



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: JPYAP Ballet Pianist

Reports to: Music Director and Head of Music Staff, The Royal Ballet

Main purpose of the job

This is an exciting opportunity for a pianist to undertake a two-year contract as a ballet pianist, working as part of a team with the music staff of The Royal Ballet

The JPYAP pianist will work as a member of music staff on multiple mainstage productions reporting to the Head of Music Staff and working to the highest possible standards of pianism, musicianship and study

Main Responsibilities

Study and Preparation

- Undertake study and preparation as required for the repertoire
- Undertake coaching sessions and related study as advised by the Head of Music Staff
- Attend and observe any rehearsals or other sessions as scheduled
- Mark, correct and maintain music scores
- Respond in a positive way to direction or feedback as required

Playing

- Play for classes and rehearsals as scheduled for the Royal Ballet and the Learning and Participation department
- Play for occasional auditions for the work of the Royal Ballet (dancers and singers)
- In collaboration with the teacher, provide musical energy and inspiration in ballet class
- Be sufficiently prepared to play to the highest possible standard

Teamwork and Networking

- Maintain the highest standards of attendance, reliability, teamwork and professionalism in all aspects of the work

- Make a positive contribution as an ambassador for the JPYAP and the Royal Ballet
- Create positive relationships with colleagues between the Royal Ballet and the wider Royal Opera House, communicating diligently and respectfully
- Support the work of the JPYAP, Development department and Learning and Participation teams, including at evenings and weekends where required
- Build external relationships and networks relevant to the role and the profession, with guidance from the Head of Music Staff

Schedule Requirements

- Plan well to be able to fulfil scheduled work requirements to the highest standards while having the capacity to respond to unforeseen needs
- Manage own workload proactively, seeking timely support and guidance when required

Continuous Improvement

- Manage own learning and continuous professional development in close liaison with the Head of JPYAP, the Royal Ballet Music Director and Head of Music Staff
- Contribute to a culture of information sharing, collaborative working and team working
- Contribute to a culture of innovation and continuous improvement
- Keep in touch with developments in music for ballet and contemporary dance, as relevant to the role

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Knowledge/Skills and Experience

- A high level of pianism and general musicianship, and a good understanding of the dance-music relationship
- Some experience of playing for professional ballet class and rehearsal or ability to demonstrate in audition the skills required to achieve this in a short space of time
- Commitment to developing a broad knowledge of the classical ballet repertoire
- Ability to gain an understanding of the working practices of a major theatre
- Demonstrated capacity for effective teamwork and harmonious working relationships at all levels
- Ability to manage own learning and to respond constructively to feedback and direction
- Demonstrated ability to work in a high performance culture with continuous improvement at its heart

Job Requirements

- Flexibility to be available for scheduled classes and rehearsals, including Saturday half days as required, and occasional Sunday classes
- The highest standards of attendance, reliability and professionalism across all aspects of the work
- Ability to undertake domestic or foreign touring as required as a member of music staff

This Job Description reflects the current situation.

It does not preclude change or development that might be required in the future.