

Northern Ballet

Deputy Head of Stage

Northern Ballet is a powerhouse for inventive dance, creating and touring narrative dance at various scales nationally and internationally. Bold and confident in our approach, we engage, involve and move our audiences. We reach a diverse range of people through passionate storytelling, a mastery of classical dance technique and an absolute commitment to our leading role as an international ambassador for world-class dance.

Whether based on tour, or at Northern Ballet HQ in Leeds, a career with us allows you to become part of an ambitious world-class arts organisation.

Main Purpose of the Job

Northern Ballet is seeking to appoint a Deputy Head of Stage who will be integral to assisting the Head of Stage in the efficient running of the Stage Department, to deputise for the Head of Stage where necessary and lead crews when split crew working is necessitated. To be responsible for all rigging and lifting equipment within the Technical Department.

Key Responsibilities

- To assist with all get-ins, fit ups, performances and get-outs under the direction of the Head of Stage and to deputise in their absence.
- To ensure all rigging carried out by the Technical Department is delivered to the highest professional standard and within the legislations covering such operations.
- To ensure all rigging equipment is maintained, serviceable and tested at all times and that accurate records are kept to current legislation.
- To assist in the planning, management and physically assist, the safe and efficient loading and unloading of all items of stock, scenery, props, wardrobe, music or orchestral equipment, physio equipment, electrical equipment, company equipment and merchandise, from and to all company premises, on tour and as otherwise required.

- To run the fly floor or stage, directing both touring and venue show staff, during rehearsals and performances as directed by the Head of Stage, Stage Manager, or Technical Director.
- To ensure the highest professional standards are set and maintained at all times.
- To assist the Head of Stage in the management of stock control, equipment maintenance and scheduled replacement or improvement of equipment.
- To assist in the creation of accurate production bibles to facilitate future revivals.
- To construct, prepare, repair and improve as necessary all productions to be ready for touring.
- To implement running repairs to all scenic elements and other company property as required, whilst on tour.
- To delegate to and manage staff to achieve targets as directed by the Head of Stage.
- To ensure compliance to the Bectu/UK Theatre Code of Conduct for Get Ins and Get Outs.
- To ensure compliance with the company Health and Safety Policy and to keep up to date with current legislation affecting our industry.
- To aid in the development of Northern Ballet Technical staff through the sharing of skills and knowledge.
- To attend training courses when requested and to work alongside the Head of Stage in developing the department's skill base and working practices.
- To work alongside and assist other technical departments as required ensuring the smooth running of all productions.

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

- A proven track record of working in No.1 UK Touring Theatre.
- Experience of running large scale fit ups and get outs.
- Experience of managing staff - good leadership skills with ability to challenge, motivate and discipline staff.
- Experience of rigging and counterweight flying.
- This is a physically demanding role will require working at height.
- A solid understanding of the LOLER regulations.
- Rigging Qualifications / Certification
- The ability to rig accurately to given plans.
- A logical and methodical approach to planning and preparation.
- Ability to problem solve in a theatre environment with a calm measured approach.

- Experience of managing staff - good leadership skills with ability to challenge, motivate and discipline staff.
- Good communication and organisational skills.
- A solid understanding of Health and Safety and good practice within the theatre industry.
- A solid understanding of the Bectu/UK Theatre Code of Conduct for Get in and Get Outs.
- Current Passport.

Desirable Criteria

- Good IT skills, Microsoft office or similar and CAD (Ideally AUTOCAD).
- Experience of foreign touring.
- Mid and large scale touring experience.
- Full UK driving licence.
- Experience of managing budgets and the purchase order process.
- IOSH Managing Safely Training

Personal Attributes

- An efficient and flexible approach; prioritises workload to meet targets and deadlines.
- Ability to work calmly under pressure.
- Creative problem solver.
- Pro-active; able to self-motivate and use own initiative in the absence of clear guidelines by identifying tasks, projects and/or potential problems in advance.
- Creating solutions and taking ownership of the outcomes.
- Good time management.
- Able to work as part of a team with friendly approach and remain open to others.
- To build good working relationships with other departments.

Other Details

- Salary: £35,240 per annum plus touring allowance
- Closing date for applications: 13 January 2025
- Interviews will take place in Leeds: 16 January and 17 January 2025
- The interview will include a practical element

- Start date: Ideally 3 February 2025, however, flexibility with this can be discussed with the successful candidate

Northern Ballet strives to understand, respect and champion diversity in all its forms and believes in embracing diversity within our workforce, repertoire and practices. Therefore, we support and encourage people from a variety of backgrounds and experiences to apply. As part of our commitment to the disability confident employer scheme, we guarantee to interview disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for our vacancies.

If you require any adjustment during any stages of our recruitment process, please contact hadmin@northernballet.com and we will be in touch with you to make the necessary arrangements. Some examples of adjustments could include sending documentation in alternative formats such as large print, braille or audio. Adapting the environment for the interview or allowing additional time for you to answer questions.

Due to the high volume of applications, if you do not hear from us within 10 days of the closing date, please assume your application has been unsuccessful.