



Job Description: Stage Carpenter
Reports To: Show and Stage Operations Supervisors, ATDs, 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 53rd season includes Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*, Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*.

At DMMO, 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.
- Coordinate and help the Stage and Show Supervisors in the changeover of scenery.
- Coordinate with the Electrics and Properties 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.

Dates of Employment:

Sunday, May 11 – Friday, July 25, 2025.

Compensation:

\$650/week during the festival season, overtime after 50 hours paid at a rate of \$15.60/hour.

\$300 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.

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

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:

- Minimum BA/BFA in Theatre or equivalent professional experience.
- Extensive knowledge of how to operate shop tools and safety procedures.
- 3+ years of experience working backstage in a production setting.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions

- Ability to lift 50 pounds unassisted or with the help of a team
- Ability to work at heights
- Ability to work in an open air environment
- Ability to wear and safely use a fall arrest harness
- Ability to hold and operate hand, air, and power tools.
- Work includes periods of standing, working in low light, climbing stairs/ladders, and working in a personnel lift

Application Process:

Submit resume and cover letter via email with the subject line "Stage Carpenter" to:
Production@dmmo.org

Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicant screening process begins 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.