



Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour: *La Traviata*

2020 Student Placement Brief

Opera Australia is offering students from a range of disciplines the opportunity to gain experience in the planning and operations involved in staging a large-scale outdoor theatre event such as 2020's Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, *La Traviata*.

Key dates:

Pre-production: November 2019 – February 2020

Rehearsal period: 24 February – 14 March 2020

Site Construction period: 3 March – 26 March 2020

Production week: week commencing 17 March 2020

Bump out period: 27 April – 8 May 2020

Placements are available to students who are keen to be involved in and whose studies are relevant to the following areas:

Event Administration

Event Management 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, setup of 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.

Event Administration – Site & Venue

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 materials for site design, compiling quotes & administering documentation. Students will receive training in the systems they use and the opportunity to attend and observe project planning meetings.

Production (Stage)

Production 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 individual, to observe and assist in various departments.

Technical Theatre

Technical Theatre 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. The department that this role is placed within will depend on the capacity of the department and skills and interest of the individual.

Operations (Site)

Operations placement students will assist the Major Projects team with site and venue operations. 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, 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.

Stage Management

Stage Management 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.

Directorial Placement

The Directorial Placement will take place with Director Constantine Costi observing all facets of the directorial process.

What previous student placements have to say:

"Observing how a professional production works was incredible. I feel like I have a much better understanding of how professionals in my industry conduct themselves and their roles. I especially loved being able to watch how all the different roles interacted with each other."

- Heather Edmonds, Bachelor of Theatre/Media, Charles Sturt University.

"It was a giant and lavish production with multiple moving parts, an internationally acclaimed cast, and a floating set on Sydney Harbour- to be a part of this production was an absolutely unforgettable experience which has inspired me to pursue directing in the future."

- Stephanie Todd, Bachelor in Communications (Media Arts and Production), UTS Sydney.

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.
- It is a compulsory requirement that all students entering the HOSH site complete an online induction prior to arriving on-site

Student involvement must be part of a formalised placement program which is endorsed by their education institution.

Opera Australia strongly recommends 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 the student's course requirements, and schedules will be determined on an individual basis.

For more information, or to apply please email phoebe.lane@opera.org.au