

Role Outline: Digital Drawing & Design Placement

Responsible to:	Head of Digital Drawing and Design
Liaises with:	Head of Digital Drawing and Design, Project Draughtspersons, Deputy project Draughtspersons, Digital Artist
Guidance from:	Head of Digital Drawing and Design, Project Draughtspersons, Deputy project Draughtspersons, Digital Artist

The National Theatre

The National Theatre is central to the creative life of the country. In its three theatres on the South Bank in London it presents up to 25 new shows a year and productions also play in the West End and on tour. It broadcasts to cinemas worldwide through National Theatre Live, streams plays free to UK schools and produces a wealth of digital content about theatre.

Through an extensive programme of amplifying activities – platform performances, backstage tours, publications, exhibitions and outdoor events – it recognises that theatre doesn't begin and end with the rise and fall of the curtain.

The Digital Drawing & Design Department

The purpose of the Digital Drawing and Design Department is to harness computer aided design technology to serve the needs of the National Theatre. It is responsible for the creation of artistically accurate and technically detailed drawings, 3D models and artwork that fully capture the design concept and intent of the creative team, the conversion of that information into construction drawings, visualisations and reference material and the distribution of design information to all relevant departments of the building, creative teams and contractors. In addition to production work its resources are available to support the extended work of all departments of the National Theatre through creation, collaboration and consultation. This department has evolved from the increasing demands for computer aided design for theatre and is an opportunity to be at the forefront of this rapidly developing field.

The Placement

The Digital Drawing and Design placements last two weeks to allow candidates to discover how computer aided design is used during the production process. Candidates will be taught how to use software such as AutoCad and 3DSMax, and depending on timing, can shadow a Project Draughtsperson on a show. Placement hours are approximately 10am-6pm, Monday to Friday, but with some flexibility; shorter hours when projects are quieter and longer hours around the fit up and tech periods. Placements are welcome to use their time in the DDD office to work on and to have guidance on their own projects/coursework.

Likely Tasks

1. To be taught from scratch or to improve upon existing CAD skills.
2. To attend and observe production meetings relating to show design and creation.

3. To potentially observe and assist during a fit up and technical period. (Steel toe cap boots may be required, Hard Hat will be provided)

Person Specification

1. Excellent communicator with aspiration for a career in technical theatre, preferably in Design, Technical Theatre Engineering or Construction.
2. Experience or interest in using *AutoCAD* software.
3. Experience or interest in scenic construction with a basic knowledge of the skills related to scenic construction.
4. Knowledge and experience of theatre design or a similar three-dimensional design discipline with an ability to interact and engage with the artistic concept of a design.
5. Excellent organisational and time management skills.
6. Proactive and flexible approach to work, with excellent communication and influencing skills.
7. A sympathetic approach to creative concepts and an interest in wanting to realise them in practical terms.
8. An understanding of Health & Safety issues applied in theatre.

Ideal Preparatory Qualifications & Experience

1. Should be in second or third year of a relevant course in Technical Theatre or Design or with equivalent experience.
2. Intermediate computer literacy.

Applications should be made via the question sheet available on <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/about-the-national-theatre/careers/work-placements>
All question sheets should be submitted to workplacements@nationaltheatre.org.uk