

APPRENTICESHIP:	Technical Direction Apprenticeship [Undergraduate level]
PRODUCTION:	August Wilson's <i>Fences</i> at the Mark Taper Forum and other Center Theatre Group productions as scheduling allows
MENTOR(S):	Isaac Katzanek, Technical Director
SCHEDULE:	January 2027 – June 2027; up to 112 hours
COMPENSATION:	\$2,065
APPLICATION DUE:	12pm PT, October 14, 2026

APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW:

The Apprentice will work with the Technical Director throughout the process of [August Wilson's *Fences*](#) with the potential to work across other Center Theatre Group productions based on the discretion of the Technical Director. The Technical Direction Apprentice would observe and be exposed to how a professional regional theatre operates to coordinate the assembling of the set. In many educational settings, students may do everything from designing, building, and assembling the set. Whereas in a professional regional professional theatre, there are designers and technicians who design and build the set with the technical direction team overseeing and coordinating the assembly process. Apprentices will observe the rigging and scenery load-in process, learn more about union partnerships and relationships, as well as be a part of conversations to trouble-shoot and refine during technical rehearsals. There may also be opportunities to shadow opportunities at the other theatres.

What is technical direction? Technical direction is a job with a wide and varied toolkit, comprised of both hands-on and computer-based components, utilizing both construction knowledge and organizational skills. Technical Directors can come from many backgrounds. If you have experience in drafting (hand or CAD), technical/mechanical design, project management, scenery construction, or related fields, this may be an area of interest for you.

Important to note: Because part of this opportunity will be at the Mark Taper Forum, it will be primarily observational when inside the theatre. The Mark Taper Forum is a union house, and only Local 33 members can physically move items on the stage.

The locations will be the Mark Taper Forum and Music Center Annex in downtown Los Angeles, The Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City, and the CTG Costume Shop and Prop Warehouse in Boyle Heights. All dates will happen in person unless otherwise noted. Ideally, the Apprentice would have strong availability for the following schedule, working no more than 6-hour calls:

- TBD – Orientation with Program Director Time (2 hours)
- TBD – Professional Development Sessions (4 hours)
- TBD – Apprentice & Observer Luncheon (1 hour)
- 4/6/26 – Rehearsal (1 hour, Optional)

Week of April 12 (up to 21 hours)
Week of April 26 (up to 21 hours)
Week of May 10 (up to 21 hours)
Week of May 17 (up to 21 hours)
Week of May 26 (up to 21 hours)

Apprentices (and a plus 1) are invited to attend Opening Night on June 2. These hours are not included in your Apprenticeship hours.

Eligibility

The Technical Direction Apprenticeship is open to:

- Current undergraduates at two-year or four-year colleges and universities;
- People who have graduated from a two-year or four-year college or university with an undergraduate degree within the last 12 months;
- People who have pursued an alternate path to formal education (examples: military veterans, students at technical or trade schools, people who went directly into the workforce after high school)

Additional requirements:

- All applicants must be curious about pursuing a career in **live theatre**.
- Must have some **demonstrated interest in the area** in which they are applying (inside or outside of a school setting).
- Must have **strong availability** for the duration of the Apprenticeship period.
- All applicants **must be over 18**, but there is no upper age limit.
- Graduate students, people with professional and/or paid experience in live theatre, people who no longer identify as early-career, and/or who do not demonstrate adequate availability to meet the requirements of the program will **not** be considered.

NOTE: International students may apply as long as they have a social security number.

Questions

Please keep responses to no more than 750 words, **total**. You will submit your responses using the electronic application form available on CTGLA.org/Apprenticeships.

1. What do you hope to learn or gain from the Technical Direction Apprenticeship, and how might it impact your career goals?
2. Please outline any previous relevant training or experience in the area of this Apprenticeship, including theatre and/or technical or production experience.
3. What interests you about Technical Direction and *August Wilson's Fences*? We recommend researching the production and Technical Director.
4. Please describe your availability during the period from the **listed range of dates**. Address the specific time commitments outlined in the description. Standing commitments such as a Monday evening class, work on Tuesdays and Thursdays, etc. **may** be accommodated but must be disclosed in this application.
5. Please tell us about your "origin story."
This program values emerging artists' voices from all backgrounds. An individual's unique perspective is invaluable to the theatrical creative process to bring great stories to life and

create theatre magic. Please include any information that you feel is relevant to how you became the artist you are today. This can include family influence, identity, education, location, environment, etc.