



Alabama Shakespeare Festival

## **The Alabama Shakespeare Festival seeks a Technical Director**

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF), the State Theatre of Alabama, is currently seeking an experienced Technical Director. 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 Technical Director (TD) coordinates all scenic aspects for the theatre and manages the Scenic, Electrics, Sound, and Props departments. The TD requests bids and purchases materials in consultation with the Production Manager; creates construction drawings in consultation with the Scenic Designer; and supervises carpentry staff to execute all scenic elements. The TD optimizes scenic department workflow, ensures facilities and equipment are in excellent operating order, and guarantees that material resources are available on a timely basis. The Technical Director works closely with the Scenic Designer and other creatives to guarantee designs are completed in a timely and cost-effective manner.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

#### **Budgeting**

- In collaboration with Scenic Designers, the TD estimates, budgets, and tracks all expenditures of the Scene Shop and stage operations
- Provides the Production Manager with an updated budget weekly

#### **Management and Scheduling**

- Coordinates with Production Management to ensure that each production is installed on time and within budget
- Collaborates closely with the Assistant Technical Director, Master Carpenter, and Scenic Charge for safe, cost-efficient, and timely construction, load-in, and strike of each production
- Monitors other department heads for adequate scheduling of stage time, needs concerning construction, and modifications necessary to help any other department
- Works with department heads to ensure a timely load-in of each production
- Coordinates maintenance of Scene Shop vehicles and trailers
- Ensures that all Scene Shop personnel are sufficiently trained in the proper use and maintenance of all power tools and mechanics necessary for daily use in the shop
- Oversees the inventory and maintenance of all stock scenery, soft goods, and saved scenic units
- Maintains inventory of construction materials, hardware, and expendables needed for each production as well as yearly upkeep for the Scene Shop



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### **Safety and Maintenance**

- Oversees rigging necessary for each space/event to ensure the safe installation of all overhead mechanics, automation, and flown scenery/personnel
- Supervises routine inspection and maintenance of all rigging equipment
- Maintains a clean, safe workplace for all personnel

### **Communication**

- Collaborates with staff to fulfill all institutional goals
- Participates in planning for future productions and events
- Communicates scenic needs, concerns, and events to Production Manager

### **Other Duties**

- The Technical Director performs additional duties as assigned by 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 different heights, in confined spaces, in high temperatures, and during adverse weather
- Must maintain a safe and orderly working environment
- Must maintain a valid driver's license
- Must be comfortable driving a fully loaded five-ton truck.

### **Characteristics and experience vital to this position**

- Ability to collaborate with designers and directors, lead professional crews, communicate expectations, and progress promptly and accurately
- Minimum five years of experience as a scenic shop foreman or Technical Director
- Proficiency in Vectorworks, AutoCAD, and other CAD software

### **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.

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.

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### **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 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.



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**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.