

Scenic Carpentry Apprentice

Specialising in building theatre scenery

Fixed Term Contract – 24 Months

Training: Level 2 **Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship, Site Carpentry Option, at New City College, Hackney**

Salary: £24,856 per year (£478 per week)
Hours: 40 per week Mon-Fri
Location: Waterloo Central London

About the Scenic Carpentry Apprenticeship



What is a Scenic Carpenter?

A scenic carpenter in the performing arts is responsible for creating all aspects of stage scenery, using timber and other materials. The designer produces a sketch or model box of their design for the set and the highly skilled scenic carpenters bring this design to life on the stage.

What is scenery?

Stage scenery can be anything from simple walls and platforms to elaborate buildings, floors or representations of other locations.

What is the National Theatre?

Based on the South Bank in Waterloo, London, the National Theatre is dedicated to making the very best live theatre and sharing it with as many people as possible. We aim to be as inclusive, diverse and national as possible with a broad range of productions that play in London, on tour around the UK, on Broadway and across the globe.

As well as live performance, the National Theatre's digital programmes includes NT Live, which broadcasts some of the best of British theatre to over 2,500 venues in 65 countries, and the National Theatre Collection, which makes recordings of shows available to schools in UK and abroad.

About the Scenic Carpentry Apprenticeship



Purpose of the Apprenticeship

The Scenic Construction workshop is part of the Production and Technical Department of the National Theatre and makes scenery for most of the NT shows and events.
The apprenticeship is designed to produce practical skills to a high standard of expertise.
The Scenic Carpentry Apprentice will contribute towards the making of scenic elements for the National Theatre in rehearsal and performance.
They will learn highly transferable skills and gain knowledge of materials and stage craft that will open up not just the world of theatrical construction, but also events, film, and TV.
As this is a training position, we are not looking for experience in scenic carpentry, or of professional theatre, but for someone who has practical skills, which can be applied to this apprenticeship. So, you will need to show us that you enjoy working with your hands, can work well in a team and will be committed to completing this apprenticeship.

This position is not open to those who already have any Level 4 or above qualification, such as a degree, foundation degree or any post graduate qualification

About the Scenic Carpentry Apprenticeship

What you will do during the apprenticeship

The apprenticeship will be split between the National Theatre and New City College, Hackney.



At New City College:

- You will study for a Carpentry and Joinery Level 2 – Site Carpentry Apprenticeship
- Time at college will be in 1 day a week in term time
- You can view the course overview here HERE
- You will be supported in passing functional skills in English and Maths if you need to take them.

At the NT:

- You will learn scenic carpentry methods from professional scenic carpenters, and use them in your daily work.
- Under the direction of, and with guidance from Workshop Supervisors, the Head of Carpentry and Metal, Production Managers and Designers, you will make, repair and refurbish scenery.
- You will work safely and follow Health & Safety policies and guidelines.
- You will learn how to interpret and work from technical drawings, designs, and models
- Attend dress rehearsals of shows that you have worked on.
- Work to agreed deadlines, consulting at all times with the Head of Carpentry and Metal.
- Work on stage when required, installing, and repairing scenery.

About the Scenic Carpentry Apprenticeship

- Join in safety checks and weekly planning meetings.
- Assist with deliveries and storage.
- Maintain high standards of operations and good housekeeping in the workshop.
- Participate in other training as necessary and appropriate, including visiting other workplaces on placement.
- Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by the Head of Carpentry and Metal, or the Head of Workforce Development.

By the end of the apprenticeship you will have a working knowledge of:

- Tools, hardware, and equipment
- Materials
- Health & Safety
- Sustainable theatre production methods and the "Theatre Green Book"
- Basic AutoCAD skills
- Reading theatre ground plans and bench drawings
- Basic stage craft and installation of scenery on stage
- Theatre design

Potential Progression after the Apprenticeship:

The creative industries contributed £109 Billion to the UK economy in 2021 and the sector is growing faster than the rest of the economy post Covid. Scenic Carpenters work in Theatre, Film, TV, and Events.
From carpentry, you could progress on to being a freelance Carpenter, Workshop Supervisor, Head of Department or Workshop Manager, or Draughtsperson creating technical drawings.
Previous NT Scenic Carpentry Apprentices have continued to work for the NT as freelancers, and have worked for other theatres, film and production companies, and for window dressing specialists.

(This is a Level 2 apprenticeship, therefore applicants must be suitable for study at that level and NOT hold a degree, HND, or a postgraduate qualification, or have experience of working in professional theatre)

disability confident

Job Description Scenic Carpentry Apprentice

Contract Type: Fixed Term Contract – 24 Months

Hours: 40 hours per week. This will include college and study time. You may occasionally be asked to work evenings or weekends, in which case you will be given Time Off in Lieu.

Salary: £24,856 per year, based on London Living Wage (LLW) paid monthly on the 15th of each month and increasing if LLW increases

Managed By: Head of Carpentry and Metalwork/Head of Workforce Development



What skills or experience are we looking for in a Scenic Carpentry Apprentice?

We are looking for someone who:

- Can show that they enjoy making things and has the desire to work as a carpenter
- Can follow written spoken and visual instructions.
- Is curious about the world, and keen to learn new things.
- Is able to work well within a team.
- Has a helpful and flexible approach and attitude, whether the work is routine or exciting.

- Is punctual and good at managing their own workload.
- Understands the importance of Health and Safety rules.
- Some experience of using tools, working with wood or other materials is helpful but not essential.

You will be expected to:

- Take responsibility for being on time and always work safely and considerately.
- Take responsibility for completing your college work and make sure your manager knows when a college assessor is visiting.
- Behave professionally, and keep work spaces neat and tidy.
- Work at height and sometimes in small spaces, training will be given to you before you do this.
- Be an ambassador for the NT's apprenticeship programme under the guidance and support of the NT's Press and Development departments.

You may occasionally be asked to work evenings and weekend, and will be given time off in the week to make up for it (this is called Time Off in Lieu)

(This is a Level 2 apprenticeship, therefore applicants must be suitable for study at that level and NOT hold a degree, HND, or a post graduate qualification, or have previous experience of working in scenic carpentry)

The recruitment process will involve:

- Applying via the NT's online application portal (No CV's accepted) Before 10am Monday 26th June

Candidates may then be invited for:

- A free, non-compulsory interview practice workshop in the week commencing 10th July 2023 (this is not assessed).
- Group Interviews at the NT on the 18th or 19th July 2023.
- A Skills Evaluation Day at the NT on the 25th or 26th July 2023.
- The Apprenticeship suggested start date is 29th August 2023 (but this can be changed if necessary).

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Recruitment Process

Link to apply: https://jobs.nationaltheatre.org.uk/

Closing date: **10am Monday 26th June**

Further queries: email recruitment@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Benefits

- Complimentary staff tickets for shows and NT Talks and Events, subject to availability and policy
- Discounts in the NT's bars, cafes, restaurants, and bookshop, as well as in local businesses (from Wagamama to local childcare providers & gyms on and around the South Bank)
- Access to interest-free season ticket loan and Cyclescheme partnership
- Pension schemes with Legal & General and NEST
- 25 days annual leave (plus Bank Holidays) per annuum
- Buddy scheme for new starters
- Generous sick pay
- Family-friendly employer with supporting policies
- Training and Development Programme via e-learning platform, and specialist in-person training relating to role
- On-site Occupational Health and welfare support
- Free-to-access Employee Assistance Programme, enabling counselling and mental wellbeing support, financial and legal advice, and advice on caring responsibilities
- On-site staff canteen and bar
- Staff networks including Amplified: The Ethnically Diverse Network; Disability Staff Network; LGBTQ+ Network; Parents and Parents & Carers Network
- The NT is also a member of Parents and Carers in the Performing Arts (PiPA)

We want our workforce to be representative of all sections of society and welcome applications from everyone.
As users of the disability confident scheme, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for our vacancies.
People Department 2023

disability confident COMMITTED

