



**Job Description:** **Head Stage Carpenter**  
**Reports To:** Director of Production, Associate Technical Directors  
**Supervises:** Stage Carpenters, Head Fly Operator  
**Works Collaboratively with:** Scenic Designer(s), Show/Stage Operation Supervisors.

### **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:**

- Work with the Director of Production, Associate Technical Directors and in conjunction with the Scenic Designer(s) and the to coordinate the technical and design needs during the season on the stage.
- Lead and inspire safe working practices. Accept no corners cut
- Supervise the load-in, set-up, repertory change-overs and load-outs as required and be able to provide clear and detailed instructions both written and verbal.
- Manage the stage crew during all initial load-ins and load-outs. Supervise Designer notes when necessary.
- Provide all necessary information to the Associate Technical Director(s) for the safe and successful running of all shows and designer notes as applicable.
- Work with and supervise the Head of Fly in the safe rigging of all flying scenery pieces.
- Communicate schedule needs to Production Management. Collect and submit crew time sheets to Production Management as needed.
- Be a problem-solver and be solutions oriented.
- Strive to make the technical intern position as educational and worthwhile as possible (this may include running one or two workshops during the season) by sharing and imparting knowledge.

### **Dates of Employment:**

Arrival on Sunday, May 11, 2025, first day of work May 12, 2025.  
Departing on Friday, July 25, 2025.

### **Compensation:**

\$1,150/week during the festival season, overtime after 50 hours paid at a rate of \$27.60/hour.  
Pre-season work is paid at a rate of \$23.00/hour.  
\$300 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.  
DMMO will provide a single bedroom in an air conditioned two-bedroom apartment 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:

- Professional experience, as a head of department, 3+ years is ideal.
- Extensive knowledge of how to operate stage systems.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- To strongly be a team player with a good attitude and ability to professionally handle stressful situations.
- A proven track record of working and leading a team safety.

## **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 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:**

Please submit resume with 3 references and a cover letter via email with the subject line “Head Stage Carpenter” to: Production@dmmo.org

## **Deadline:**

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The applicant screening process will begin immediately, so please apply early.

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.