



Job Description: Intern- Shop Carpenter
Reports To: Technical Director, ATD- Scene Shop Supervisor, Master Carpenter

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 Des Moines Metro Opera, the Design & Production Internship is a concentrated nine-week training and work program. Over the nine weeks interns participate in talkbacks with directors, designers, and production staff. Interns also attend several classroom workshops including refining a resume and portfolio, networking, websites, freelancing, and production contracts; as well as receive hands-on instruction in skill-based workshops which include rigging for the stage, welding, and stage painting. All the while interns are working alongside 50+ staff and design members from professional theatre and production companies, helping interns expand their professional network of contacts.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities:

- Work under the Scene Shop Supervisor and Master Carpenter to help prepare, build, and modify scenery for the festival season.
- Assist in the repair, modification, or building of any shop or theater improvements.
- Assist in scenic changeovers as needed.
- Assist in run crew if needed to cover a sickness or injury in the Show Operations Department
- Attend all Intern Talkbacks and Workshops.

Dates of Internship:

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

Compensation:

Daily stipend of \$75/day during the festival season.

\$300 travel stipend to be paid upon arrival.

DMMO will provide single occupancy air-conditioned dorm 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:

- Currently enrolled in or graduated from a BA/BFA in Theater or equivalent professional experience.
- Knowledge of how to operate scenic shop tools and safety procedures.
- 2 years of experience working in a scene shop.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Must be at least 18 years of age to apply.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions

- Ability to lift 50 pounds unassisted or with the help of a team
- Ability to hold and operate hand, air, and power tools.
- Work includes being in an open air environment during the summer.
- Work includes periods of standing and climbing stairs/ladders.

Application Process:

Submit resume with 3 references and cover letter via email with the subject line "Shop Carpenter Intern" to:
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.