



For our upcoming production, LEF Theatre Group is looking for an enthusiastic

## **MEMBER of the PROPS TEAM (M/F)**

(3 – 10 hours/week)

### **LEF Theatre Group**

LEF, or the *Leiden English Freshers Theatre Group* was founded in 1997 by faculty members and students of the English Department of Leiden University, in an effort to combine their love for the English language with the passion they had for the theatre. Since then, the company, run solely by dedicated volunteers, has performed a multitude of plays and even musicals in theatres throughout Leiden and Leiderdorp, ranging from the time-honoured Shakespearean dramas to the bombastic and more modern *Moulin Rouge*. Recently, the LEF Theatre Group has embraced a more modern, stylish and bigger approach to performing, in favour of the traditional "black-box" chamber piece-style plays. However, no matter what the production, one of the main goals of LEF has been for anyone, no matter how experienced, to have fun and to celebrate their shared love of theatre. Productions generally take place in December and May and both inexperienced first-year students ("*Freshers*") and more experienced members may apply. Besides acting and doing workshops, we also aim to be a student society in our own right, frequently organising events and taking our members out on drinks to bond.

Besides the Board, Director, and Actors, there is a fourth pillar in *LEF* on which we depend: the back stagers. In LEF, we have the following teams:

- ***Props***
- Set Design
- Lights & Sounds
- Costumes
- Make-Up

### **What you'll be doing**

While the general goal is to have fun amongst ourselves, we also strive to be a professional theatre company: well-put-together stages are an important tool in reflecting this: props can mean the difference between the audience accepting our illusion of another world or not. Working for the *LEF Theatre Group*, you'll be in charge of getting every item the actors may need while onstage, **which they'll handle themselves**. These items are called props. Clocks, walls, chairs, tables, decorative candles which are not touched, is for the Set team. Everything else is yours! You'll be thinking of and getting these items for the actors. Communication between your team, the props team and the actors is essential to your efforts.

Estimated general workload (not including travel time) will be anywhere between 3 – 10 hours a week, depending on time you'll be at rehearsals (there are usually 2 rehearsals sessions of 3 – 4 hours a week, plus you'll need to raid thrift-shops, basements, etc.). However, as the actors in the first weeks of rehearsing figure out their movements in scenes, and improvise (back-stage) actions, they might feel they need props that are not in the script. It is therefore important for members of the props team to come to rehearsals every once in a while to understand what the actors need. Sometimes you'll use more time in a week, sometimes less. Expect more work around the rehearsal weekend and performance days. While we'd like backstage members to also come to rehearsals every once in a while, the most

time you'll spend working will be with your fellow team members outside of rehearsal times. In the meantime you should be available through Facebook/WhatsApp/E-mail. Since we're a student organisation, you might be expected to sometimes offer your services on weekends. You will be provided with a budget from which to work, and being creative with the spending of it is key. There is often limited time and personnel available with which to create your vision. You'll be required to regularly update your fellow team members with your progress.

You will have the option of going out for the position of Team-Leader, or General Team member. As team leader, you'll check in with the director and stage manager every once in a while to talk about your groups ideas and discuss the progress on your group's activities. You'll also coordinate and delegate tasks among the people in your backstage team.

### **Applicant profile**

- You're communicative, active, don't shy away from a challenge, and on time! (Adhere to deadlines).
- If a character needs to get a blood transfusion in the play, needs to find an old, faded letter, or needs to drink from a bottle of brandy, how will you create it? Where will you get it? Part of your job will be coming up with creative solutions to challenges that arise from translating a play from page to screen: this is *the* job in LEF in which you will have the most creative freedom (aside from being the director). Creativity, and being creative in thinking of new possibilities is key. It is *important* that you have a vision (that overlaps with ours) and can keep us informed on your progress.
- At LEF, we're all about being a platform for *all* theatre enthusiasts. Please be aware that while most members of the Board and the director's team speak both Dutch and English, not all actors and backstage members will. *Fluency* in English is not required, but being able to at least express yourself in English well enough, and not feeling weird while speaking English with your fellow Dutchmen (if a non-Dutchie is around), *is*.
- To be considered for inclusion in our acting group, it is vital that you are available on certain key dates. These include the rehearsal weekend and performance dates, among other things. Please refer to one of our Board members during auditions for more info.

### **What LEF offers you while you are with us:**

- Work experience in one of the most fun international student societies in Leiden. The fruits of your labour will be shown on stage for literally hundreds of people to see on performance nights!
- The official LEF T-Shirt.
- A two-night production training weekend at a remote location somewhere in the Netherlands.
- Free food cooked by our lovely kitchen team during the production weekends and performance days.
- The opportunity to let your creative spirit (and capable hands) run wild in a artistically charged and dynamic organisation.
- Acting or Theatre Production workshops.
- Drink/Pub Nights!
- The chance to meet a lot of new people all excited to create something new and fun!

Letters of application can be sent to [joinlef@gmail.com](mailto:joinlef@gmail.com). Please put in the title that you'd like to join LEF, the name of the position you're trying out for, along with your name. We'll also make sure to send you the dates for the next auditions, where you'll be able to talk to us about your position.