DRAPER

POSITION SUMMARY

Salary: $900–$970/weekly with benefits
Location: Hartford, CT (in person)
Supervisory role: No
Department: Production
Reports to: Costume shop director
Status: Full time, seasonal, non-exempt (40 hours per week)
Benefits: Yes

Who we are

Over the last year, we closed our theater doors to in-person performances, just like many others across the globe. We paused and used the time to listen, deliberate, and reflect. We looked at ourselves, and we looked at our home city—one that is mixed across differences such as race, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and more. At our core, we became consciously aware that we do not reflect the breadth and beauty of diversity the way we could and should.

As we open our doors once again, we at Hartford Stage are seizing the moment now and taking intentional, deliberate actions to truly become Hartford’s stage.

Who we’re looking for

Maybe you’ve worked in engineering, teaching, hospitality, carpentry, or IT. Maybe you were a bartender, a ride-share driver, a nurse, or an HR manager. Maybe you’ve been looking for a different place with new scenes and fresh lighting for a while, or maybe theater has been your life for a long time, and you can’t wait to get back. This role could be that opportunity.

The position we’re filling

As the draper, you will highlight your ingenuity and skills. You are an incredible craftsperson with fabric and think critically in three dimensions. You will primarily be creating the patterns of costumes from sketches as you supervise their construction. You have a good sense of design and are familiar with all forms of clothing construction. You will have your hands in all of it. You are an incredible multitasker and an experienced communicator. You’re someone who sees the big picture and enjoys getting into the nitty gritty. You’ll be part of an ambitious team of artisans and will partner closely with the first hand/stitcher and costume shop director.

What you’ll be doing

• Consulting with the costume shop manager and designer regarding costume designs, discussing construction methods and design implementation
• Taking artists’ measurements
• Developing patterns and muslin “mock-ups” using a flat patterning or draping approach
• Supervising fittings in consultation with costume designer including constructed, purchased and rental garments
• Correcting patterns and cutting fabric or instructing the first hand on corrections and providing sewing instructions
• Consulting with costume shop director to establish deadlines for construction and keeping costume shop personnel informed of progress
• Cooperating fully in keeping the costume shop and stock clean and organized
• Attending previews (alternating with other costume shop colleagues)
• Assisting in costume stock as necessary
• Helping to maintain sewing and Merrow machines
• Conducting other duties as necessary

**What you bring**

Excellence in:

• Working collaboratively and inclusively, mindful that we each bring our own unique styles, thinking, cultures, and talents to the team
• Verbal and written communication and interpersonal skills
• Costume construction, draping, sewing, and tailoring
• A deep knowledge of costume periods
• Time management, prioritization, and exceptional attention to detail, and commitment to follow-through
• Project coordination of multiple concurrent deliverables with competing and unpredictable schedules
• Creative problem-solving
• Applying diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and anti-racist practices, as well as their direct impacts on department activities

Requirements:

• Three years experience in working in a professional theatre as a cutter/draper or comparable experience
• Ability to lift 50 pounds due to the nature of this role

Bonus points:

• Multilingual

**What we bring**

• A dynamic downtown location in a creative state capital with quick access to the coast, mountains, and many restaurants, shops, markets, breweries, and activities of all kinds
• An invitation to contribute to a team of talented and collaborative individuals committed to a Tony award-winning legacy
• A fun, engaging, inclusive, and equitable workplace committed to a transformative, experiential theater
• A once-in-a-career opportunity to make an impact in the field and in the Hartford community

**A place where everyone belongs**

Since the shutdown—under new artistic and executive leadership—our team has been actively engaged in reducing bias in all we do, and in the way we think about and practice equity, diversity, and inclusion—from drafting job postings to the performances we bring to our stage. It all begins with a workplace where every voice is heard, where every person is seen—a place where everyone belongs.

We look forward to welcoming you into the conversation. All are encouraged to apply.

Please email your letter of interest and most current resume to HR@hartfordstage.org.