher's discretion. On the first day of class, be sure to follow the guidelines on the **Day One Sheet** and your teacher will announce in class if he or she 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.



MALE IDENTIFYING	
REQUIRED ITEM WITH DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Black or White Fitted Tank Top or T-Shirt*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Full-length Jazz Pants or Similar Form-Fitting Pants*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Character Shoes</b> Rubber must be added to the bottom sole, which can be done at any shoe repair shop.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Jazz Oxfords, either lace-up or slip-on</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Tap Shoes</b> Tap shoes should have regular solid taps with no jingle.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Ballet Slippers</b>	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Full-Length Dance Theatre Tights*</b> Must be worn inside 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.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Dance Belt</b> This is not a belt, but a supportive undergarment required for men in dance attire.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre

\*Available for purchase at the AMDA Student Store.



## FEMALE IDENTIFYING

REQUIRED ITEM WITH DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Black Leotard*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Rehearsal or Character Skirt*</b> Skirt should be knee-length and circular, 24" in length is recommended.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Character Shoes</b> Character shoes should 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.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Tap Shoes</b> Tap shoes should have regular solid taps with no jingle and 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.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Jazz Oxfords, either lace-up or slip-on</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black, Tan or Pink Ballet Slippers</b>	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black, Pink, or Tan Convertible/Transition Tights</b> Transition opening allows the tight to be worn as a full foot or footless and must be the same color of the shoes or slippers you are wearing in class.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Proper Bra or Supportive Undergarment</b> Multiple straps should not be visible	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Pointe Shoes</b>	Dance Theatre; recommended only if you already have Pointe shoes.

\*Available for purchase at the AMDA Student Store.



# REQUIRED 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)

## RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- daily planner (can be electronic)
- Yoga Mat Strap
- Smart phone or Tablet/Laptop Device
- rolling carry-on suitcase or duffle bag (to carry dancewear and/or props)
- locker rental (available at the 61st St. location via the Student Store; \$15 per semester, free for commuter students)



## 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. 3 Student copy machines are located in the Library. Other resources for locating material include NYPL, the Drama Bookshop, Inc. ([dramabookshop.com](http://dramabookshop.com)), or [Amazon](http://Amazon.com).

## Costumes and Props

For 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 costume and props used for any class work. These are suggested standard costume guidelines:

- An elegant dress outfit such as a skirt and top
- A dress and high-heeled shoes
- Sport coat or blazer, dress slacks, and black hard-soled shoes such as loafers or dress shoes

# TEXTBOOKS

You will need to have the required textbooks before the first day of classes. You are able to purchase all books at the AMDA 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. All students may need to purchase additional textbooks in their 2nd and 3rd semesters.

TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	AMDA PRICE	ISBN NUMBER	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Broadway: The American Musical</b>	Laurence Maslon & Michael Kantor	\$35.00	978-1-42349-103-3	Integrated
<b>Pocket Music Dictionary</b>	Hal Leonard	\$8.00	978-0-7935-1654-4	Integrated
<b>The AMDA Musicianship, Sight Singing, and Theory Workbook (7th Ed.)</b>	Peter M. Susser, DMA	\$15.00	Available on-campus only.	Integrated
<b>The AMDA Musicianship, Sight Singing, and Theory Workbook Vol. 2</b>	Peter M. Susser, DMA	\$10.00	Available on-campus only.	Integrated
<b>Speak With Distinction</b>	Edith Skinner	\$25.00	978-1-55783-047-0	Integrated, Studio
<b>The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama: 7th Ed.</b>	Lee A. Jacobus	\$75.00	978-1-4576-0633-5	Studio
<b>Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet, 3rd Revised Ed.</b>	Gail Grant	\$5.95	0-486-21843-0	Recommended for Dance Theatre Conservatory
<b>ACTIONS: The Actors Thesaurus</b>	Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloud-Williams	\$16.00	978-0-7935-1654-4	Recommended for all students
<b>Appreciating Dance (4th Ed.)</b>	Harriet Lihs	\$25.00	978-0871273185	Recommended for Dance Theatre Conservatory

## AMDA ONLINE STORE

<https://squareup.com/store/AMDA>

The AMDA Online Store provides you with most things necessary to be successful at AMDA. Whether you need a memorable gift or something for yourself, the AMDA Online Store will provide you with a diversified collection of apparel and a variety of dance wear. The AMDA Online Store also offers all of the textbooks required your classes.

The AMDA Online Store is only accessible during the semester. All textbooks and apparel are for purchase, on campus, during Orientation.

INSIDER TIP

*Make friends outside of AMDA! You won't believe how many interesting people you'll meet.*



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Where is AMDA New York located?**

The main AMDA facility is located at 211 West 61st St. between Amsterdam and West End avenues. The 61st Street location houses classrooms, performance spaces, the AMDA Performing Arts Library and the AMDA School Store. The main Administrative Offices are located at 421 West 54th St. between 10th and 9th Avenues, on the 2nd floor. Additionally, we have performance spaces and classrooms at the historic beaux arts Ansonia building located at 73rd and Broadway. The New York City campus is located on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, one of the most favored and safest neighborhoods in the city. Students have easy access to Central Park, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center, the New York City Ballet, the Metropolitan Opera and the Broadway Theatre District.

## **I am a Conservatory student. Do I have to move out of my assigned room at the end of the term?**

Not necessarily. Students living in AMDA housing will be required to sign a Housing License every term. Students may elect to stay in their rooms between breaks, but occasionally, the housing department may need to move students to an alternate room.

## **Are Orientation Weekend events required?**

Yes. All orientation events are mandatory for incoming students (first semester, NY Experience and LA Transfers). The agenda has been carefully planned to orient our new students to AMDA and their new home in Manhattan. **Orientation activities take place every day and students are required to attend all seminars and activities.** Please, do not schedule any other commitments during the Orientation weekend. For more information, please contact your Admissions Advisor.

## **When will I receive my class schedule?**

Class schedules will be distributed to every student during Orientation Weekend. Schedules will also be available via the Student Portal. Access to the portal and AMDA email will be given prior to arrival.

## **How do I open a bank account in New York City?**

A representative from an area bank will be available at registration to discuss personal banking options. If you decide to set up a checking or savings account, you will have an

opportunity to arrange for this service during check-in. In New York, you must be at least 18 years old and have two valid forms of ID to have a personal bank account. Students under the age of 18 should consider using an account (with an ATM/Debit card) in their hometown until they are able to set up an account in New York City.

## **When can my non-AMDA friends and family see me perform?**

All Conservatory students will have a graduation performance in their fourth term. This is the time for any outside guest to see you perform. The only other opportunity for others to see you perform would be if you were involved in Dance Workshop or the Café Series, which are auditioned-based extracurricular courses that rehearse outside of the regular class schedule. Other extracurricular opportunities are available in other disciplines, but do not necessarily have a performance component. A full list of what is available every term will be emailed to students at the beginning of the term. All extracurricular courses are free of charge.

## **How am I notified about upcoming events and important dates?**

Prior to your arrival, you will be issued information regarding AMDA email and Student Portal instructions. A weekly email from the NY Student Services Team will be sent to all students outlining upcoming events, important deadlines and special offers. It is important to check your Student Portal daily for class cancellation notifications and make-up classes.

## **Should I work first semester?**

While no job is guaranteed, it is possible to work 1st semester. The benefit to working on campus is that we understand your schedule, so can better accommodate. While students are able to work up to 20 hours per week, they can generally expect to work and average of 4-6 hours per week. If you decide/need to work, you must have original documents in order to complete paperwork. Parents who feel uncomfortable leaving original documents may bring the originals to have them copied at Orientation, and stamped. However, to work off-campus, students must have the original documents. Click here for a complete list of acceptable documents: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/acceptable-documents>. For additional information please contact Stefani Miller.

# HEALTHCARE SERVICES

## **Student Health Insurance (SHIP)**

Health insurance is required for all enrolled students. Medical diagnosis and treatment must be found outside of AMDA; except for mental health services, we do not provide onsite healthcare. To assist students with this requirement, AMDA automatically enrolls each student in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), an affordable service that offers students access to mental and physical healthcare services throughout New York City. Whether it's a physical or a psychological trauma, SHIP provides vital resources to ensure AMDA students are healthy in body and mind for continued success in their education. Plan materials can be found at [4studenthealth.com](https://4studenthealth.com). If you have questions about enrollment, please call Relation 800-955-1991.



# ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

## **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. Our goal is to create a campus environment that facilitates the health and wellbeing of all of our students while advancing our academic and performance mission. Please email [counselorNY@amda.edu](mailto:counselorNY@amda.edu) to get in contact with a licensed Mental Health Counselor or to make an appointment.

## **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](http://www.nycgs.com)

## **CityMD West 88th Urgent Care**

2398 Broadway, New York, NY 10024  
(212) 721-2111  
[www.citymd.com](http://www.citymd.com)

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 preexisting medical, mental health, and specialist needs or concerns.



# 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.*

**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.

**SHARED BUS OR VAN:** These services must be arranged in advance. They pick up from the baggage claim area and deliver to major hotels and tourist sites in Manhattan. These services start at approximately \$25 one way.

**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.



**INSIDER  
TIP**

**Read the AMDA  
e-blast every week  
for important  
information and  
discount ticket offers.**

## 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](#)

### **Hudson Hotel**

356 W 58th Street  
New York, NY 10029  
(866) 539-8430  
[hudsonhotel.com](https://www.hudsonhotel.com)

### **Hotel Belleclaire**

250 West 77th Street  
New York, NY 10024  
(212) 362-7700  
[Hotelbellclaire.com](https://www.hotelbellclaire.com)

### **Salisbury Hotel New York City**

123 W57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
(888) 692-5757  
[Nycsalisbury.com](https://www.nycsalisbury.com)

### **The Lucerne Hotel**

201 West 79th Street  
New York, NY 10024  
(800) 492-8122  
[Thelucernehotel.com](https://www.thelucernehotel.com)

### **The Watson Hotel**

440 West 57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 581-8100  
[ihg.com](https://www.ihg.com)

### **New York Inn**

765 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10036  
(212) 247-5400  
[newyorkinn.com](https://www.newyorkinn.com)

### **Hotel Beacon**

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

You may also want to consider short term rentals such as private rooms, studios, or even entire apartments. You can find rentals on these sites: [airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com), [9flats.com](https://www.9flats.com), and [roomorama.com](https://www.roomorama.com)



# SPRING 2020 – SPRING 2021

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Please refer to dates pertaining to your enrollment semester.

## SPRING 2020

**FEB 10 - MAY 22<sup>†\*</sup>**

NY 4th Term Students

**FEB 17 - MAY 29<sup>†</sup>**

NY & LA 1st - 8th  
Term Students

February 13 - February 16, 2020

Orientation <sup>†</sup>

May 23, 2020

NY Graduation\*

May 25, 2020

Memorial Day, No Classes

## SUMMER 2020

**JUNE 22 - OCT 2<sup>†\*</sup>**

NY 4th Term Students

**JUNE 29 - OCT 9<sup>†</sup>**

NY & LA 1st - 8th  
Term Students

June 25 - 28, 2020

Orientation <sup>†</sup>

July 4, 2020

Independence Day, No Classes

September 7, 2020

Labor Day, No Classes

October 3, 2020

NY Graduation\*

## FALL 2020

**OCT 12 - FEB 5<sup>†\*</sup>**

NY 4th Term Students

**OCT 19 - FEB 12<sup>†</sup>**

NY & LA 1st - 8th  
Term Students

October 14 - 18, 2020

Orientation <sup>†</sup>

November 26 - 27, 2020

Thanksgiving Break, No Classes

December 21 - January 1, 2021

Winter Break, No Classes

January 4, 2021

Classes Resume

January 18, 2021

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No Classes

February 6, 2021

NY Graduation\*

## SPRING 2021

**FEB 15 - MAY 28<sup>†\*</sup>**

NY 4th Term Students

**FEB 22 - JUNE 4<sup>†</sup>**

NY & LA 1st - 8th  
Term Students

February 18 - February 21, 2021

Orientation <sup>†</sup>

May 29, 2021

NY Graduation\*

May 31, 2021

Memorial Day, No Classes

June 5, 2021

LA Graduation

<sup>†</sup> Students must remain on campus until 6:00pm on the last day of each term.

\* 4th term end dates vary depending on production schedule. Please contact Education Services for more information.

<sup>†</sup> Orientation start dates vary depending on program. Please contact Admissions for more information.



## CONNECT WITH AMDA

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

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CALL: 800.367.7908 /// LEARN MORE: [amda.edu](http://amda.edu)

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