

LAINE

THEATRE ARTS

Policies

Statement on Academic Freedom

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Laine Theatre Arts is committed to protecting and promoting academic freedom. Academic staff at Laine Theatre Arts have freedom within the law to carry out teaching, professional practice and research, including the publication of the outcomes of research and professional practice, in a way which questions and tests established ideas and received wisdom, presents controversial or unpopular points of view and puts forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges.

In the exercise of this freedom, we acknowledge that as members of a welcoming and inclusive community we have responsibilities to each other and to the wider society to:

- Value diversity and recognise that different people bring different perspectives, ideas, knowledge and culture and that this difference brings great strength.
- Treat others with courtesy and respect, challenge inequalities, and anticipate and respond positively to different needs and circumstances.
- Respect the rights of individuals to hold different beliefs and views and to express them through appropriate contribution to discussion and academic debate.
- Communicate in ways that are clear, relevant, respectful, accurate and timely, and exemplified by transparency and constructive dialogue.

A commitment to academic freedom does not entail that every claim or viewpoint is equally worthwhile; some views will not stand up to intellectual scrutiny. Whenever possible, controversial ideas should be subject to questioning and challenged by rational argument supported by relevant evidence. Similarly, views expressed by staff and students that are contrary to the values of the Laine Theatre Arts must never be presented as if they were endorsed by the College.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version:	3
Committee Oversight:	Academic Board on 14 July 2025 and Board of Directors on 29 July 2025.
Review Interval:	1 Year
Last Review Date:	July 2025
Next Review Date:	July 2026