

Technical Director

DEPARTMENT: Production

FT or PT: Full Time

CLASSIFICATION: Annual Salary

SCHEDULE: Weekdays, weeknights, some holidays and/or weekends

STATUS: Exempt

REPORTS TO: Production Management

WORKS WITH: LJP Staff, Production Management, Visiting Artists & Designers, IATSE Labor, LJP Operations, UCSD Residents & Students, UCSD Supervisors

SUPERVISES: Technical Direction Staff, IATSE Scenery Labor, IATSE Paints Labor, IATSE Apprentices & Pre-Apprentices

STATEMENT OF JOB

Under the direction of the Production Manager, the Technical Director serves as a key member of La Jolla Playhouse's Production Department. The position is expected to function independently in a fast-paced and detail-critical environment, working closely with and is responsible for managing projects from conception through completion with the design and creative teams for each production. Key to the success of those projects, the Technical Director, in conjunction with the Production Manager, will take an active role in facilitating communication with Scenery, Props, Electrics, and Sound Departments, Designers, IATSE Stage hands and La Jolla Playhouse Management to ensure all departments are informed about designs, changes, technical planning, and scheduling for each production.

The Technical Director will have the primary responsibility of overseeing the construction, installation, maintenance and transfer of scenery (built, purchased, rented, or otherwise) for all productions produced and presented by La Jolla Playhouse including festivals and special events while maintaining a safe and healthy work environment. Strong candidates will possess a demonstrated ability to forecast labor and material budgets, track budgets throughout the production process, and present efficient technical and artistic solutions to the design and production teams. The successful candidate is an engineer, technician, manager, and artist committed to the artistic vision and mission of La Jolla Playhouse.

JOB DUTIES

- Maintenance & organization of La Jolla Playhouse Scene Shop, Theatres, materials and other resources including management, development, and tracking of LJP resources.
- In conjunction with Production Management, coordinate with UCSD Theatre & Dance Department Technical personnel to ensure mutual success for all projects utilizing the Theatre District on the UCSD campus.
- Coordination with Production Management, Visiting Artists, Designers, Assistants, Programmers, and Engineers for La Jolla Playhouse productions, festivals and special events.
- Maintain early and constant communication with Production Managers, Production Supervisors, and Designers regarding coordination of artists' requirements and La Jolla Playhouse resources.
- Supervise and assist in season-wide labor planning for Scenery and Paints Departments on an on-going basis.
- Direct the Construction, Installation, Strike and Transfer process for all productions beginning with early design consultations through completion of projects.
- Supervise and assist in scheduling, accounting, purchasing and planning for productions and shop operations.
- In conjunction with the Production Manager, estimate cost for designs based on designer drawings and adjust and present options to designers to assist in the budget process.
- When necessary, create and maintain bid packages for commercial scenery shops and supervise the technical design process with those shops to provide quality and efficiency assurance traveling as needed.
- Supervise and draft construction drawings for shows built by La Jolla Playhouse Scenery Shops.
- Prepare ground plans and sections of designer drawings, rigging and technical drawings, and any other such drawings pertinent to the scenery, stages or other performance locations in AutoCAD and PDF formats for use by technical, stage management and design staffs.
- Perform and analyze risk assessments and reviews with visiting design teams, UCSD Environmental Health and Safety Department, and Production Management to achieve workable and safe productions at all levels.
- Estimate and Track labor and material costs for productions and advise Production Management of the potential financial consequences of any proposed changes or other alterations to technical plans
- Attend production meetings, run throughs, tech rehearsal, previews, and note sessions as requested by Production Management.

- Supervise training of IATSE labor in the Scenery and Paints Departments.
- Function in a professional and collegial manner when collaborating with all theatre personnel, professional creative teams, staff, management and other visiting artists.
- Monitor, maintain, enhances and supports the educational and institutional mission of La Jolla Playhouse.
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- 5 plus years of professional experience in theatrical technical direction (LORT Experience Preferred).
- Bachelor's degree or Advanced Master's in Theatrical Technical Direction preferred.
- Strong working knowledge and experience with specialized tools used in advanced scenic construction. (Wood and Metal Working tools, CNC, 3-D Printing)
- Detailed knowledge and demonstrated skill in scenic construction, welding, rigging, structural engineering, complex automation solutions and soft goods/fabric maintenance and repair.
- Ability to read and create CAD scenic construction and engineering drawings.
- Computer skills: Mac, PC, Networking, IP, TCP/IP, AutoCAD, Vectorworks, Automation (UDP, Artnet, DMX, MIDI a plus).
- Demonstrated success in time and personnel management (Calendars, Schedules, Production Process)
- Deep Knowledge of and dedication to safe work practices, Industry best rigging practices, and automation practices. OSHA 30 and ETCP Rigging Certifications Preferred.
- Demonstrated skill and success in the development, forecasting, management, and tracking of complex production budgets.
- Strong attention to detail and proactive monitoring of processes with excellent communication skills and a collaborative demeanor.
- Possess strong critical thinking, problem solving, and organizational skills.
- Works well under pressure and time constraints, maintaining a calm demeanor in the face of new and unexpected challenges.
- Regular availability during nights and weekends.
- Ability to climb and work on ladders, lifts, catwalks, and grids.
- Ability to regularly lift 50lbs or more.
- Valid Driver's License and reliable transportation.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

To Apply: Please send resume and references along with a cover letter to productionjobs@ljp.org. No phone calls please.

La Jolla Playhouse is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to achieving a diverse workforce. Employment decisions are based on needs of the organization, job requirements and individual qualifications without regard to race, gender, religion, age or belief and encourages applicants of all backgrounds to apply.