



Hair, Wigs and Make-up Apprenticeship

Job Description

What is a hair, wigs and make-up technician?

Within the performing arts a hair, wigs and make-up technician is responsible for: making, fitting and styling wigs according to the design, as well as applying make-up and special effects if required. During a production they will work closely with performers and be responsible for getting them ready with hairstyles, wigs and make-up, and then be involved in checks and quick changes throughout the performance.

Purpose of the apprenticeship

The Hair, Wigs and Make-up Apprenticeship is an opportunity to acquire practical craft skills relating to hair, make-up and special effects make-up within the performing arts.

What is involved?

You will divide your time between West Thames College (Isleworth) and the ROH in Covent Garden. The amount of time you spend at the ROH will increase as the apprenticeship progresses.

- At the ROH you will spend your time with the Wigs and Make-up team, working on both operas and ballets, working under appropriate supervision as a full and active member of the team.
- You will work towards a Level 2 Apprenticeship in Hairdressing and a Level 3 Diploma in Technical, Special Effects, Hair and Media Make-up.



Role / Title:

Hair, Wigs and Make-up Apprentice

Reports to:

Apprenticeships Manager

Line managed by:

Wigs and Make-up Senior Manager



What is involved? (cont.)

- There will be the opportunity to spend time in the wigs and make-up department of another venue or a commercial supplier in the second year of the scheme.
- The working week is 42.5 hours.
- You will be supported throughout the apprenticeship by college tutors, wigs and make-up staff and the HR Team.

What will you do in the workplace during the apprenticeship?

- Haircutting, colouring, setting and dressing of hair for all show related purposes.
- Wig and facial hair work (including: making, fitting and maintaining wigs and hair pieces and period hairstyles).
- Research, and application of theatrical and character make-up for fittings, rehearsals and all show related purposes using a variety of techniques and covering all periods and cultures.
- Create bald caps, body parts, wounds and blemishes, using a variety of materials.
- Apply stage bloods and other special effects make-up.
- During shows apply wigs, beards, hair pieces and make-up as needed.

In addition you will be expected to:

- Apply all skills gained in training and put them into practice.
- Participate in other training as necessary and appropriate.
- Have a positive and responsible attitude to health and safety.
- Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by the department manager, or Apprenticeships Manager.
- Attend regular meetings with line managers and the Apprenticeships Manager to review progress.
- Submit learning logs and diaries to the Apprenticeships Manager as required.

Who will you be working with?

You will work alongside a variety of people and departments throughout the apprenticeship, but you will work most often with the following teams:

- Wigs and Make-up technicians
- Wigs and Make-up Manager (new productions)
- Stage Managers
- Designers
- Performers.



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Minimum Essential Requirements

- You must be **18 years old or over** on 6th September 2021.
- You must **not** have completed a degree or equivalent qualification in the UK or elsewhere.
- You must have work authorisation for the UK.
- Ability and willingness to work long hours, including evenings and weekends.

What are we looking for in a Hair, Wigs and Make-up Apprenticeship?

- Have an interest in hair and make-up for performance, including period styles.
- Have an interest in theatre and the performing arts.
- Haircutting experience is not essential, but would be an advantage.
- Good at working in a team.
- Confidence to work with performers.
- A helpful, positive and proactive approach.
- Good communication skills.
- Be punctual and good at managing your own schedule.
- Self-motivated to acquire new skills and knowledge.

Note:

This Job Description reflects the current situation. It does not preclude change or development that might be required in the future.

