

Resident Sound Designer/Engineer (A1) at Derby Dinner Playhouse

Short description

Derby Dinner Playhouse, one of the oldest and largest continually operating professional dinner theatres in the country, located in southern Indiana, seeks a full-time Resident Sound Designer/Engineer. The Sound Designer/Engineer designs and runs sound for 8 productions over the calendar year. This is a full-time salaried position with benefits, and this A1 is a part of a small staff of artists, producers, and technicians serving 200,000 audience members annually.

Resident Sound Designer/Engineer (Audio 1)

Derby Dinner Playhouse is currently seeking a Resident Sound Engineer/Designer to design and run sound beginning with our 2026-2027 season. The A1 is responsible for running mainstage shows, loading shows in and out, designing sound, and purchasing and maintaining audio equipment. This position is full-time and year-round based on the calendar schedule of Derby Dinner Playhouse. The A1 works with an A2 (who will primarily run our Children's Theatre productions.)

Derby Dinner Playhouse is currently finishing its 51st season and is located in Clarksville, Indiana, just outside of the Louisville, Kentucky metro area. Annually, Derby Dinner produces 8 mainstage productions, 4 children's musical theatre productions, and a seasonal concert series bringing in 6-8 guest performances in our 500-seat arena-style theatre. For more information, please visit derbydinner.com.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Live mix vocals and orchestra for all assigned shows
- Run QLab playback systems
- Create sound design for all productions
- Ensure professional installation of all sound equipment, as needed
- Assist in safe rigging of and focus of speakers and other equipment
- Attend run-throughs and assist in paperwork generation for show run
- Complete preshow equipment checks
- Maintain a professional appearance and attitude, including interacting with patrons and other team members
- Attend to actors in a calm and professional manner as part of a show crew
- Assist actors with handling and wearing wireless microphone equipment
- Solder and repair cabling and equipment as needed
- Assist with strike at the end of show runs
- Re-stock equipment and cable of struck shows

Qualifications

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform the essential duties satisfactorily. The requirements listed are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

Experience

- Prior experience running sound and mixing wireless microphones and live orchestra for theatrical productions
- Experience in basic theatrical audio equipment including digital mixing consoles, QLab show control software, Mac computers, and wireless microphone setup
- College degree in technical theater or equivalent experience preferred

Skills and Abilities

- Skilled in following signal flow and basic audio connectors
- Strong listening, interpersonal, and communication skills
- Organized and able to interpret and follow directions
- Ability to keep calm under pressure
- Ability to reliably work a variable schedule based on season calendar
- Strong expertise programming QLab and mixing sound for musical theatre
- Strong expertise with electronics, soldering, and troubleshooting
- Proficiency with wireless, head-worn microphones, and their rigging
- Proficiency with safely rigging loudspeakers at heights above 6 feet
- Proficiency safely working with, and wiring, electrical connectors
- Proficiency with closed circuit video systems and Clear-Com systems preferred
- Operate hand and power tools safely

Physical Demands/Work Environment

The work environment and physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

Necessary accommodation can be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Ability to:

- sit and stand for long periods of time
- stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl and talk or hear
- carry items up and downstairs
- work long hours during tech/dress rehearsals
- use hands in small and large motor tasks
- perform tasks in dim or low light
- work safely at heights above 30 feet from ladder and from lighting grid
- stand, walk, bend, use hands frequently, stoop, and lift at least 50 pounds
- work with moderate noise level

Hours

- 8-show week, Tuesday–Sunday, 6:30-10:30pm; Matinees Wednesdays and Sundays, 12:15-4:00pm
- Additional pay for performance weeks that exceed 8 performances
- Technical rehearsals vary and frequently require longer hours with lunch/dinner breaks.

Salary and Benefits

- Salary is \$35,000-\$40,000 commensurate with experience and production assignments
- Medical insurance available after 60 days of employment with a portion of cost paid by Derby Dinner and a portion paid by employee
- 401(k) plan available
- Paid vacation
- Assistance with relocation, if applicable
- Position to start early May 2026

To Apply

Please send a resume, letter of interest, and 3 professional references to Associate Producer, Annie Myers, at amyers@derbydinner.com.