DES MOINES METRO OPERA

SOUND CREW

$15–$17/HR	1.5x OT	HOUSING INCLUDED	TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
BASE PAY	AFTER 40 HOURS	NO COST	$350

IN-PERSON EMPLOYMENT | May 17 – July 29, 2027 | Arrive May 16 | Depart July 30

KEEP EVERY CUE CLEAR AND EVERY PRODUCTION CONNECTED

Join DMMO's Sound Crew for a hands-on summer in repertory opera. Working under the Sound Supervisor, you'll help install, test, operate, maintain and strike backstage communications, audio monitoring and sound-playback systems—supporting rehearsals, performances and rapid changeovers across three operas.

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE HAPPEN

- Assist the Sound Supervisor with installation, testing, operation, maintenance and strike of sound equipment.
- Set up and maintain wired and wireless headsets, intercom stations and backstage communication systems.
- Install, patch and troubleshoot program audio, backstage monitors, speakers and related cabling.
- Help prepare, test and run assigned sound effects and playback cues during rehearsals and performances.
- Support sound checks, rehearsals, show calls and sound-system changes between repertory performances.
- Keep headsets, belt packs, cables and equipment organized, labeled and ready for the next call.
- Follow supervisor direction, document changes, flag problems promptly and work safely backstage.

EXPERIENCE YOU'LL BUILD

- Build practical experience with professional intercom, backstage audio and monitoring systems.
- Learn how sound effects, playback and cueing support live opera and stage management.
- Develop cable-management, patching, signal-flow and systematic troubleshooting skills.
- Gain experience in load-in, technical rehearsals, performances, repertory changeovers and strike.
- See how sound, video and stage management coordinate communication and monitoring backstage.
- Work alongside an experienced Sound Supervisor and production technicians.
- Develop professional relationships in a collaborative summer opera festival.

WHY DMMO?

DMMO brings established and emerging professionals together to do their best work. Our summer festival presents three operas in repertory, with inventive technical solutions, collaborative teams and a shared commitment to safety and learning.

WHAT YOU BRING

- An interest in sound, audio systems and hands-on technical theatre work.
- Some backstage or audio experience is helpful; a willingness to learn and contribute is essential.
- Careful attention to detail, reliability and the ability to follow cue sequences and instructions.
- Comfort with computers and learning new systems; familiarity with QLab or audio playback is a plus.
- Practical experience with cable runs, patching or basic equipment troubleshooting is an asset.
- Clear communication, good listening skills and calm teamwork when productions change quickly.
- A safety-first mindset: use PPE, follow training and speak up when work conditions need attention.
- Availability for an active festival schedule that includes evenings, weekends and repertory calls.

WHAT WE BRING

- **$15–$17/hour based on experience; overtime paid at 1.5x for hours worked over 40 in a week.**
- Your primary accommodation will be a private room in dorm-style accommodations, provided at no cost to you.
- $350 travel allowance paid upon arrival.
- In-person work May 17–July 29, 2027; arrive May 16 and depart July 30.
- Appropriate breaks, safe work procedures and training on the equipment assigned to you.
- A team-focused professional environment that values creative problem-solving, learning and respect.

SEE YOURSELF ON TEAM DMMO?

Introduce yourself. Tell us about your technical theatre or sound interests, any hands-on experience you have, and what you hope to learn at DMMO. No formal cover letter needed—we want to hear from you.
Send your resume + references + introduction to jobsinproduction@dmmo.org | Subject: 2027 Sound

POSITION DESCRIPTION / EMPLOYMENT DETAILS	
POSITION TYPE	Seasonal / Hourly / Non-Exempt
REPORTS TO	Sound Supervisor
SUPERVISES / LEADS	No direct reports
WORKS CLOSELY WITH	Stage Management • Video / Effects • Electrics • Technical Direction • Production Management

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Must navigate active stage and backstage areas, including low-light conditions and stairs; stand and move equipment for extended periods; lift/carry sound equipment within safe limits; use ladders/lifts only when authorized and trained; and wear required PPE and follow safe work procedures.