

CAL SHAKES

Position Description Costume Apprentice Seasonal, Non-Exempt Employee

The Organization

Cal Shakes is an award-winning, nationally recognized regional theater, with offices in Berkeley, an outdoor main stage performance venue in Orinda, and community programs throughout the Bay Area. Cal Shakes expands access to and relevance of the arts by fostering a participatory culture among a diversity of audiences, artists, and learners throughout the Bay Area.

Our Mission

Cal Shakes redefines the classical theater for the 21st Century, making works of extraordinary artistry that engage with our contemporary moment so we might learn about ourselves and each other in the fullness of our world.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

At Cal Shakes, we believe that equity is a practice. Our actions—both onstage and off—can have a positive social impact by exposing oppression, addressing historic injustices, and showing how power can be transformed and shared in different ways. We endeavor to dismantle systemic bias by actively including, reflecting, and creating opportunities for our diverse Bay Area communities. We recognize that this work is ongoing and often imperfect, but we are committed to facilitating respect for the many facets of the human experience.

Position Description

This position is an introduction into the rhythm and protocols of a professional costume shop. The Costume Apprentice will work on all productions under the guidance of the Costume Director and in association with Costume Designers, and Professional Drapers. The Costume Apprentice will participate in fittings as well as the swatching, shopping, and pulling of costumes. Participants will get hands-on experience with stitching, alterations, craft work, and fabric manipulation. This position will also provide an introduction to the technical rehearsal process as well as to the functions and operations of wardrobe, quick changes, and production meetings. There will also be the opportunities to serve as the Assistant Costume Designer on at least one Main Stage production, and to be part of the creative team for Artistic Learning Summer Conservatories.

Time Commitment: 30-40 hours per week

Duration: 3-5 months between May and September

Supervision: Costume Director oversees this position.

Compensation: Paid at the prevailing minimum wage.

Qualifications

You are an ideal candidate if you:

- Share with us a respect for diverse backgrounds and voices and a commitment to inclusion and equity
- Enjoy working in a diverse, creative, collaborative, and fast-paced environment
- Are self-motivated, responsible, and highly creative
- Have an understanding of costume history and terminology.
- Have Design experience or completed upper-division design courses required for this position.
- Have skills in sewing and construction.

Special Environmental Factors:

- Variable schedule, some evening and weekend hours.
- Theater is open-air with extended standing and walking on uneven surfaces.
- Work at the theater includes exposure to sunlight, and hot and cold weather for extended periods of time.
- Open office environment, frequent interruptions, background noise

This position will remain open until filled

Please email a cover letter and résumé to:

Naomi Arnst

Costume Director

narnst@calshakes.org (with "Costume Apprentice" in the subject header)

*California Shakespeare Theater has an inclusive work environment and actively embraces a diversity of people, ideas, talents, and experiences. We highly encourage people of color, individuals with disabilities, and other historically underrepresented groups in our community to apply.