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JOB DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Description

KEY INFORMATION

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| **Role Title** | General Manager (12-month Fixed Term) |
| **Reports to** | Venue Director |
| **Responsible for** | Customer Experience Managers (Hospitality and Engagement). Role acts as overall Head of Customer Experience Department.  |
| **Hours** | Full-time, 40hpw  |
| **Contract** | Fixed Term – 12 months  |
| **Annual Leave** | 33 days per annum, inclusive of Public bank holidays |
| **Salary** | £45,000 per annum |
| **Location** | G Live, Guildford, with occasional travel |

ABOUT TRAFALGAR ENTERTAINMENT (TE)

Co-founded by Sir Howard Panter and Dame Rosemary Squire in 2017, Trafalgar Entertainment is a premium international live entertainment business focussed on new productions, venue ownership, Performing Arts education, theatre ticketing, the distribution of live-streaming innovative content and the provision of great theatres where people can come together to share in the experience of live entertainment. TE is home to Trafalgar Theatres, The Chiswick Cinema, Trafalgar Theatre Productions, Trafalgar Releasing, Trafalgar Tickets, Stagecoach Performing Arts, Drama Kids/Helen O’Grady Drama Academy, ticketing company London Theatre Direct, Stagedoor, Jonathan Church Theatre Productions, and Imagine Theatre.

ABOUT TRAFALGAR THEATRES

Trafalgar Theatres is the venue-operating division of TE. We currently operate **21** venues; including 14 in the UK regions; the Trafalgar Theatre in London’s West End and the Theatre Royal in Sydney. We’re growing fast, we’re confident in what we do, and we’re ambitious about the future. There’s never been a better time to get onboard.

We are passionate about entertainment, audiences, and the live experience and we value **Creativity, Collaboration, Excellence** and **Respect.**

ABOUT THIS ROLE

The General Manager is a new role to our venue and we are excited for someone to join the team and become vital to the success of our business. The General Manager will ensure the highest standards for all front-of-house and hospitality activities, including the in-house cafe and bars, bespoke dining events and private functions. The General Manager will also oversee the Ticket office and Stage Door operations. Managing, motivating, and developing the staff within the theatre is crucial to the role, ensuring clarity of direction and delivery of business priorities through the implementation of the business’ hospitality strategy, developed in collaboration with the Venue Director and Senior Management Team. To achieve this, the General Manager will line manage two Customer Experience Managers, with Assistants below them, ensuring the team fulfil their highest potential.

ABOUT YOU

You'll be a self-motivated, engaging, and dynamic leader with significant experience in the theatre, music, or live entertainment space.

Commercially savvy, enthusiastic, and capable of influencing others (including senior members of the TE team and third-party producer clients), you’ll be energetic, proactive, results-focused, and creative in your approach.

You’ll be resilient, able to communicate clearly and excellent at forming working relationships with others.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

**Strategic**

* With the Venue Director, develop annual front-of-house, hospitality, and events business plans and budgets, clearly setting out expected profit and service targets.
* In conjunction with the central support teams and Venue Marketing Executive, prepare and execute a comprehensive annual hospitality marketing plan.
* Working closely with central hospitality colleagues, investigating, developing, and proposing new initiatives and business opportunities for front-of-house and hospitality services.
* Work closely with the Venue Director to contribute to the venue’s overarching business plan, defining the future of the venue, and ensuring the venue’s goals are embodied in day-to-day operations.
* Deputise for the Venue Director when absent, ensuring a good working knowledge of and relationships with other departments.

**Financial**

* Monitor monthly and quarterly progress against business plans and budgets, with monthly reports of variances against budget and other associated reports as required.
* Investigation of shortfalls or overspending against target KPIs and developing agreed measures to rectify variations to realise overall budgetary targets.
* Oversee the implementation of appropriate price structures and product ranges based on group tariffs.
* Oversee the management of the Zonal till system and other retail solutions for customer transactions and reconciliation.

**Operational**

* Oversee the management of the Front of House operations, including the bars, cafe, programme of dining events and corporate and private hires, to ensure they are delivered to the highest standards of presentation and quality.
* Oversee the event programme with the Customer Experience Manager – Hospitality, ensuring successful delivery and developing an event strategy with the Central Events Team, including MICE events (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) for local businesses.
* Work closely with the Customer Experience Managers to liaise with Visiting Companies and Tour Managers to ensure their requirements are met.
* To assist the Venue Director in managing the theatre diary to ensure that all ancillary spaces are maximised, supporting the theatre’s community and commercial objectives.
* Provision of appropriate staffing levels on the budget for the Ticket office, stage door and front of the house.
* With the Technical Manager and Buildings & Maintenance Manager, ensure all areas and their décor are maintained to a high, appealing standard, and all equipment is kept in good order.
* Collaborate across to departments to integrate sustainability and environmental awareness into all ways of working.
* Support the integration of accessibility and inclusion into every aspect of the customer journey.
* Work closely with the Creative Learning team to develop, organise, and facilitate the work experience programme in venue.
* Support the venue’s Creative Learning offer in order to bridge the gap between the venue’s commercial and outreach activity, as well as incorporating wider initiatives from the Trafalgar Entertainment Trust.

**Customer Satisfaction**

* Develop, implement, and manage the highest standards of Customer Service in all Front of House and backstage areas, including communication and guidance for all staff.
* Deliver our ‘Four Pillars’ customer services training programme for staff and volunteers, in line with TE policies, ensuring the maximum involvement from all departments.
* Collaborate with the Venue Marketing Executive to oversee and review activity on the Guest Experience Management platform (HGEM) - including mystery shopper reports, guest reviews, social reviews – with the aim to increase the venue’s net promoter score and ensure consistently high levels of service are maintained within the front of house teams.
* With a focus on exemplary customer service, oversee the in-venue ticketing services for guests and visiting companies, ensuring collaborative working between all customer-facing teams.
* Oversee all customer feedback relating to the venue operations. Work with your direct reports to investigate and respond appropriately and share, where required, with colleagues to improve service standards.

**Recruitment, Training and Development**

* Recruitment, induction, training, performance development, and monitoring (including setting and monitoring of personal targets) of direct reports to ensure their total contribution to achieving business and service targets.
* Undertake any relevant training and development that may be required and keep abreast of relevant industry developments.

**Health & Safety**

* To understand and have an excellent knowledge of managing all current Health & Safety legislation, licensing regulations and Food Hygiene legislation, including acting as the venue’s Designated Premises Supervisor.
* Leading the venue to ensure it scores highly on all safety audits, environmental health audits, food safety audits, and meets the requirements of the company’s food safety management system.
* The implementation of the venue’s emergency and evacuation procedures as outlined in the Venue Security & Business Continuity Plan, including all relevant training, drills, and briefings, in collaboration with the Senior Management Team and the relevant statutory authorities.
* Undertaking and documenting risk assessments relevant to the front-of-house and Hospitality departments, including dissemination and review.
* Act as Deputy Safeguarding Officer, supporting and developing venue- and company-wide safeguarding initiatives.
* Ensure departmental and company Health & Safety procedures are carried out in all duties.

**Other Responsibilities**

* Act as a key holder of the building, ensuring smooth and safe operations and security procedures are maintained.
* Dress in accordance with Company uniform policy and wear protective clothing as issued and instructed.

This Job Description is not an exhaustive description of your duties.  You will be required to adopt a flexible approach to your role and responsibilities. From time to time, you may be required to undertake such alternative or additional duties as may be commensurate with your skills, experience, and capabilities.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

* Venue financial performance is achieved through control of costs.
* Internal and external audit scores for Health and Safety, Food Safety, Facilities Management and Human Resources.
* Visit Feedback scores from front-of-house and back-of-house customers.
* Personal development/training and the development of the front of house team.

Trafalgar Entertainment is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees. We are curious, courageous, and ambitious, empowering people to challenge and innovate in pursuit of excellence.