Job Class Profile: Theatre Technician II

Pay Level: CG-31
Point Band: 690-703

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JOB SUMMARY

The Theatre Technician II performs skilled technical and supervisory work in the operation of a large provincial theatre. Work involves responsibility for planning, organizing and supervising all technical aspects of theatre operations on a daily basis. Duties include assessing production requirements, designing plans and co-ordinating and overseeing the set up and operation of theatrical performances. Work involves the supervision of technical and non-technical staff.

Key and Periodic Activities

— Plans, assigns, co-ordinates and supervises the work of technical and non-technical staff in the production of theatrical performances including scheduling work, recommending disciplinary action and participating in the recruitment process.

— Reads script and meets with script director to determine technical requirements of a production; prepares technical drawings using standard drafting techniques and oversees the design and construction of scenery and stage plans for theatre productions.

— Co-ordinates all areas including lighting, sound, wardrobe and construction personnel in preparing and carrying out a theatrical production.

— Designs and writes specifications for new technical equipment; researches to determine best possible price. Researches information related to acoustics, lighting and staging to keep abreast of technical advances, recommends and implements changes into general operation.

— Provides advice to other centres on technical needs and modifications required to accommodate touring groups, as well as personnel requirements.

— Travels with touring groups and acts as a liaison between group and centre in preparing for production as required.

— Provides advice to senior staff on the feasibility of new technical advances or changes.

— Participates in production, design and safety meetings.

SKILL

Knowledge

General and Specific Knowledge:
— Technical theatre operations (sound, lighting and stage) and related equipment.
— Construction techniques.

Formal Education and/or Certification(s):

Years of Experience:
Minimum: 3 years experience in theatre technical operations.

Competencies:
— Supervisory ability.
— Multi-tasking ability.
— Research skills.
— Computer skills.

Interpersonal Skills
— A range of interpersonal skills are utilized such as listening to technical theatre requirements from production staff, directors and producers; asking questions to assess and clarify the technical requirements needed for theatrical productions; providing routine information and direction to staff involved in pre-production work; and gaining the co-operation of others to fulfill the technical requirements for theatrical productions.
— Interactions occur with other technicians and production staff within the immediate work area as well as managers and supervisors regarding the technical requirements of upcoming shows and current productions. Interactions also occur with suppliers, sales representatives and members of professional theatre associations.
— The most significant contacts are supervisors and managers regarding duties and responsibilities; other technicians involved with staging, lighting and audio related work; and members of production crews.

EFFORT
Physical Effort
— Work demands do not typically result in fatigue, requiring periods of rest.
— Lifting and moving of technical theatre equipment and tools may be required.
— Sitting, standing and walking are required to oversee all technical work being performed in the areas of lighting, sound, wardrobe and stage/set construction.
— Fine finger and precision work is required to prepare technical drawings using standard drafting techniques; write specifications for new technical equipment and to conduct computer research.

Concentration
— Visual concentration is required to conduct research related to acoustics, lighting and staging; to prepare technical drawings and to oversee the construction of scenery and stage plans.
— Auditory concentration is required to assess and discuss technical requirements for theatrical productions.
— Time pressures and deadlines occur regularly as all technical work required for a particular performance must be completed by opening night.
— Alertness for the health and safety of technical staff is required during the pre-production stage.
— Exact results and precision are required to co-ordinate all aspects of technical theatrical work including lighting, sound, wardrobe and stage construction in order for theatrical productions to operate efficiently.

Complexity
— Typical challenges relate to the planning, organizing and supervision of all aspects of technical theatre operations in support of theatrical productions including assessing technical requirements and co-ordinating/overseeing the setup and operation of theatrical performances.
involving technical and non-technical staff.
— References available to address typical challenges include technical design plans for specific theatrical productions; directors and production managers as well as supervisors and management personnel.

RESPONSIBILITY

Accountability and Decision-Making
— Work tasks and activities are somewhat prescribed or controlled since the technical requirements for theatrical performances are discussed with production staff before being implemented.
— Independent decisions can be made regarding the co-ordination of personnel working in lighting, sound, wardrobe and set/stage construction for theatrical productions and to provide advice to other centres regarding technical needs and modifications.
— Supervisory approval is required for any financial related decisions regarding new technical equipment; to approve leave and hire additional staff for larger productions.

Impact
— Work tasks and activities are somewhat prescribed or controlled since the technical requirements for theatrical performances are discussed with production staff before being implemented.
— Results of work tasks and activities are felt within the immediate work area, department and organization as well as outside the organization and the general public who attend theatre productions.
— Resources impacted include equipment and machinery used in lighting, sound and stage work; material resources by researching and recommending new equipment; the health and safety of technicians and assistants working in the pre-production stage of theatrical performances; facilities (i.e. stage work for performances); human resources in terms of overseeing work and the number of staff required for specific theatrical performances and corporate image.
— Consequences of mistakes or errors have an impact on staff and production crew in the immediate work area, the department and the general public. Mistakes could potentially affect production schedules and the overall quality of theatrical productions.
— Mistakes or errors are typically resolved within hours.

Development and Leadership of Others
— Responsible for the supervision of a small size work group (1 to 4 employees).
— Provides advice, guidance, direction and feedback to technical staff and assistants including orienting new staff hired for specific productions; assigning/delegating tasks; organizing, coordinating, reviewing and checking the work of technical staff and assistants and providing input into performance assessments, staffing and recruitment.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environmental Working Conditions
— No special precautions or safety equipment is required.
— Limited likelihood of minor cuts, bruises, abrasions, minor illnesses, fractures, injury or occupational illness resulting in partial or total disability.
— May be exposed to dirt and dust; noise; limited lighting and odours when overseeing technical,
pre-production work for theatrical productions.