THEATER TECHNICIAN

DEFINITION

Under the supervision of the Theater Arts Technical Director, the incumbent participates in the construction and preparation of stage sets, lighting and sound for the Theater Arts Department. Incumbent oversees student work; functions as shop foreperson; performs duties needed to insure the safe and efficient operation of theater performance and shop areas; organizes and maintains storage areas for maximum security; and performs related instructional functions as needed.

TYPICAL DUTIES

Purchases supplies used for theater production construction; constructs scenery, installs sound and lighting for theater productions. Designs, constructs, operates and maintains stage materials and equipment; maintains inventories and cost control records of tools, supplies, and equipment. Oversees students' work in stage, lighting and sound design, construction, and operations, and assists them with various projects. Issues, receives and checks tools and supplies used by students in theater technical classes. Performs technical duties required for safe and efficient production of theater performances, and related laboratories. Assists Technical Director in setup, strike and storage of stage scenery and properties and in rehearsal and performance setups. Opens theater for theater events and checks stage, lighting, ventilation and equipment to ensure proper operation and supervises use of theater and other related shop areas when used by large classes or for special events. Assists faculty members or staff with laboratory or field research. Performs related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

EXPERIENCE
Two years of experience in the construction, operation and maintenance of stage equipment and materials.

EDUCATION
Bachelor of Arts degree in drama/theater with emphasis in technical theater (preferred). Two years of college and four years full time professional experience may be substituted for the Bachelor’s degree.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT
Any offer of employment will be contingent upon the successful completion of a medical evaluation.

KNOWLEDGE OF
Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar; basic record keeping procedures; and safety precautions as represented in OSHA specifications. Knowledge of numbers, their operations and interrelationships including the arithmetic, algebra, and geometry applications needed to construct and prepare stage sets; stage scenery construction and engineering; stage rigging and stage machinery; power and hand tools; lighting, sound, and related equipment used in stage production work including sound reinforcement practice and theory; sound recording practice and theory; lighting design practice and theory; and electrical practice and theory. Knowledge of methods, procedures and tools used in stage set construction and maintenance; computer applications including sound editing, basic graphic design and layout, computer aided drafting (CAD), word processing, and research.
SKILL IN
Skill in explaining to others how to do something; using logic and analysis to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to a problem; and understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents. Skill in the use of hand tools, power tools, painting tools, electrical testing equipment, and lighting and sound equipment.

ABILITY TO (ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS)
The ability to perform the basic functions of the position; meet schedules and time lines; sustain regular work attendance; exercise initiative and mature judgment and work as a member of a team. The ability to problem-solve and troubleshoot technical problems encountered in theater productions; make repairs and adjustments to stage equipment and related apparatus; effectively oversee and direct the activities of students; and establish and maintain cooperative relationships with students, faculty, staff and the general public. The ability to recognize potential safety hazards, correct them, and use safe work practices.

Physical/Environmental Factors
Must be able to lift loads of 50 pounds without assistance and loads greater than 50 pounds with assistance. Must be able to stand and maneuver for long periods of time. Must be able to climb ladders and work more than 12 feet above the ground for long periods of time.

TYPICAL EQUIPMENT USED (May include, but not limited to)
Hand tools, power tools, painting tools, electrical testing equipment, stage rigging equipment, fork lift truck, large trucks, lighting consoles, slide projectors, sound equipment, video cassette recorders, computer, printer, copier, fax and telephone.