

Position Overview

Job Title: Dresser

Reports to: Costume Shop Manager

FLSA Status: Seasonal hourly

Compensation Rate: \$580.95/wk plus overtime

Benefits: Housing, Company Recognized Holidays that fall within contract, Barter Partnership Programs & Discounts

Position Summary

Barter Theatre seeks a dresser to be a part of the wardrobe team for our summer rep. The Dresser works with the Wardrobe Supervisor and other dressers to assist the actors with dressing and quick changes, to clean and maintain all costumes and costume pieces, and to safeguard the integrity of the costume design throughout the run of each production. Contract dates are May 18-August 8, 2026.

Responsibilities

- Read and understand scripts and costume plots
- Attend at least one run-through prior to tech
- Assist in the creation of run sheets, check-in sheets, preset lists, and update same in a timely manner as needed
- Assist in the preparation of dressing rooms and quick change areas
- Assist with load-in/load-out
- Learn and execute all assigned presets and quick changes
- Assist with laundry and costume/wig maintenance in accordance with AEA guidelines
- Other duties as assigned

Qualification & Experience

- Minimum of one year experience dressing in a performing arts setting
- Basic machine and hand sewing
- Laundry and stain removal
- Proficiency with laundry machines, industrial irons, industrial and domestic sewing machines, steamers
- Basic wig maintenance
- Basic stage makeup
- Strong communication and diplomacy skills
- Proficient in information technology (Google suite)
- Valid driver license and clean driving record preferred
- Ability to lift and carry at least 40 pounds, to climb stairs, to stand for long periods of time, and to function in very low lighting

Organizational Overview

Currently celebrating its 93rd year, Barter Theatre is a repertory company of resident artists dedicated to serving others by creating world-class theater in the heart of Appalachia. Barter's vision is to maintain a sustainable model of producing world-class theater that entertains, engages, and connects artists and audience, while reflecting the inherently Appalachian values of hard work, generosity, service, and story.

Barter produces musicals, classic plays, and new work March-December including the nationally renowned initiatives Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights and Black Stories Black Voices.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commitment

Equal employment opportunity and an inclusive and representative staff are fundamental at Barter Theater. Our employment and promotional opportunities are based upon individual capabilities and qualifications without regard to race, color, religion, gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation/preference, political position, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status, or any other protected characteristic as established under law.

To Apply

To apply for this position, please submit a current resume, cover letter, and four references to asullivan@bartertheatre.com. The cover letter should include why this position and organization are attractive to you and what you feel you bring to the table that makes you a great fit for Barter Theatre.