



**Job Description:** Scenic Charge  
**Reports To:** Director of Production, Scenic Designer(s)

**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 53<sup>rd</sup> season includes Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*, Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*.

**Principle Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Assist the Scenic Designer(s) in the finish painting of all scenery and properties for all productions.
- Develop a detailed inventory of painting stock before, during (seasonal purchases) and immediately after the summer season.
- Keep a detailed budget with Production Management.
- Train/assist Scenic Artists and Paint Interns as needed.
- Work in conjunction with the Director of Production and Technical Director in producing a paint schedule that will work with all departments.
- Work with the Technical Director to schedule and supervise all paint note calls before shows.
- Provide, from the Scenic Designer, design/drawings or consultations for properties and scenery as needed.
- Attend all design and production meetings.
- Lead a Scenic Painting based intern workshop.

**Dates of Employment:**

Monday, May 26 – Friday, July 25, 2025.

**Compensation:**

\$850/week during the festival season, overtime after 50 hours paid at a rate of \$20.40/hour.

\$300 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.

DMMO will provide a single occupancy room in a shared apartment during the residency period.

**Skills and Knowledge**

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

- 4+ years of experience working as a scenic artist.
- Experience working within a budget.
- Experience with foam carving and power tools.
- Minimum BA/BFA in Theatre or equivalent professional experience
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

**Physical Requirements and Working Conditions**

- Ability to lift 50 pounds unassisted or with the help of a team
- Working in an open air environment during the summer
- Ability to work at heights
- Work includes periods of standing, working in low light, climbing stairs/ladders, and working in a personnel lift

**Application Process:**

Submit resume with 3 references and cover letter via email with the subject line "Scenic Charge" to:

[Production@dmmo.org](mailto:Production@dmmo.org)

**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.