



DES MOINES METRO OPERA

Job Title: Associate Technical Director (2 positions available)
Reports To: Director of Production
Supervises: Head Stage Carpenter, Head Fly Operator, Properties Supervisors (1 for each production)
Works closely with: Head Electrics, Head of Video, Head of Sound, the two other ATDs.

Summary:

If you are looking to join a creative, fast-paced professional major summer festival, you will want to join DMMO for its 2026 season. Located in Indianola, Iowa the company will produce three exciting new productions in a summer repertory schedule, within the intimate 467-seat theatre at the Blank Performing Arts Center. Our 54th season consists of 3 mainstage productions with 2 new productions being built specific for DMMO's stage and the third built as a major co-production. DMMO is one of America's boldest Opera Companies (as reported by the New York Times) and was nominated for its 2024 season for an International Opera Award. Join our team in this a critical role to work on some of the most challenging, bold, intense, visually stunning, complex and rewarding productions of your career!

Des Moines Metro Opera utilizes three Associate Technical Directors and assigns each ATD to a specific production. The ATD assigned to a production is responsible to advance, monitor, solve, communicate and lead. The sooner an ATD joins the team the more impact they will have on the build / design of the scenery.

These are senior level positions in the Production Department.

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.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities:

Des Moines Metro Opera is looking for Associate Technical Directors for our summer shows in rep, which each production represented by an Associate Technical director. The below responsibilities corelate to the show that is assigned, but is in no means a complete list of tasks/responsibilities.

- Working with the creative team, be the primary contact for the production and disseminate that information out as needed.
- Provide the Head Stage Carpenter, Head Fly Operator and stage carp run crew lead with adequate paperwork and leadership to accomplish the load-in, run, rep-changes and notes.
- Prepare all organizational plans for notes, new builds and tasks for the scenic shop as it relates to their production.
- Prepare all technical / construction drawings needed for the production and assist the other ATD's as may be needed when workload allows and when the other ATD's may need assistance.
- Coordinate the repertory change-over with the other productions with the other ATD's.
- Coordinate best methods and techniques for efficient changeovers with the Head Stage Carpenter and Head Fly Operator.
- Support the Head Fly Opera / Head Stage Carpenter in the rigging and flying of all scenic elements by providing guidance.
- Monitor and enforce safe working techniques and rules on the stage and in the scenic shop at all times.
- Coordinate the needs of design staff and stage management during light levels, notes calls, and preset.
- As necessary, assist in leading the stage crew during all technical rehearsals, scene-shift rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances.
- Coordinating with the other ATD's, self-schedule so that one ATD is always present during load-in, rep change over, show run. These needs will be discussed with the Director of Production and efficiencies in monitoring the stage will be driven by production needs.
- Providing planning for construction/ modification of sets/props/furnishings of the assigned production when needed.
- Assist/Supervise the Properties Supervisor for their production and ensure adequate support from the scenic shop staff.
- Strive to make the technical intern position as educational and worthwhile as possible.
- Strive for a work place that is; team-focused, creative, positive, professional and solution based – encouraging all members of the team.



Dates of in Person Employment:

Arrival Date:	Sunday, May 10, 2026 by 5:00pm
First Work Day:	Monday, May 11, 2026
Last Work Day:	July 23, 2026
Departure Date:	July 24, 2026 by Noon

Some, paid, advance work will be required prior to in-person employment.

Compensation:

Base pay rate, per hour:	\$20-\$22 based on experience
Overtime pay rate, per hour (after 40):	1.5x the hourly rate

Pre-production work (drafting, production meetings, etc.) paid at the base rate

\$350 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.

DMMO will provide single occupancy air-conditioned room in shared 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:

- Experience as a Technical Director, Assistant / Associate Technical Director in opera or at a theatrical organization.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to tailor to the needs of the listener/reader.
- Proven leadership ability with-in a diverse, multi-generation workforce.
- Experience working with designers and directors.
- Experience working with/in a scenic shop is an asset.
- Experience working in a repertory production format is an asset.
- Experience working in a fly house is an asset.
- Experience loading/unloading/calling a truck pack
- Is proficient in AutoCAD and experience creating ground plans, section views, construction drawings.
- Ideally, Driver's License and ability to drive a cargo van and/or a 26' box truck
- OSHA 10 or greater qualifications.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions:

- Ability to sit, stand, and traverse a working stage/shop environment.
- Work includes periods of standing, working in low light, climbing stairs/ladders, and may include working in a personnel lift.
- Ability to lift heavy objects properly/safely
- All team must supply their own protective toed footwear.
- Ability to wear a Type 2 hardhat, eye protection, hearing protection, respirator and any other safety equipment that may be needed.

Application Process:

Submit resume, with three (3) references and a cover letter via email to production@dmmo.org.

Please include "ATD" as the subject line.

For more information on this position, contact crodney@dmmo.org

Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Applicant screening process expected to begin immediately upon application.