



## **JOB APPLICATION PACK: OPERATIONS ASSISTANT**

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## **LONDON STUDIO CENTRE: BRIEF HISTORY**

The internationally recognised Higher Education Conservatoire, prides itself on training excellent dancers, singers, and actors, allowing students to specialise in classical ballet, contemporary dance, jazz dance and musical theatre. But also producing graduates who have formed their own companies and established themselves as choreographers, teachers, producers and directors. London Studio Centre offers a comprehensive suite of programmes/courses including a BA (Hons) Theatre Dance programme for students who are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the theatre, an MA in Dance Producing and Management, for students looking to move into the production side of dance theatre making. An MA Dance Performance in all four specialist areas of classical ballet, contemporary dance, jazz dance and musical theatre. A Foundation degree in Professional Dance Performance, a BA (Hons) Professional Performance (Top up), an MA in Dance Education and a PGCert Teaching Professional Theatre Dance providing a robust offering of Higher Education provision.

London Studio Centre is rooted in Western theatre dance forms, and enjoys a tradition of dance education dating back to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when Leon Espinosa (1825-1904) settled in London. In 1872, he established a school for ballet and related theatre arts, after having trained at the Paris Opera and then danced and taught at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow. His son Edouard Espinosa (1871-1950) continued the family tradition as one of the founders of the Royal Academy of Dance and then the British Ballet Organisation.

London Studio Centre's founder, Bridget Espinosa, was heir to this distinguished tradition, to which she contributed her own expertise as a dancer and director. Under her leadership LSC pioneered a multi-disciplined dance education fitted to the needs of the modern world of dance and musical theatre, which included the possibility of university validation of its provision. Her son, Nicholas Espinosa, continued these developments and, in 1995 Middlesex University validated London Studio Centre's BA Honours Theatre Dance programme. The Director, Nicholas Espinosa is the Chairman of bbodance and a Trustee for Yorke Dance Project.

LSC began life in and around Tavistock Square in central London. In 1987 it moved into property on York Way, next to Kings Cross Station, where it remained until 2012. In 2012 the college relocated to artsdepot in North Finchley where it has created a unique collaborative partnership with the performing arts venue. The partnership provides the conservatoire with rehearsal and performance spaces that facilitate LSC's high quality training, and the building's bright, contemporary feel has quickly provided the ideal atmosphere for London Studio Centre's new home.

LSC's facilities comprise ten dance studios, two fully equipped theatres, acting and singing rooms, a library with IT suite and a lecture room. The triple-height atrium café and social areas also offer ample space for relaxation.

London Studio Centre is committed to providing an education in dance and related subjects for the professional theatre, in an environment where the individual creative talents of each student are nurtured. All programmes we offer maintain the Centre's mission to be a world-class conservatoire for professional dance and musical theatre, enabling artists to reach their creative potential in performance, creation and production and, thereby, shaping the future of the profession. LSC values and offers a holistic approach, one that keeps pace with recent developments in dance pedagogy. Student representation and student surveys contribute significantly to annual course monitoring and make an important and valuable contribution to quality management.

London Studio Centre is accredited by The Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre (CDMT) and is listed as one of CDMT's Accredited Schools. The CDMT ensures the provision of high-quality professional dance, drama and musical theatre training through accreditation of full-time dance and performing arts schools and has provided the industry benchmark of quality assurance for professional dance and musical theatre training in the UK since 1979.

London Studio Centre's most recent Higher Education Review for Alternative Providers by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) took place in 2017 where it received the following judgements about standards and quality:

- The maintenance of the academic standards of awards offered on behalf of degree-awarding bodies and/or other awarding organisations **meets** UK expectations
- The quality of student learning opportunities is **Commended**
- The quality of the information about learning opportunities **meets** UK expectations
- The enhancement of student learning opportunities **meets** UK expectations.

Annual monitoring since the review has confirmed LSC continues to make commendable progress.

In 2019 LSC received a Gold rating from the Teaching Excellence and Students Outcomes Framework (TEF) award from the Office for Students, cementing its 2018's Gold Award. LSC was part of a selective group of 76 prestigious universities or colleges in the UK offering excellence in higher education including; University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, The Royal Academy of Music, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and The Conservatoire for Dance and Drama. To be awarded a gold rating LSC has delivered "consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students" and be of "the highest quality found in the UK". For our 2019 rating the Office for Students noted "that students from all backgrounds achieve consistently outstanding outcomes" and that LSC graduates have "exceptionally high" employment rates and student satisfaction rates.

The majority of the teaching staff are actively engaged in professional theatre, enabling students to be aware of new techniques and trends. Students are given an unparalleled range of opportunities to gain performance experience, both in-house and in professional venues.

LSC's alumni are working worldwide with dance companies, in musicals and mainstream theatre from the West End to Broadway, in television, film and commercial dance. Graduate students have embarked on successful careers, joining companies such as Rambert Dance Company, English National Ballet, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, Michael Clark Company, Richard Alston Dance Company, Sarasota Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Scottish Dance Theatre, ZooNation, Vienna Festival Ballet, the Royal Shakespeare Company and Royal National Theatre; while others have appeared in leading roles in musicals in the West End and elsewhere including *American Idiot*, *Billy Elliott*, *Cats*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Chicago*, *Hairspray*, *Jersey Boys*, *Les Misérables*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Miss Saigon*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Memphis the Musical*, *Stomp*, *The Book of Mormon*, *The Lion King*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Thriller Live*, *We Will Rock You* and *Wicked* to name but a few. Many graduates are also working as independent, creative artists in dance and theatre.

# LSC's Mission, Vision and Values



## VISION

To be a world-class conservatoire for professional dance and musical theatre, enabling our graduates to reach their creative potential in performance, creation, production, and education, thereby, shaping the future of the profession.

## MISSION

To enable students to become innovative and skilled performers, creators, producers, and education managers, at the cutting edge of professional dance and musical theatre through the development and delivery of innovative programmes.

## VALUES

The London Studio Centre is committed to:

- Excellence in professional practice
- Preserving and developing the heritage of dance and musical theatre
- Engagement with a diverse and representative range of dance forms and celebrating their origins
- Respect for the individual, inclusive of their culture and background
- A culture of health and well-being
- Freedom of thought and expression, fostering academic freedom of speech
- Promoting entrepreneurship and innovation
- A culture of creative opportunities
- Life-long learning and continuing professional development
- Students as partners in quality management and enhancement

# Job Description: Operations Assistant



## General Functions:

To support the day-to-day administration of resources at LSC, including AV set up for lectures and presentations (both in the studio and online), studio set up and office supplies. To be the first point of contact for students and visitors.

## Consultation:

In carrying out their duties the Operations Assistant will consult with the Director, Head of Student Programming, Head of IT and Resources, artsdepot and other staff and students of London Studio Centre, where necessary.

## Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

### *Facility Resources*

- Assisting the Head of IT and Resources with the day to day running of the facilities and managing resources
- Ensuring all studios are prepared for the start of each day
- Assisting with the set-up for events, such as auditions, staff development events and open days
- Overseeing the technical set-up for all lectures and seminars
- Scheduling/overseeing various planned maintenance visits
- Assisting the Head of IT and Resources with the maintenance of costumes and props for LSC performances
- Managing stationery and First Aid supplies
- Managing the recording of classes, including assessment recording and the storage of video data
- Troubleshooting issues with studio equipment

### *Administration*

- Being the secretary for the Learning Resources and Enhancement Committee, Technology for Learning Team, Facilities Team and Health and Safety Committee
- Being a member of a range of meetings, including but not limited to (those noted above, as well as) the Administration Committee, Student Induction Team and Calendar Team
- Dealing with and delegating day-to-day queries sent to the college's general email account
- Managing the daily post into and out of the college
- Managing and monitoring internal student studio bookings and external studio hire
- Updating LSC's intranet content and monitoring the content update from other collaborators
- Supporting the technical administration of incoming students
- Supporting the administration of student registers
- Facilitating faculty inductions/tours
- Assisting with general administrative tasks and support for the Education office

### *General Duties*

- Assisting other departments in any general duties to ensure the smooth running of LSC. This could include general administration assistance, assisting students with their requirements or looking after visitors
- Ensuring any interactions with students are documented
- Attending all meetings as designated. To document all meetings that you are involved in, both in and away from the office, in the central diary
- Being available to assist with the smooth running of all productions and various LSC events
- Being available to attend LSC performances on a professional basis to entertain guests of LSC (at least four during an academic year)
- Ensuring you are aware of all events and developments in relation to the day-to-day running
- Attending staff performance review meetings as required, undertaking staff development or training courses that are mutually deemed appropriate and participating in LSC's CPD Recognition Scheme.

## To Whom Responsible:

Director, Head of Student Programming, Head of IT and Resources

### Employment Details:

Job Role:	Operations Assistant	Line Manager:	Head of IT and Resources
Contract type:	Full time, permanent following probation	Area of work:	Administration/Student Support
Salary Grade:	Grade 1.0	Salary:	Circa £20,000 per annum
Working hours:	Normally 8am - 4pm Monday to Friday	Location:	London Studio Centre, North Finchley

### Person Specification:

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
<b>Knowledge:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent IT Skills - particularly MS Excel, Word and Outlook and willingness to adapt to new systems</li> <li>Confident supporting staff and students with IT and resources issues</li> <li>Experience of working with Moodle</li> <li>Experience of working within the performing arts, specifically dance sector</li> <li>Experience of working within Higher Education</li> </ul>	 X  X X  	   X X 
<b>Qualifications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree level qualification</li> </ul>		X
<b>Organisation and personal skills:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to utilise experience and quickly adapt to new tasks</li> <li>Excellent attention to detail and accuracy skills, with the ability to work calmly under pressure</li> <li>Ability and willingness to balance and work flexibly to manage workload to changing pressures and demands</li> <li>Excellent administrative and organisational skills</li> <li>Proven ability to pro-actively work as part of a team</li> <li>Positive, can-do attitude</li> <li>Good time management skills</li> <li>Ability to deal with confidential and sensitive information</li> <li>Strong communication and interpersonal skills</li> </ul>	 X X X  X X X X X X X 	
<b>Other:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An understanding of UK HE policies, practices and academic regulations in relation to student administration and support</li> <li>Proactive approach to continuing professional development</li> <li>Current DBS</li> <li>First Aider</li> <li>Full, clean driving licence</li> </ul>	  X   	 X  X X X 

## Guidance notes

### Application

To make an application, please complete the following documents:

- Application form:  
<https://londonstudiocentre.wufoo.com/forms/lsc-job-application-form/>
- Equal Opportunities Monitoring form:  
<https://londonstudiocentre.wufoo.com/forms/lsc-job-application-equal-opportunities-form/>

The forms must be submitted by **9am, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

If you have any questions regarding the position please do not hesitate to contact Stephanie Ahern at [humanresources@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:humanresources@yahoo.co.uk).

Please note:

- Should you require this application in another format please do not hesitate to contact us
- All correspondence will be made by email, please therefore make sure a valid email address is provided and checked during the application process
- CV's will not be accepted without a completed application form.

### Interview

LSC aims to notify candidates as soon as possible after the closing date whether they have been invited for an interview. The interview will be conducted during the week commencing **17<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

The proposed start date is to be negotiated but should be **February 2022**. The exact date to be agreed.

### Outcome

London Studio Centre will endeavour to inform all applicants of the outcome of their application (by email); however, if you have not received an invitation for interview from LSC within two weeks of the deadline, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Please note we are unable to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants regarding their application/interview.

Final appointment is subject to receipt of satisfactory references.

### Equal Opportunities

As an equal opportunities employer and as part of LSC's commitment to equality and diversity. LSC welcomes applications from all suitably qualified persons and encourages applications from candidates with protected characteristics. As an institution promoting anti-racism, we especially encourage applications from ethnic minorities. All appointments will be made in accordance with the Equality Act (2010).

To monitor the effectiveness of LSC's equal opportunities policy, we would appreciate the completion of the equal opportunities form with any completed application form.

### Data Protection

London Studio Centre conforms with the Data Protection Act (1998) and General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and will treat all information received with the relevant security.