

Wardrobe Assistant/Stitcher

(Seasonal)

Primary Responsibilities - Wardrobe Assistant

- Reports to the Costume Director & Head of Wardrobe
- Assist Head of Wardrobe in receiving, unpacking, organizing show packages prior to fittings week
- Assist in labeling, and packing altered costumes for transfer to theater
- Assist with load-in, load-out, and dress rehearsals, and performances
- Attend all load-ins, dress rehearsals, performances, load-outs
- Assist with collection, pick up & delivery of dry cleaning
- Assist with collection and cleaning of soiled costumes pieces
- Assist with maintenance repairs done in the theater on performance days
- Execute emergency repairs & spot cleaning during the performance
- Inventory, check costumes in and out as required by Head of Wardrobe and Costume Director
- Must be able to execute all of the responsibilities of Principal, Chorus, Children, Dancer and super dressers

Additional Responsibilities

- Principal Dresser
- Pull, compare inventory, pack rental packages
- Assist in restoration of costumes returned from rental packages
- Collect, receive, restock costume pieces from rental packages
- Show laundry as assigned by Head of Wardrobe
- Other duties as assigned on show by show basis

Minimum Qualifications

- 3 years experience as a Principal Dresser and/or 1 year with Florida Grand Opera
- Must be able to orchestrate & execute quick changes
- Must be prompt and present a clean, neat appearance
- Must be able to deal with difficult, demanding performers in highly stressful conditions while retaining a professional demeanor
- Must have physical dexterity and flexibility
- Must be able to multi-task

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Knowledge of opera artists and repertoire preferred
- Knowledge of foreign languages including Italian, German, Russian, or French is helpful
- Familiarity with venue is helpful
- Knowledge of hand and machine sewing techniques
- Working knowledge of craft maintenance
- Knowledge of spot cleaning procedures
- Ability to lift and carry boxes and costumes weighing from 25-50 pounds
- Ability to see clearly in low-lighting situations consistent with backstage areas
- Ability to hear stage management calls in a noisy, cluttered backstage area
- Ability to walk and stand on complex stage settings during day to day on-stage and backstage activities
- Ability to work in extremely close quarters in stressful situations while remaining calm under pressure
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Ability to read and follow run sheets and costume plot with minimal assistance

Other Requirements

- Must be able to climb ladders and get down on the floor repeatedly as required
- Must work well with other dressers and crew members during both day and evening calls
- Must be willing and able to follow both verbal and written instructions
- Absolutely no perfume allowed backstage in dressing areas
- Must wear performance black clothing during all dress rehearsals and performances
- Must be responsible for all assigned specialty tools and equipment
- Must supply own personal scissors, pens, pencils, note pads, hand needles, white and black thread, and bite light. Personal wardrobe kit should be on hand at ALL times
- Must wear appropriate non-slip, closed-toe, QUIET footwear
- Must be responsible for all assigned tools and equipment

Essential Job Functions – Stitcher

- Costume fitting and alteration
- Hand and machine sewing of complex garments
- Knowledge of principles, practices, and techniques of costume construction

Job Requirements

- Minimum of 3 years experience as Stitcher
- Must understand and be able to execute all hand and machine sewing techniques commonly associated with costume alteration and repair
- Must be able to quickly and proficiently operate a variety of sewing machine types; industrial, serger, hemmer and domestic
- Working knowledge of cobbling, dying, millinery and general costume crafts is a plus but not required
- Works efficiently under tight time constraints, deals well with others and has good communication skills
- Must be prompt and present a clean, neat appearance
- Must have physical dexterity and flexibility