



Alabama Shakespeare Festival

## **The Alabama Shakespeare Festival seeks a Head of Sound**

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF), the State Theatre of Alabama, is currently seeking an experienced technician to serve as Head of Sound. The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is a year-round professional LORT theatre housed in a \$21.5 million theatre complex located in Montgomery, Alabama, that annually produces a vibrant season of Shakespeare as well as the classics, plays, musicals, and new works. In addition to ASF's stage productions, ASF serves its community through the Festival's many arts education programs, including SchoolFest, a student-matinee program that provides 30,000 – 40,000 students annually with subsidized tickets for a performance of one of ASF's plays.

### **Job Description:**

The Head of Sound is responsible for all sound issues at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF), which includes managing sound requirements for all projects, productions, and ASF activities as well as any other theatre sound issues for ASF. The position provides the highest possible support for all Alabama Shakespeare Festival productions and information and advice to other departments about sound. The job requires active involvement in setting up shows, including load-ins, technical rehearsals, and load-outs for all productions and events associated with ASF. The Head of Sound will control budgets, line manage staff, and manage equipment. In addition to providing support for current and future projects, the Head of Sound also is expected to continue to provide support for previous projects.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

#### **Management**

- Manage Sound requirements for projects and productions
- Manage all theatre sound issues for ASF
- Provide line management to all project Sound staff
- Manage all video requirements with the support of the Head of Lighting, Technical Director, and Stage Managers, including video projection, show archiving, and equipment
- Liaise with the Technical Director and Production Manager about issues regarding the technical aspects and requirements of the show and venues
- Assist in the creation of all technical schedules for projects
- Help identify potential equipment purchases and new methods
- Be actively involved in load-ins and load-outs for projects
- Maintain sound equipment
- Provide detailed information for archive purposes
- Keep accurate backups of all files as necessary
- Attend production meetings as required
- Provide appropriate technical support during rehearsal of projects
- Ensure that required equipment has been arranged



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- Maintain and update any equipment or files as needed
- Train technicians as needed

### **Budgeting**

- Collaborate with Sound Designers to estimate, budget, and track all audio and video expenditures
- Manage relevant budgets as agreed with the Production Manager
- Report an updated budget weekly to the Production Manager

### **Safety and Maintenance**

- Take an active role in developing and implementing ASF's health and safety policy
- Oversee routine inspection and maintenance of all audio equipment
- Maintain a clean and safe workspace for all personnel

### **Other duties and characteristics vital to this position:**

- The Head of Sound performs other duties as assigned by the Production Manager
- Must be able to lift at least 75 pounds unaided and in repetition
- May be required to occasionally work in extreme conditions, such as at various heights, in confined spaces, in high temperatures, and during adverse weather conditions
- Must maintain a safe and orderly working environment
- Must maintain a friendly and polite approach while in contact with the public
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Experience of sound in theatre and events at a range of levels
- Good organizational skills
- Experience with touring
- Experience working with a range of theatre technologies
- Experience managing teams or departments
- Experience with wireless microphone systems
- Experience with large-format sound mixers (digital and analog)
- Possess an in-depth knowledge of theatre venues and personnel
- Awareness of other art forms, such as ballet, opera, concerts, and events
- Good working knowledge of sound technology and control systems, such as QLab, Digital Mixers, Pro Tools/Digital Performer
- Good working knowledge of AutoCAD or similar software
- Good working knowledge of wireless microphone systems
- Good working knowledge of digital mixers and recording

### **The Alabama Shakespeare Festival**

Founded in 1972, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival began as a summer theatre festival in Anniston, Alabama. The theatre moved to Montgomery in the 1980s after philanthropist Wynton "Red" Blount offered to build a new home for the theatre in a 250-acre park. The state-of-the-art performing arts complex, christened the "Carolyn Blount Theatre," represented the largest gift by an individual donor in the history of American theatre (\$21.5 million) at the time. Mr. Blount's gift of the theatre complex set ASF on the path of continuous artistic success and community service.



Carolyn Blount Theatre houses a Festival Stage (seats 792) and Octagon Stage (seats 262), outdoor amphitheater and garden, production shops, rehearsal halls, and administrative offices. More than one million bricks were used to build the complex, which contains more than 100,000 square feet of space. The late Russell Page, famed landscape architect, planned the English-style grounds and lake that surround the building and make up the stunning core of the Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park.

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ASF is the largest professional, producing theatre in Alabama and one of the largest Shakespeare festivals in the world. Since the theatre first opened, millions of adults, children, and families have experienced the joy of theatre by attending ASF productions. ASF produces seven to 10 plays each season, including at least two by William Shakespeare along with a broad offering of contemporary works and large-scale Broadway musicals.

### **Mission and Values**

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival builds community by engaging, entertaining, and inspiring people with transformative theatrical performances and compelling educational and outreach programs.

As the region's most valued arts leader and community resource, we strive to build upon our reputation for artistic excellence, broaden our reach throughout the state and beyond, and expand public participation and support.

Our core values include **heritage**: producing work that speaks to the richness of human experience and the uniqueness of our region; **excellence**: sustaining a nurturing, supporting, and creative work environment; **community**: serving as a cultural conduit for community interaction; **accessibility**: embracing diversity and opening our doors to everyone in the community; **life-long learning**: providing unique avenues for personal and collective discovery; and **stewardship**: being reliable stewards of the marvelous resources provided to us.

### **Community**

*The New York Times* recently recognized Montgomery, Alabama, as one of the top 52 places to visit in the United States, citing revitalized neighborhoods, a bustling downtown, and the many museums and historical sites focusing on the evolution of civil rights.

Montgomery is rich in both historic and cultural offerings for residents and visitors alike, including ASF and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts located in the Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park. In addition, other local attractions include the recently opened National Memorial for Peace and Justice and Legacy Museum of the Equal Justice Initiative, National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African American Culture, the Rosa Parks Library and Museum, Freedom Rides Museum, and Alabama Nature Center.

As the state capital of Alabama, the city is populated by many state government agencies along with Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, the home of Air University. Montgomery has a vibrant academic community that includes public institutions Alabama State University, Troy University (Montgomery campus), and Auburn University at Montgomery, as well as private schools Faulkner University and Huntingdon College. High-tech manufacturing is also part of the diversification of Montgomery's



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economic base, which includes such international companies as Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama among others.

Montgomery has won several national awards including Best Historic City by *USA Today*, All-America City in 2014 by the National Civic League, "Top City for Job Growth" in 2014 by ziprecruiter.com, and the "happiest city in Alabama." Montgomery has also been recognized nationally for its downtown revitalization and new urbanism projects. It was one of the first cities in the nation to implement Smart Code Zoning.

**To Apply:**

Please send a cover letter and resume to Michael DiLaura, Human Resources Director, at [mdilaura@asf.net](mailto:mdilaura@asf.net).

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates will receive consideration without regard for age, race, religion, gender, identity, or disability.