

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The Production Assistant position at Madison Opera offers a hands-on experience in a professional opera environment. This volunteer position is ideal for college and high school students, and can be listed on college applications, job applications, and résumés. It is a great way to make networking connections for those interested in a career in opera.

The PA does a few hours during prep week and attends all chorus staging rehearsals, all tech rehearsals, and performances. They are part of the team and are included in all production-related events. Tasks are assigned based on interest and aptitude, but may include:

- support the stage management team with rehearsal operations
- help cue cast members
- help track entrances and exits
- help track and reset props during staging
- put timings in the score
- keep track of emergency contact forms
- light walking
- help with hospitality
- help tape out the floor
- managing the call board during performances.

A PA gains experience with a professional stage management team and other opera professionals in a supportive learning environment. A PA will learn organizational skills, people skills, communication skills, teamwork, the importance of attention to detail, time management skills, and more. These skills can be transferred to any field.

No prior experience is necessary. Ability to read music is helpful, and will open up more tasks. Interest in stage management, willingness to learn, willingness to be helpful, friendliness, and enthusiasm are a must.

In exchange for their help, PAs get a stipend of \$100 per production, parking at the Madison Opera Center garage, and two complimentary tickets.

We have 2-3 positions each season, which can be for one opera or all three.

For more information, fill out the on-line form or email krynicky@madisonopera.org.