

Actors Theatre of Louisville

Technical Director

Posted July 9, 2021

Position: Technical Director

Reports To: Director of Production &
Operations

Area of Primary Focus: Production

FLSA: Exempt/Salaried

Start Date: 8/2/21

About Actors Theatre of Louisville:

Actors Theatre of Louisville is an arts and culture organization as social enterprise, sharing experiences centered in a commitment to create a more just society through the ongoing disruption of the cycles of oppression, marginalization, and exploitation. Anti-racism and anti-oppression are essential in an ecosystem that has profited from the historic antecedent of plantation capitalism. In pursuing a synthesis of art and service, we have taken a deep dive into digital production and have become an interdisciplinary laboratory for a storytelling (r)evolution.

Now in its 57th season, Actors Theatre of Louisville is the state theatre of Kentucky and a leader among regional theatres across the United States. Actors Theatre of Louisville has embraced both old and new media technologies to become a multiplatform entertainment company, centered in theatrical experiences. This year, Greater Louisvillians to audiences around the globe have been experiencing our digital streaming productions, radio plays, animated shorts, podcasts, live virtual events, and virtual reality experiences. Our learning and creative engagement programs offer ongoing virtual field trips and residencies serving thousands of students and community constituents both locally and nationally. In the coming year, we will be reincorporating in-person gathering onsite as soon as it is safe to do so and economically-viable in accordance with our collective bargaining agreements, while continuing to innovate on our virtual platforms for an ongoing hybrid model of artistic programming and educational initiatives.

Actors Theatre of Louisville sits on the unceded land of many Indigenous communities including the Shawnee, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Osage people. Indigenous peoples have always lived on the land that is now called Kentucky and continue to live here today.

Summary of Position:

The Technical Director serves as a key Production employee centered on providing a safe working environment for Production employees and staff. Principal responsibilities include leading and ensuring the safe, accurate, and effective execution of scenic designs.

The ideal candidate will:

- Embrace Actors Theatre of Louisville's commitment to anti-racism, and be conversant with BIPOC communities and issues.

- Prepare to be an integral part of a small and mighty staff that is inspired to work in flexible, creative, and innovative ways. The Technical Director will work cross-departmentally to support and collaborate with production, artistic, and administrative staff.

The Essential Functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Actively participate in the production process in a way that fosters interdepartmental collaboration and fulfillment of the artistic vision of the production.
- Work with Director of Production to establish scenic design deadlines.
- Lead effective communication with designers, ensuring that deadlines are achieved and that designs can be realized with defined production budgets.
- Generate production and build schedules in coordination with other department heads to ensure effective and timely execution of productions and events.
- Manage scenic budgets based on the needs of the planned season and the parameters established by administrative and artistic management.
- Provide detailed cost estimate to Director of Production prior to beginning construction of all scenery.
- Provide primary engineering and generation of working construction drawings for performance spaces.
- Oversee development of appropriate means for solving special design problems relating to structure, material, cost, size, weight, or artistic objective of set pieces.
- Actively participate in production meetings, technical note sessions and rehearsals as required.
- Resolve problems involved with moving scenery including rigging, winches, elevators, and revolves.
- Oversee installation of scenery on all stages, including mechanically moving pieces, stationary pieces, and flying pieces.
- Carry out other duties and responsibilities that may be assigned by direct supervisor or management.
- Act as Safety Officer by ensuring safe working conditions, identifying and mitigating potential hazards, updating procedures as new information is available, and maintaining an environment where safety comes first.
- Ensure that design specifications and installation meet fire and ADA codes and pose no threat to performers, crew, or audience.
- Evaluate all scenic designs for safe and cost effective construction solutions.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Ability to work and collaborate effectively with designers.
- Ability to interpret design drawings and produce working drawings.
- Ability to prioritize appropriately.
- Ability to work as an effective team member and maintain a positive attitude in stressful situations.
- Thorough knowledge of current construction techniques, products, and theatrical machinery; including AC & DC motors and control, Hydraulics, Pneumatics, Programmable Logic Controllers and HMI interfaces.
- Excellent ability to manage and motivate staff.
- Effective communication and collaborative skills.
- Broad knowledge of theatrical production including experience with lighting, sound, and video projection.
- Ability to lift, push, pull or otherwise maneuver up to 50 lbs repeatedly, alone or with assistance.
- Comfortable working on ladders, mechanical lifts, or other high places.
- Comfortable working in confined spaces.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Some education, including vocational qualification and training courses or college degree in a related field.
- Two years' professional management/supervisory experience in theatrical scene shop.
- Work flexible schedule including overtime, early mornings, evenings and weekends

Preferred Qualifications:

- College degree with a theatre emphasis (technical direction preferred)
- Five years' professional management/supervisory experience in theatrical scene shop preferred.
- A dedicated focus towards strong working knowledge of safe workplace practices and familiarity with OSHA regulations.
- Experience engineering and drafting scenery and machinery for the stage
- Experience with heavy materials handling and understanding of structural limitations of materials and construction designs.
- Understanding of design process
- Microsoft Office Suite, Outlook, 2D & 3D AutoCAD, Vector Works, Photoshop, HMI, Creative Connors Automation Control Software.

Compensation:

Salary is \$1800 paid in bi-weekly installments. The range of benefits includes medical and dental insurance, long-term and short-term disability insurance, paid time off and, a 403(b) retirement plan.

To Apply:

Applicants interested in applying for this position must email (with **Technical Director** in the subject line) cover letter, resume and three references to:



Robert Barry Fleming, Artistic Director

Paul Werner, Director of Production and Operations @ pwerner@actorstheatre.org
cc: HR@actorstheatre.org

No phone calls please.

Actors Theatre is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, class, religion, country of origin, political belief, (dis)ability, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any factor protected by law. Members of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.