

opera  
north

Access  
Specialist



# Opera North's purpose is to create extraordinary experiences every day, using music and opera to entertain, engage, challenge and inspire.

## Our people

Working at Opera North you will be part of a company and group of people committed to fulfilling this purpose. Whatever role you take we will provide you with an induction plan that introduces you to your job and the team you'll be working in, as well as giving you the opportunity to meet colleagues across the company. Our success in delivering against our purpose will be built on the commitment, skills, diversity and well-being of the people who work at Opera North, and we will invest in training to develop our people both professionally and personally, because we believe this strengthens not only our company, but also the wider creative sector.



**Our communities and audiences are part of us and we are part of them.**



# Our award-winning work tours to theatre stages and concert halls throughout the North and beyond.



## Who we are

Based in Leeds, rooted in the North of England and international in outlook, our award-winning work tours to theatre stages and concert halls throughout the North and beyond, including to London and major international festivals. Alongside touring opera, in Leeds we curate an eclectic artistic programme of gigs, concerts, spoken word and film in the Howard Assembly Room. We aim to make work that is bold, innovative and ambitious, always looking for new ways to share and create with audiences.

## Music for everyone

Opera North believes opera and music is for everyone, and champions diversity in artists, repertoire and audiences. Through our Learning & Engagement team, the Company connects with communities and inspires each generation, aiming to enhance the health and well being of people in the cities, towns and villages where we work through arts participation and performance. In recognition of our work with refugee groups, Opera North holds the status of Theatre of Sanctuary.

## A new home

In 2021 we moved into our new home, the Howard Opera Centre. It is a world class rehearsal facility for our orchestra, chorus and all the artists we work with, sharing the same building as our new education studio where everyone is welcome to learn about and make music. We have also created a modern flexible working environment for our staff and given our venue, the Howard Assembly Room, a new lease of life with a dedicated entrance and public spaces, together with restaurant and bar in the heart of Leeds.

## Leeds as a capital of culture

Leeds is the only city in England outside of London to have a resident full time opera company, ballet and repertoire theatre as part of a diverse, collaborative and thriving cultural scene. That rich offer has been complemented by a growing tech sector. Surrounded by the stunning Yorkshire countryside including the Dales, Moors and North Sea coastline, Leeds is a fantastic place to live and work.

## Purpose of the role

To manage and deliver Opera North access initiatives, projects and content and deliver great experience for customers with access needs. To facilitate and advocate for access requirements; offering support, guidance, knowledge and experience to enable the organisation to deliver best practice in accessibility; embracing new practices and technologies.

## Reports to

Marketing Lead (CRM).

## Key accountabilities

- Overseeing the booking of access providers for performances, liaising with the Artistic Administration and Technical teams.
- Supporting the Marketing Lead (CRM) to deliver an in-house project to enhance our access offering.
- Working closely with the Audiences team to organise and evaluate relaxed and dementia-friendly performances.
- Working closely with the Audiences team to advise on digital accessibility, build access audiences and deliver access-focused marketing campaigns.
- Preparing and outsourcing key accessible content pieces.
- Championing access within the organisation and researching new approaches to access.
- Attend performances – whether rehearsals or shows – to ensure a good understanding of the work of the company to inform the efficacy of campaigns.
- Some weekend or evening work as required.
- Perform related duties or projects as assigned.



## Job requirements

### Experience / skills required

- Good understanding of best practice in accessibility or lived experience of disability.
- Experience in project management.
- Ability to prioritise varied tasks with multiple deadlines.
- Excellent IT/Microsoft skills, including Excel.
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.

### Functional/ leadership competencies

- Confident in building relationships across all teams and levels within the organisation.
- Ability to champion accessibility within the organisation.





## Terms and conditions

**Contract type:** Part-time, for an initial fixed-term period of 2 years.

**Salary:** £28-32k per annum (pro rata).

**Hours of work:** 2 days a week (hybrid).

**Holiday entitlement:** 33 days inclusive of 8 statutory holidays, per annum (pro rata).

**Pension:** Opera North will automatically enrol you into the company pension scheme upon appointment and after 3 months' service will contribute equivalent to 5.5% of your basic pay, should you meet the current legislative criteria. You will be required to make a personal contribution of 2.5% of your basic pay. We reserve the right to make future changes to our pension arrangements.

### Equity, diversity and inclusion

We promote equity, diversity and inclusion in our workplace and make recruitment decisions by matching our needs with the skills and experience of the candidate. As we work to address underrepresentation in our workforce, we are particularly keen to hear from applicants from the global majority or those with other protected characteristics.

The successful candidate must have the right to work in the UK or be ready to obtain it.

### General responsibilities of everyone who works for us:

- Represent the company values and purpose to create extraordinary experiences everyday
- Work collaboratively and co-operatively with all team members and take an active part in team meetings and discussions
- Be an ambassador for Opera North and follow our policies and procedures
- Play your part in ensuring that everyone who comes through our door is welcomed and treated with respect

### How to apply

To apply for this role, please send a CV and covering letter via the Hireful website.

If you need any help completing your application including any adjustments to the application process, and if you are applying under the Disability Confident Committed scheme please contact [appointments@operanorth.co.uk](mailto:appointments@operanorth.co.uk) to make us aware.

**Good luck with your application and we look forward to hearing from you.**



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