



90 Benchmark Road, Suite 300

Avon, CO 81620

POSITION: Operations & Artist Services Intern, Vail Dance Festival

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

STATUS: Active

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 and 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.

OPERATIONS & ARTIST SERVICES INTERN, VAIL DANCE FESTIVAL

This internship position works closely with the Sr. Director of Operations, Senior Festival Manager, Festival Coordinator and Operations team to execute the Vail Dance Festival. This individual is responsible for assisting in all operational needs and activations of the Vail Dance Festival, as well as proactively providing support for all visiting artists and companies to ensure a seamless, successful event. This individual is the on-the-ground, in-the-moment problem solver who quickly adapts to any situation and executes effective solutions to any issue. Key elements of this internship 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. This position reports directly to the Festival Coordinator and Sr. Director of Operations and works closely with other Vail Dance Festival interns.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Artist Services

- Works closely with the Festival Coordinator to ensure that all visiting artists and companies are provided the highest standards of care.
- Serve as the primary liaison for visiting artists, companies, and staff during their time in Vail—providing assistance, resolving issues, and proactively addressing potential concerns
- Work with Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater and Vilar Performing Arts Center staff to ensure a successful VDF residency.
- Assist in communication of logistical details such as lodging, transportation, F&B and Hospitality.
- Assist Rehearsal Managers and Operations & Logistics Interns in maintaining venues, managing rehearsals and executing performances and community events.
- Ensure that lunches, dinners and daily hospitality are maintained and organized at various Festival venues.
- Coordinate with PR/Marketing/Communications team to schedule and execute artist interviews.
- Coordinate with Development Team to schedule artist appearances and social events.

Operational Support

- Support the VDF Operations Team in executing all Festival logistics for visiting artists, companies and staff including transportation, lodging and hospitality.
- Assist with the execution of all fringe events and activities, including but not limited to Master Classes, Dancing in the Streets, Dancing in the Park, and additional community events.
- Set up, operate, and break down audio equipment for festival events as needed.
- Oversee and operate the Transportation Desk, coordinating in-town shuttles, local transportation needs, and all transportation logistics for artists, staff, and guests.
- Assist in the install and tear-down of all Festival venues, such as the Festival Headquarters, Rehearsal Studios, festival events and others. This involves pre-Festival prep and post-Festival wrap-up.
- Deploy wayfinding and information signage plan under the direction of VDF Operations Team.

- Assist Rehearsal Managers to operate and maintain all venues, as well as execute all performances and community events.
- Assist Merchandising Intern to install and breakdown merchandise setup for all performances and community events.
- Assist VVF Development team with the set-up and tear-down of all social and outreach events during the Festival.

Other

- Provide clear and consistent communication to team members to ensure all artist and operational needs are met.
- Proactively identify, resolve and communicate potential issues or concerns that may affect staffing needs or schedules.
- Work together as a team with other staff and interns 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 as needed in additional tasks related to successful execution of the Vail Dance Festival.

REQUIREMENTS FOR POSITION:

- Ability to perform physical labor with the ability to lift up to 30 lbs.
- Proven organization, time-management, administrative and computer 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.
- 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 skills.
- 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.
- Proficient use of Microsoft Office including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Advanced English skills, both written and oral.
- Must be able to successfully pass a background check and have a valid driver's license.
- Must be legally authorized to work in the United States.

ADDITIONAL PREFERRED SKILLS:

Special events and festival experience. An interest in the arts, specifically dance is not required but preferred. Prior artist services experience preferred.

BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION:

This is a paid internship position. This position begins July 26, 2026, in-person in Vail, Colorado during the Festival. This position will conclude after the Festival on August 11, 2026. This position's travel dates to/from Colorado will be July 25, 2026 and August 12, 2026.

Hourly Rate: \$15.25/hour

Guaranteed total compensation: \$2,400.00 for the event (July 26-August 11, 2026)

From July 25, 2026, to August 12, 2026, 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. Interns will receive 2 meals daily from July 30, 2026 to August 10, 2026.

TO BECOME A CANDIDATE:

Please complete the [2026 VDF Intern Application](#).

Contact Senior Festival Manager, Harper Addison, at haddison@vdf.org with any questions