



Job Description: Wig and Makeup Intern
Reports To: Wig and Makeup Designer, Wig and Makeup Shop Supervisor

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:

- Assist the shop supervisor with styling, maintenance, and upkeep of wigs and hair during the run of shows .
- Help to maintain Des Moines Metro Opera's inventory of wig and make up stock.
- Assist the Wig and Makeup Shop Supervisor in building, ventilating, and styling wigs.
- Assist and manage performer hair prep and wig and makeup applications.
- Run backstage wig and makeup quick changes during the run of shows.
- Assist in returning all Wig and Makeup stock to storage at the end of the festival season.
- 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 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:

- Currently enrolled in or graduated with BA/BFA in Theatre or equivalent professional experience
- Experience working as wig & makeup crew
- 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 hair styling tools.
- Work includes periods of sitting, standing, working in low light, and climbing stairs.

Application Process:

Submit resume with 3 references and cover via email letter with the subject line "WMU 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.