

**Job Description:** Stage Operations Intern  
**Reports To:** ATD- Show Operations Supervisor, ATD- Stage Operations Supervisor, Technical Director

**Summary:**

Des Moines Metro Opera is a major summer opera festival located in Indianola, IA. The company produces 3-4 new productions each season in a summer repertory schedule, presented within the intimate 467-seat theatre at the Blank Performing Arts Center. Our 52<sup>nd</sup> season includes a rental production of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, a new production of R. Strauss's *Salome*, a new production of Debussy's *Pelléas & Mélisande*, and a new production for the world premiere of Damien Geter and Lila Palmer's *American Apollo*.

At Des Moines Metro Opera, the Design & Production Internship is a concentrated nine-week training and work program. Over the nine weeks interns participate in talkbacks with directors, designers, and production staff. Interns also attend several classroom workshops including refining a resume and portfolio, networking, websites, freelancing, and production contracts; as well as receive hands-on instruction in skill-based workshops which include rigging for the stage, welding, and stage painting. All the while interns are working alongside 50+ staff and design members from professional theatre and production companies, helping interns expand their professional network of contacts.

At Des Moines Metro Opera, we have split our Stage Carpenters into two teams- Stage Operations and Show Operations. Stage Operations load in the scenery and work on scenic repairs. Show Operations come in later in the day to act as run crew for the show and load at after the performance. The below responsibilities may vary depending on the team.

**Principle Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Assist the Stage and Show Supervisors with notes, repairs, and modification of scenery for all Mainstage and 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Series Productions.
- Coordinate and help the Stage and Show Supervisors in the changeover of scenery.
- Coordinate with the Electrics, Properties, and Paint departments as needed during changeovers.
- If on Show Operations, act as run crew for all technical rehearsals, scene-shift rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances.
- Assist in construction of scenery as needed.
- Attend all Intern Talkback and Workshops.

**Dates of Internship:**

Tuesday, May 14 – Friday, July 26, 2024.

**Compensation:**

Daily stipend of \$75/day during the festival season.

\$300 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.

DMMO will provide single occupancy air-conditioned dormitory style housing during the festival season.

**Qualifications and Skills**

Any Combination of education and experience providing the required skill and knowledge for successful performance would be qualifying. Typical qualifications would be equivalent to:

- Currently enrolled in or graduated with BA/BFA in Theatre or equivalent professional experience.
- Knowledge of how to operate shop tools and safety procedures.
- 2 years of experience working backstage in a professional production setting
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Must be at least 18 years of age to apply.

**Application Process:**

Submit resume and Design & Production Intern Application via email to:

Production@dmmo.org

Attention: Bridget Anderson, Assistant Production Manager

**Deadline:**

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicant screening process to begin immediately.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, Des Moines Metro Opera celebrates diversity and inclusion. We do not discriminate against any employee or job applicant on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, creed, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, age, veteran status, political affiliation or philosophy. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.

