of recent Notre Dame Film, Television, and Theatre majors started full-time jobs, enrolled in graduate school, entered service programs, or launched independent projects within six months of graduation.

Michael Swanson ’93
Theatre major
Emmy-winning producer and studio executive

“What I loved about Arts and Letters is that I could take a variety of courses in what interested me the most. I took all kinds of English and American studies classes, knowing those would give me a well-rounded education, regardless of what I pursued. The liberal arts were a wonderful foundation from which to build.

"On my TV shows or films, it takes hundreds of people to complete a project, and everyone is different. I have to know how to communicate effectively with my team in a way that will get results. I learned that at Notre Dame, where I worked with people from all walks of life in study groups and in the classroom."

Liz Hynes ’17
FTT major
First job: Intern, The Late Show with Stephen Colbert
Now: Assistant to Stephen Colbert

“FTT’s intensive production- and theory-based curriculum enables us to prove ourselves as writers, performers, directors, and crew members. Smaller class sizes facilitate more hands-on access to resources and more meaningful relationships with professors and alumni.

"FTT required constant unconventional problem-solving, whether it was figuring out a unique approach to a paper or coordinating logistics of an early morning shoot in subzero weather. I am a more fearless, solution-oriented team player because of FTT — skills that will translate into any career.

"While some majors secure jobs well before graduation, FTT students (and their parents) should know that the nature of this industry means many positions aren’t available until the moment they need to be filled. The best thing you can do is maintain contact with any and all industry connections you make — and be patient. The day we graduated, not one of my FTT friends had a job lined up. Within two months, we were all employed — some of us at jobs we never dreamed we’d get!"