

STORYHOUSE



Senior Technician Recruitment Pack

Antigone, 2021, Mark
McNulty



Storyhouse, 2017, Becci Lane

Contents:

- Welcome from the CEO
- Our Story
- Our Strategy
- Our Building
- The Role
- Application Process

Welcome from the CEO

Storyhouse is one of the UK's foremost cultural charities; its home in Chester incorporates a library, theatres, and a cinema. It is also an acclaimed theatre producer and runs the country's most successful regional open-air theatre in the city's Grosvenor Park, as well as the innovative Moonlight Flicks open-air cinema each year.

Storyhouse plays an important part of cultural life in Chester and continues to be a beacon of inspiration for many other cities and towns for the role it has played in social and economic regeneration, its successful and unique integration of world-class theatre, cinema, and library facilities, as well as its bold, exciting, diverse, and award-winning programming.

It is also a great place to work. We offer a flexible and supportive working environment, value experience as well as skills and qualifications, and work to ensure everyone in the organisation is aware of our equality and diversity commitments. We want to support all staff to fulfil their potential and enjoy a happy and healthy workplace.

We hope you decide to join us,

Annabel





Chester Disability Pride Parade, 2023, Mark McNulty

Our Story

You can find a bit about who we are on our [website](#), discover more about our innovative home and how it came to be in [this case study](#) by Arts Council England, or read about our renowned library in this [blog](#) by the DCMS's library team.

Above all, Storyhouse is a creative community. As a diverse cultural organisation, our home is one of the country's most successful cultural buildings housing a cinema, theatres and a library. Last year we welcomed 735,000 people through our doors. We are both a community hub and combined arts producer.

Our library attracts international recognition, known for its seamless integration, and boasts the longest opening hours of any UK public library.

In 2022, we supported 5,465 young people to connect and create, ran 200 free rhyme-time sessions, created 499 magical performances indoors and outdoors, sold 101,461 theatre tickets and hosted a total of 1,031 cinema screenings.

Visits are roughly split into thirds between event attendances, library users, and wider participation. We enjoyed the support of over 14k volunteer hours and 1,328 different individuals were involved in making and supporting our work.

Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre, which we founded in 2010, is the UK's largest regional open-air theatre, welcoming over 25,000 every summer.



This House is Your House

We've become vital part of the region's cultural landscape and a place of safety and support for the community - especially for young people, giving them a space where they can reimagine their place in the world.

Over 40 community groups use us as a base for creative activity each month, including LGBTQIA+ and disability groups, refugee integration activities, mental health support sessions, and groups combatting social exclusion by age.

We work extensively with young people and provide a range of different programmes, from youth theatre and our young company, to young leaders, young programmers, and our many schools and education programmes. Throughout our work we collaborate with local partners throughout to ensure we are reaching the people that would usually have the least opportunity to participate.

Across everything we do, we work to give people the power to build their own creative communities through inspiring stories and shared creative experiences: this house is your house.

As we blend theatre, library, restaurant and cinema services, we share inspiring stories and stage creative events which empower people to nurture their creativity and bring together communities. Through our work, we hope to build a more connected, inclusive and creative community network.

The more open we are to the true and rich diversity of our communities, the more vividly we fulfil our purpose. More engagement from more of our communities will make more of Storyhouse.

We are committed to creating a team which is representative of our communities and to bringing together those with a variety of skills and experiences to help shape what we do and how we work.



A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2023, Mark McNulty

Our Strategy...

Storyhouse is about to enter an exciting new phase in our evolution as we look to develop our programmes, based on a new strategic plan, to deliver world class arts and meet community needs.

Our Vision:

Here at Storyhouse, culture is owned by everyone.

Our Mission:

We work every day to be a creative home for our communities.

Our Values:

LISTEN CLOSELY.

True empathy takes effort. So we work hard to understand different points of view.

LOOK AROUND.

Opportunities can be spotted by anyone, anywhere, at anytime. So we always have our eyes, ears and minds wide open.

SPEAK UP.

Not everyone's stories have been told. So we use our voices to amplify those that haven't been heard.

STAND UP.

Debate and discussion make things better for us all. So we don't shy away from a challenge.

REACH OUT.

Diverse perspectives solve the hardest problems and make the best decisions. So we seek them out, and invite them in.



A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2023,
Mark McNulty



Our Resources

Storyhouse is a medium-sized charity with approximately 140 staff and a gross revenue of over £6 million per year. The charity is financially stable, with a number of steady revenue streams, including a 20-year lease and contract for services with the local authority (Cheshire West and Chester) and NPO funding from Arts Council England for 2023 to 2026. Revenue from commercial activities is also essential to the charity's financial stability, and over 57% of its revenue is earned.

Storyhouse runs two wholly owned commercial trading subsidiaries: Storyhouse Production Company Limited - creating and staging Storyhouse Originals theatre productions - and Storyhouse Catering Company Limited - providing a range of catering, retail, cinema, receiving theatre and commercial services.

Despite our financial stability, like all other charities our resources are being eroded by rising costs caused by inflation and higher energy prices, and as a result of the continued cost of living crisis, demand for free-to-access services (such as warm spaces) is increasing.

Our Building

The original parts of Storyhouse were constructed as an art deco Odeon cinema in 1936, and have been restored, extended and renovated into a library, two state of the art theatres, a cinema, restaurant, and two bars.

The larger theatre is an 800-seat proscenium arch stage. With state-of-the-art facilities, its auditorium spreads across three tiers: stalls, circle and gallery. This same theatre converts into a 500-seat thrust stage (with the audience wrapping around three sides of the stage). In this format, the auditorium spreads across two tiers, with intimate seating putting the audience right in amongst the action.

On top of the building sits the Garret Theatre and Bar. This 150-seat black-box theatre is a flexible, fully-equipped performance, rehearsal, or workshop space. It is designed to be full of work made by local creative companies, individuals, and community groups, as well as a space we hire to companies and individuals.

The 100-seat boutique cinema is designed to honour the original Odeon's history as a cinema in 1936. With red velvet, soft, sunken seating, it is a beautiful event space.

The library spreads right through the building, with a dedicated family-friendly area (with wet play, storytelling room, and arts and crafts) in The Den and extensive book-stocks covering the walls throughout Storyhouse offering opportunities for studying, learning, and research.



The Role

As one of three Senior Technicians, you will be a hands-on technician working across all areas of our programme.

You will work with the Technical Stage Manager (TSM) to successfully realise both home-produced and touring programmes. You will have significant experience within this field and will be responsible for leading other technicians, full time and freelance, in providing support to the theatres, cinema, library, Garret theatre and the organisation's wider programme both in and out of our building.

As Senior Technician, you will work across all our performance spaces, including Storyhouse's main theatre and Garret theatre within the building, Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre, Moonlight Flicks, and touring productions. You will look after equipment and teams across all work and spaces.



Role and Responsibilities

You will

- Together with the TSM, lead on stage turnarounds, rigging, flying and scenic builds.
- Lead on multiple disciplines across Storyhouse and support the TSM in managing all technical teams, both in-house staff and our pool of casual and freelance technicians.
- Be an integral part of show operation including stage, flies, sound and lighting.
- Lead on setting standards for technical excellence in all areas of work.
- Along with the other Senior Technicians, be responsible for maintaining and testing all electrical and stage equipment across all areas of the building and keeping a log of all maintenance.
- Create and keep up-to-date, detailed risk assessments and method statement documents relating to all Storyhouse work.
- Help manage our offsite storage, ensuring all Storyhouse assets are looked after to the highest standards. You will look after equipment and teams across all our work and spaces.
- In conjunction with the TSM, ensure visiting companies have all the information they need prior to their arrival and that all necessary documents have been received in return.

Role and Responsibilities (continued)

You will

- Be a key part of the stage team preparing and running our home-produced season, including working on all home-produced shows as required and work with designers to realise their artistic vision.
- Be a key person responsible for safety across all your areas of work, including the security and safety of technical, stage and working spaces and the welfare of staff and audiences, especially relating to all electrical equipment.
- The Senior Technician will work across all our performance spaces. This includes but is not limited to Storyhouse, Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre, Moonlight Flicks and touring work.
- Take a lead role in the construction phase of our Open-Air Theatre site.
- Work with the TSM to monitor budgets and financial planning systems ensuring effectiveness, efficiency and value for money.

Role and Responsibilities (other)

You will

- To act in accordance with Storyhouse's policies and procedures, and undertake any training as required by Storyhouse.
- Uphold and champion Storyhouse's core values.
- To act as a role model for other staff and contribute to the life of the organisation as a whole.
- Act as a mentor to a young person, providing guidance, support, and shadowing opportunities in line with their personal growth plan.
- Any other duties that may be required as part of the Senior Technician's role.
- Comply with all company governance and policies to avoid risk and minimise company liability.

Skills & Experience

Some experience working knowledge of ETC EOS lighting consoles

Flexibility to work across all technical disciplines when required to support the wider team

Calm, organised and flexible under pressure

Able to manage multiple, parallel streams of work, prioritising and problem solving in order to produce consistently high quality outputs to deadlines and within budget restraints

Excellent interpersonal skills, approachable with a positive and enthusiastic attitude

Able to work effectively as part of a team

Ambition to learn, support and be part of a talented creative team

Minimum 3 years' experience in a similar role within an operation of a similar size, scope, and complexity

Leading crews during fit-ups and get-outs

Experience of managing and working to a budget

Experience with rigging, including chain hoists, truss, and counterweight flying

Experience of PAT testing

Experience with video projection

Opportunity and Staff Benefits

Title: Senior Technician

Reports to: Technical Stage Manager

Salary: £27,456 per annum, plus Get Out payments

Contract: Permanent, full time, 40 hours per week

30 days annual leave per year, including bank holidays, increasing annually up to a maximum of 3 extra days

Birthday leave

A defined contribution pension scheme or a People's Pension scheme

Employee Assistance Programme, including Medicash

Cycle to Work and Travel to Work schemes

Hybrid working practices and flexible working requests available from day one

Discounted gym membership schemes

Complimentary tickets and discounts on food and drink

Company sick pay after qualifying service

Application Process

Applicants are asked to submit a cover letter expressing interest in the role and a CV demonstrating relevant experience online at:
www.storyhouse.com/jobs/

Applications should be submitted on or before 21st July 2024. We will review applications and interview suitable applicants as they are received. This role will close early if a candidate is successful before the advertised close date.

For an informal discussion about the role or support in the application process, please contact our Head of People, Emma Hutt, at peopleteam@storyhouse.com.

No agencies please.



Faustus That Damned Woman, 2023,
Mark McNulty



GDPR

Personal Data Notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent.

The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

STORYHOUSE