

MONTAGE THEATRE ARTS

Job Description and Person Specification: Singing Teacher March 2018

Background of the Company

Montage Theatre Arts (MTA) is a charity based in Deptford, South-East London and was established in 1998. The company runs 37 weekly classes in performing arts plus holiday courses for young people and the elderly from the local community. With a respected track record for offering excellent and vital opportunities, MTA continues to help people from a highly deprived area acquire techniques and skills, develop confidence and social ability, whilst also breaking down barriers between cultural groups and generations. Montage Theatre Arts is managed by General Manager, Emma Hobday, and a board of trustees.

Montage's full programme takes place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays after school and on Saturday at Prendergast Hilly Fields College in Brockley. We also run a holiday programmes throughout the year. MTA students also regularly take part in internal performances and local community events including Lewisham People's Day and Brockley Max.

Children and Young People's classes are overseen by the Youth Programme Manager in consultation with the General Manager. Freelance teachers are line managed by Richard Hay, Youth Programme Manager.

Details

The freelance teacher would be required to teach the following classes:

Saturdays (during term times – min. 33 weeks per year).

09.15 – 10.00	Mini Montage (Ages 3 – 5)
10.00 – 11.00	Level 1 (Ages 5 – 7)
11.00 – 12.00	Level 4 (Ages 11 – 16)
12.00 – 12.15	Unpaid Break
12.15 – 13.15	Level 3 (Ages 9 – 11)

Fee: £97.50 per Saturday session.

Course Content:

Each term must end having produced at least 2 songs per level. We prefer songs to be from Musical Theatre but can, with consultation, come from other genres of music. A full handover with over 1 year's repertoire will be given to the successful candidate for ideas.

If it is a whole school performance term, number of songs might be greater (for example cross level 'finale/opening' songs) and solos.

Singing classes should develop singing technique and a musical understanding with rhythm, harmony and pitch including group and solo work with warm-up games and exercises as well as working on numbers for the shows. These numbers must reflect the style, context, narrative and content of the show they are from and/or the content for the show we are putting them in.

Group numbers might also include dance/staging, to be arranged in consultation between the Youth Programme Manager, the Dance Teacher and Drama Teacher.

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The content you produce must allow each child the opportunity to perform, and not showcase only those who are more confident; Your content should be challenging enough in certain sections/parts to engage those who may be more advanced. You may offer children solos and larger roles within the group- but please make sure this is done fairly.

Performances

All courses work towards performances for parents at the end of each term. These include in-class demonstrations but also can include whole school shows (such as our annual pantomime) and/or larger showcases.

MTA students also regularly take part in external performances, such as local community events including Lewisham People's Day and national performance platforms such as Music for Youth.

Additional Classes

Singing teachers are welcome to set up private classes in our location with students which work towards examinations and/or just for fun. These will be booked and paid for through the MTA office. No teacher is to arrange private lessons with MTA students without MTA's prior consent and knowledge.

Person Specification

Essential

- You must genuinely enjoy working with children, young people and adults, with relevant teaching experience, preferably in musical theatre and with all these age ranges.
- You will have good references with a formal teaching qualification such as a music degree and/or extensive experience in leading workshops and shows, particularly in musical theatre.
- You must have proven experience teaching children under 5 years to 16 years and/or adults as appropriate.
- Keyboard/piano skills essential – must be good enough to be able to teach melodies and harmonies and lead the students in vocal warm ups. (A keyboard and piano is available to the teacher)
- You are looking for long-term commitment to the company.
- You must enjoy staging musical numbers as well as have a vision in developing a musical theatre programme in collaboration with the teachers from other disciplines.
- Classes must be highly structured for development over the term and the year.
- You must be police checked with an Enhanced DBS Check, although this can be done once position is taken if not done already.

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THIS JOB DESCRIPTION IS A GUIDE TO THE NATURE OF THE WORK REQUIRED OF THE FREELANCE SINGING TEACHER. IT IS NEITHER WHOLLY COMPREHENSIVE NOR RESTRICTIVE AND DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE FREELANCE CONTRACT.

Other details

Contract: Freelance
Salary: £26 p/h
Location: Prendergast Hilly Fields College, Adelaide Avenue, Brockley, SE4 1LE
Probation: 2 weeks

Staff can also take one course or workshop run by Montage Theatre Arts at concessionary rate. There are also numerous professional performance and teaching opportunities through our contacts, including Montage Theatre Arts' own work.

Application process

If you wish to apply for the position please submit a completed application form.

Applications may be submitted by post or email to the General Manager, The Albany, Douglas Way, London, SE8 4AG, gm@montagetheatre.com