OPERA AUSTRALIA

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour Student Placement Opportunities

Opera Australia are offering students from a range of disciplines the opportunity to gain experience in the planning and operations involved in putting on a large-scale outdoor theatre event such as Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour. **Student involvement must be part of a formalised placement program which is endorsed by their education institution.** Placements are available to students who are keen to be involved in and whose studies are relevant to the following areas:

Event Administration

Proposed period: Mid-January to Opening Night.

Event Management student placement students will assist the Major Projects Team with the planning and administration of Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, assisting in such tasks as supplier research, sourcing equipment and services, *Who's on Location* setup (the project's visitor management system) and scheduling assistance using Opera Australia's artistic planning system ArtsVision. Students will receive training in the systems they use and the opportunity to attend and observe project planning meetings.

Production (Stage)

Proposed period: Mid-January to Opening Night.

Production (Stage) student placement students will assist the Production Team within Major Projects with the planning and execution of pre-production and production activities. This position may require assisting in such tasks as sourcing production equipment and services, assisting with production administrative and planning tasks, and observing and assisting the stage and site build. Students may have the opportunity to work with various technical contractors and, depending on the skills and interest of the induvial, to observe and assist in various departments.

Technical Theatre

Proposed period: Mid-February to Opening Night.

Technical Theatre student placement students will assist and observe a technical production department (sound, lighting, mechanists etc.). This role may be involved in the bump-in, performance and/or bump-out periods and the department this role is placed in will depend on the capacity of the department and skills and interest of the individual.

Operations (Site)

Proposed period: Mid-February to Opening Night.

Operations (Site) student placement students will assist the Major Projects team with venue operations during the performance season. This position will be under the direction of the Site & Venue Operations Manager and may involve tasks such as attending the site office, registering staff, visitors and assets using *Who's on Location* (the project's visitor management system) and assisting with site communications. Students will receive training in the systems they use and the opportunity to attend and observe operational work-in-progress meetings.

Assistant Stage Manager

Proposed period: Mid-February to Closing Night.

Assistant Stage Manager student placement students will assist and observe the Stage Management team which may involve such tasks as assisting with the management of performing company and creatives, setting scores and calling cues. Students will have the opportunity to work very closely with a professional Stage Management team and attend production and key creative meetings.

What previous student placements have to say:

> *"Working with the Major Projects team within their student placement scheme was a very exciting experience and an amazing insight into the workings of an outdoors opera production. Assisting both in the office and on the ground in a wide variety of roles was rewarding as it gave me an understanding of the different types of challenges facing each department, thereby empowering me to make more informed decisions. As the Set Designer's assistant, I had the amazing opportunity not only to assist and trouble shoot in set design but also to contribute creatively. Working with the Major Projects team itself was also rewarding as the team is supportive, professional and fun to be around. This placement has also led to paid work and further opportunities to grow and learn. I can only recommend this placement to anyone serious about working in opera, theatre or any staged outdoors event."*

Anina Carl 2016, Advanced Diploma in Design for Live Productions and Events, Design Centre Enmore.

Participating students are required to:

- Commit to the placement including enthusiastic participation and regular attendance at activities.
- Demonstrate a high level of organisation, team-work and communication skills.
- Follow internal Opera Australia policies, including WHS, Codes of Conduct etc.
- Students will be required to cover all their own expenses, including travel and food expenses.

Opera Australia strongly recommend that any interested student discuss this placement with their course coordinator to determine that it will contribute towards their course's intended learning outcomes.
The timeframe for all placements is flexible depending on the needs of the placement department and a student's course requirements and schedules will be determined on an individual basis.