



# Scenic Construction Apprentice

## Job Description

### Who We Are

The Lyric Theatre is Northern Ireland's only full-time producing theatre. This means we make all our own shows in-house, working with writers, directors, designers, and actors to bring shows to life from concept to the stage.

We are a creative hub for theatre-making, a safe space for nurturing talent and for creating meaningful connections through theatre and the arts. We've always done things a little differently at the Lyric. From its modest beginnings in 1968, this special place has been a springboard for internationally acclaimed playwrights, poets and actors.

### Our Mission

We are a shared civic space for artists, arts workers, and audiences alike; a creative hub for theatre-making, nurturing talent and promoting the role of the arts in society. Our mission is to **create**, **entertain**, and **inspire**.

### Our Values

**We are welcoming:** The Lyric Theatre is an inclusive and accessible space for all: a creative place to play, learn, question, and explore.

**We are nurturing:** Our goal is to galvanise, and empower all those who work in the arts, whilst nurturing new generations of talent through the Lyric Drama Studio and our Creative Learning and New Writing programmes.

**We inspire and entertain:** We aim to provide theatre experiences that entertain and inspire; challenging audiences to explore their own and other stories.

### What is Scenery?

Scenery is any of the elements on stage during a show. It may be wall structures (flats) or platforms and risers. It may be a literal representation of something familiar, or it may be a more abstract design. It needs to look the way the designer wants it to look, but

### Role / Title

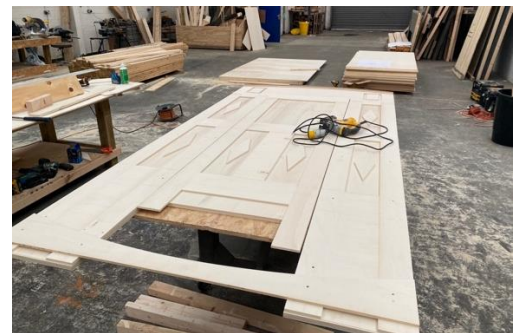
Scenic Construction Apprentice

### Reports to

Scenic Construction Manager

### Contract

Fixed Term for 3 Years



also needs to be practical, well-constructed, and able to safely support the weight of people who will be working or performing on it. It also needs to be able to break down quickly and easily for transport and reassembly for shows that go on tour.

## **What is a Scenic Carpenter?**

Simply put, a scenic carpenter is the person who builds stage scenery for shows. They work closely with the production designers and production managers to realise the vision of the design. They build from construction drawings and scale models of the set. Other people who may work in scenic construction are metal fabricators and scenic artists.

## **Purpose of the Scenic Construction Apprenticeship**

The Scenic Construction Apprenticeship is a three-year fixed term role. It has been funded by 'Art Work'; an Employment and Skills Initiative for the Arts Sector, supported by the Department of Communities through Future Screens NI.

## **What is involved?**

You will be working most of the time at our scenic workshop in Mallusk, north of Belfast. You will work three to four days per week in the workshop and will attend Northern Regional College, Newtownabbey<sup>1</sup> for one or two days per week during term time where you will study for a Level 2 Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship standard. From time to time you may work at other sites, such as the Lyric Theatre in Belfast.

You will assist on all scenic builds for all productions, projects, and events for internal productions and events, putting the skills you learn in college into practice in a workshop environment.

You will help to prepare and make scenic items with the team of scenic carpenters, managers and other fabricators.

You will get to work closely with the workshop team on samples and actual finished items of scenery including timber flats, staging units and other 3D scenic items.

## **Salary and Benefits**

The rate of pay will be the Real Living Wage (currently £9.90/hour), with an annual salary of £18,018, paid monthly in arrears.

You will also receive:

- Access to a free and confidential Employee Assistance Programme;
- Auto Enrolment in pension scheme with employer contribution;
- A comprehensive induction and annual training programme;
- Complimentary ticket allowance for Lyric Theatre Productions.

## **Working Week**

The standard working week will be 35 hours over 5 days, to include between one and two days per week in college during term-time between September and July as part of the apprentice scheme. The hours worked may vary depending on the needs of the business and there will be times when additional hours will be required to meet the demands of the role. Any additional hours worked will be compensated by additional time off in lieu. Due to the nature of this position a significant degree of flexibility is required from the post holder to meet the demands of the theatre's schedule.

## **Annual Holiday Entitlement**

20 days discretionary plus bank/public holidays (currently 11 days). There may be occasions when it is required to work on a public or bank holiday for which a day in lieu will be given.

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<sup>1</sup> The NRC Newtownabbey campus is the closest college to the workshop. The Level 2 Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship standard is also available at Belfast Met and South Eastern Regional College (SERC). The Lyric has no formal partnerships with any educational providers, and it will be for the successful candidate to determine the most appropriate location.

## Essential Criteria

- Apprentices must be aged 18 or above and have five GCSEs including a Grade D in Maths and English.

## Desirable Criteria

- Previous woodworking experience (this could be at school, home, workplace etc.);
- Full clean driving licence and own transport.

## Required Skills

- A strong work ethic and a commitment to supporting and growing the work of the Lyric Theatre Workshop;
- Ability to work as part of a team;
- Good time management skills;
- Punctuality;
- A genuine interest in learning;
- A genuine interest in fabrication;
- A genuine interest in developing a career;
- Ability to be hands on and proactive;
- Fitness and stamina to fulfil the requirements of the post including the ability to work at height.

## Required Interests

- Interest in Wood and/or metal work;
- Interest in CAD/CAM software;
- Interest in developing skills in rigging.

## Skills & Behaviours

Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate the following qualities:

- Self-motivated and proactive;
- A high level of personal drive and energy;
- Calm and confident with excellent interpersonal skills;
- Ability to collaborate and be flexible in a pressured working environment.

