

JOB DESCRIPTION

Role / Title: Create and Sing Programme Practitioner

Reports to: Create and Sing Project Manager

The Programme

Create and Sing is the Royal Opera House's national schools' singing and drama programme. Supporting young people's creative learning and giving voice to their creativity, our nationally and freely available resources and teacher training engages schools in making opera in the classroom.

Our teacher training offers teachers across the country the opportunity to work alongside our Programme Practitioners to explore our Create and Sing resources, schemes of work and pedagogy, building their confidence and skills for delivering Create and Sing school projects with their young people. The Programme has a focus on student creativity, and although projects build to a final outcome, the programme places as much importance on the creative learning process. Our digital resources support participating schools through a process of exploring and learning excerpts of an opera, before developing these into their own miniature performances.

Create and Sing works alongside many national partner organisations to engage schools across the UK, and now looks to engage new Programme Practitioners to support the programmes future growth.

The Role

Create and Sing Drama Practitioners take a leading role in training teachers across the country in approaches to exploring and making opera with young people, as well as contributing to the development of new programme resources and projects. Practitioners with a drama specialism are paired with a practitioner from a music discipline to co-deliver training. Practitioners join the programme from a variety of backgrounds but require strong experience in delivering creative opera or music theatre projects with young people, a passion for telling stories through music and an aptitude for training others in their specialism. Our practitioners include singers, conductors/musical directors, stage directors, composers and movement coaches/choreographers.

Due to the national nature of the programme, Practitioners are recruited from across the U.K., and are often required to travel beyond their local region to deliver training and projects. This may sometimes require overnight stays. The role also requires practitioners to occasionally travel to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for practitioner development days. Practitioners are engaged as 'casual artists' and are therefore booked on a project-by-project basis.

Key dates: Teacher training dates for 2021/2022 to be confirmed in September 2021 with additional dates and projects being booked on an ad hoc basis.

Key Accountabilities:

Delivery

- Deliver teacher training to teachers cross the UK exploring the Create and Sing programme and approaches to making opera in the classroom.
- Ensure all training is delivered in line with the Create and Sing pedagogy and ROH's inclusivity values.
- Collaborate with other Programme Practitioners and the Create and Sing Project Manager on the development of new resources and training.
- Deliver occasional in-school workshops or other special programme projects.
- Provide co-delivery, shadowing and mentoring opportunities for programme ambassadors.

Strategy

- Contribute to practitioner meetings and development days to help inform the Create and Sing programme strategy.
- Diversify the programme's offer and help it attract a broader school engagement.
- Identify local stakeholders who may help develop the programme's presence in your local area.

Liaison with Royal Opera House staff & partners

- Liaise closely with key staff members at the Royal Opera House and partner organisations as necessary.

Evaluation and Documentation

- Contribute to the evaluation of Create and Sing according to the framework provided by Royal Opera House staff.
- Maintain accurate records of the running of the project and the outcomes, as directed by Royal Opera House staff.

External Advocacy

- Act as an ambassador for opera, promoting its creative relevance to schools, teachers and students.
- Act as an ambassador for Learning and Participation and The Royal Opera House externally as directed, to position ROH as a leading advocate for music and drama education.
- Liaise closely with colleagues from the Royal Opera House and The Royal Opera Company, acting as an advisor on singing and drama educational practice as necessary.

Behaviours:

- Proactively demonstrate a commitment and contribution to the Royal Opera House's health and safety culture in all activities
- Actively promote the value of diversity in all work; uphold the ROH values and behaviours: Treat each other with Respect - Be Open - Value the Highest Standards
- Ensure confidentiality, in line with organisational policy and data protection requirements

ROH Policies and Procedures

- Learn, understand and adhere to relevant Royal Opera House policies and procedures including, but not limited to, equality and diversity, child protection and health and safety.

This position requires some travel. Work is available across the United Kingdom, therefore we encourage applications from artists based across the country.

As this work involves working with children, the position is subject to a DBS Disclosure.

PERSON SPECIFICATION:

Minimum Skills, Knowledge and Experience:

- Substantial experience in leading opera or singing based music and drama projects with children and young people of mixed abilities.
- A strong understanding of the music and/or drama education landscape in schools and the role the arts play in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Experience in training others in your specialism (this need not be teacher training but could include similar experience gained in another field).
- A passion for musical storytelling and its potential within a wider learning context.
- A strong understanding of approaches to meaningfully engaging children and young people with drama and how to connect drama across a school curriculum.
- Excellent workshop leadership and verbal communication skills.
- An enthusiasm and ability to skill share with other Programme Practitioners, ambassadors and ROH staff.
- The ability to work within a team to reflect on artistic practice and continue to develop and refine the programme and its offer.

Other Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience:

- Knowledge of opera and the arts in the formal education system, including the National Curriculum.
- Understanding of inclusive performing arts practices.
- Understanding of good practice in evaluation of arts education projects.
- Understanding of the role of digital in 21st century learning.
- Ability to deal sensitively and effectively with a broad range of people, including children.

Desirable Knowledge/Skills and Experience:

- Ability to embrace a cross art form approach.
- Experience of working within SEN/D settings.
- Excellent written communication skills;
- Proven track record of working with teachers and in schools;

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

The Royal Opera House is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment in which everyone can thrive.

