



90 Benchmark Road, Suite 300

Avon, CO 81620

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**POSITION:** Technical Director / Crew Chief, Vail Dance Festival

**LOCATION:** Vail Valley, Colorado (Vail, Avon, Edwards, Eagle)

**STATUS:** Active

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### **VAIL VALLEY FOUNDATION – OVERVIEW**

Since our inception in 1981, the Vail Valley Foundation's mission has been to "provide leadership in athletic, cultural, and educational endeavors to sustain and enhance the quality of life in the Vail Valley." We have the privilege of annually providing the Vail Valley with a vast array of world-class events and programs, literally and figuratively bringing the world to the Valley and introducing the Valley to the world.

Fueled by the generous support of donors, coupled with the support of the community and its volunteers, the Foundation is responsible for such treasured annual events as the Birds of Prey World Cup, Vail Dance Festival, the GoPro Mountain Games, free community concert series such as Hot Summer Nights, and two spectacular performing arts venues in the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater in Vail and the Vilar Performing Arts Center in Beaver Creek. In addition, the Foundation periodically brings major international events to Vail and Beaver Creek such as the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships.

The VVF education efforts are focused on one goal—to give every child in Eagle County access to education-based programs that ignite passions and expand horizons. To achieve this goal, the foundation identifies educational gaps from cradle to college, then develops and funds programs that provide youth with the skills, confidence, and support to become outstanding leaders in the community and the world. Tens of thousands of students have benefited from our education and enrichment work over more than three decades. With programs that include the Magic Bus, Power Hours, COPA Soccer, GirlPowHer, The CLUB, Dollars for Scholars, and AmeriCorps Peak Pathfinders, YouthPower365 helps our community's youth reach their potential.

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## TECHNICAL DIRECTOR / CREW CHIEF, VAIL DANCE FESTIVAL

This part-time seasonal position works closely with the VDF Production Stage Manager, Director of Production, and Festival Manager to execute the Vail Dance Festival. This position leads the Props, Stagehand, & Carpentry crew, part of the overall Production team responsible for executing the on-stage performances. This role is critical to ensure the safe, creative atmosphere that is so crucial to the artistic endeavors of the Festival.

This role will benefit from an individual who leads with a calm yet authoritative demeanor, earning the respect of their colleagues through decisiveness and a friendly, open hearted nature. Key elements of this role rely heavily on this position's ability to maintain open lines of communication, lead by service, and maintain a standard of care that creates a warm and pleasant environment for everyone involved in the Festival. Collaboration and teamwork with VDF staff and artists are integral to the success of this position. This position directly reports to the Production Stage Manager and Production Manager.

### ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

#### *Pre-Production / Load-In & Out / Rehearsals*

- Supervise and assist in the install and strike of all Festival performance and rehearsal venues, including the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, the Vail Mountain School rehearsal spaces, the Golden Peak Tent rehearsal studios, the Performance Pavilion at Nottingham Park, and others. This involves pre-Festival prep and post-Festival wrap-up.
- In collaboration with Stage Management & Production Management, generate and communicate daily calls for the props/stagehand & carpentry crews.
- Supervise and manage the props/stagehand & carpentry crews. The teams' general duties include but are not limited to:
  - Install onstage Festival masking and dance lighting towers (in collaboration with Festival Head Electrician).
  - Install, care for, & spike the Festival's (5) marley floors and (4) sprung dance decks.
  - Install and maintain backstage dressing and lounge areas, to include pipe & drape, seating, portable heaters, and other items as needed.
  - Take ownership of the daily care of the dance floors, spike tape, floor cleaning supplies, dancer amenities, dance barres, and other items as needed.
  - Assist Stage Management in the daily open and close of mainstage venue, including pre-class/performance onstage sweep & mop, maintenance of backstage dressing areas, set-up of dance barres, props, backstage heaters, and other items as directed.
  - Assist in sometimes daily transport of dance barres between rehearsal spaces.
- Attendance at rehearsals (when requested) for supervision & hands on execution of props presets, run of rehearsal details, and cleanup.
- Assist Venue crew in changeover of seating and layout in orchestra pit.
- Supervision of and/or hands-on truck loading and unloading at VDF warehouse, rehearsal spaces, theaters, and other facilities.

- Coordinate & work with other departments regarding the reloading of storage trailers as well as storing non-performance items in the venue space.

#### Run of Show

- Serve as part of the Festival's running crew for each performance on the mainstage at the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater.
- Supervise, assign, and assist in:
  - Continual maintenance of a clean & safe floor both on & off stage.
  - Check/refresh all spikes, as needed.
  - Check/repair floor seams, as needed.
  - Replenish dancer amenities, as needed, to include water cooler & cups, onstage dancer tissues, rosin boxes, etc.
  - Run props presets & cues in rehearsal and performance, as needed.
  - Check for missing & broken props; repairs as needed.
- Provide clear and consistent communication to Stage Management Team to ensure all venue and backstage needs are met.

#### VDF General

- Work with full-time staff at performance and rehearsal venues to ensure and execute a successful VDF residency.
- Liaise with visiting artists, companies, and staff in the venues to assist with any issues that may arise.
- Maintain a VDF presence and elevate the experience of individuals within the venues.
- Assist in the execution of all fringe events and activities that take place within the venues, including but not limited to Master Classes, open rehearsal, Q&A sessions, and additional community events.
- Facilitate a productive creative process through proactive, solution-oriented problem solving.
- Proactively identify, resolve, and communicate potential issues or concerns that may affect staffing needs or schedules.
- Work together as a team with other staff to create a safe, positive, and healthy work environment.
- Participate in orientation and training activities such as pre-festival virtual meetings and in-person activities to promote professional development, team-building, and institutional knowledge.
- Assist in additional tasks related to successful execution of the Vail Dance Festival.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR POSITION:

- Proven organization, time-management, and inter-personal skills.
- Ability to create a Festival environment conducive to teamwork, professionalism, and willingness to go above and beyond to accomplish the end product.
- Previous experience working and excelling in a fast paced, multi-level, project-based environment with emphasis on timelines, quality, and delivery.
- Experience in a backstage dance/ballet setting preferred.
- Basic stagecraft carpentry skills preferred.
- Experience installing and caring for marley dance floors preferred.

- Self-initiative, attention to detail, and a customer-centric philosophy.
- Capable of remaining focused and calm under stressful situations and able to quickly adapt to changing conditions.
- Exceptional relationship management and problem-solving skills.
- Excellent communication and skills.
- Proven ability to make critical decisions independently.
- Team approach and willingness to assist others when called upon.
- Willingness to work in outdoor conditions with variable weather.
- Effective time management and prioritizing of tasks.
- Comfortable working independently.
- Confident in giving direction.
- Ability to perform physical labor.
- Must be able to successfully pass a background check and have a valid driver's license.
- Successful candidates must provide proof of vaccination for COVID-19 due to the nature of the work of the Vail Valley Foundation.

ADDITIONAL PREFERRED SKILLS:

Theater, ballet/dance running crew, special events and festival experience. An interest in the arts, specifically dance is not required but preferred. Prior backstage experience preferred. Backstage, particularly in a dance environment, is a place which demands the upmost decorum, respect, and sensitivity, as it is often that artists are in a period of intense focus and in various states of dress. Candidates should express interest in theater production and/or similar fields.

BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION:

This is a paid part-time seasonal position. This position begins July 24, 2022, in-person in Vail, Colorado. This position will conclude after the Festival on August 10, 2022.

This position is paid a flat fee within a range of \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00, depending on experience, and receives a per diem.

From July 23, 2022, to August 11, 2022, the Vail Dance Festival will provide shared accommodations for this position in the Vail, Colorado area. The Vail Dance Festival will book and arrange all necessary travel to/from the Festival, including air travel and ground transportation.

TO BECOME A CANDIDATE:

Please send a cover letter, resume, and references to [cmorgan@vvf.org](mailto:cmorgan@vvf.org).