

#### **POSITION DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATION**

Position: Capping Show Musical Director

Nature: Contract

Reports to: Capping Show Producer, Assistant Producer / Stage Manager, &

**Capping Show Directors** 

Direct reports: Capping Band

Indirect reports: -

Volunteers and Interns: -

Location: OUSA, University of Otago, Dunedin

#### **Organisation:**

An autonomous body with registered charity status and independence from the University, OUSA offers a diverse range of services to its 20,000 student members at the University of Otago, including:

- A confidential support and welfare advice service, representation and advocacy
- Numerous recreation clubs and societies and the facilities to support these
- A varied events programme
- A student radio station (Radio One)
- An award-winning student magazine (Critic).

OUSA's core responsibility is to engage its student members through services, events, representation and communication by way of a relevant, responsible, inclusive and engaging approach. One of these events is Capping Show.

Capping Show is the longest running student revue show on earth, with 130 years of history as a cornerstone of Otago student culture. The show consists of sketches poking fun at all parts of student life and includes musical and dance performances from historic performing groups with 90+ years of history such as the Selwyn Ballet and Otago Capping Sextet. Taking part in Capping Show allows emerging performers and theatre workers the opportunity to express their creative vision in a professional theatrical context, with the financial and administrative support of OUSA.

Historically, Capping Show has been a launching point for countless nationally and internationally renowned creatives. Some of our more notable alumni include legendary New Zealand Playwright Roger Hall, comedians and writers such as Ben Hurley, Sam Smith, Abby Howells, Josh Thompson and David McPhail, documentary filmmaker Brent Hodge, journalist Baz Macdonald and two Dunedin City Mayors.

Positions for Capping Show are open to all current students or recent graduates (within the last 3 years) of Otago tertiary institutions, including the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic.



# **Position purpose:**

Directing the musical content of the Capping Show. Recruiting volunteer members of the Capping Show Band, and preparing a set of cover songs with parody lyrics to perform before and after the show, and during intermission. The Capping Show Musical Director shall ensure that the musical content is written by students and that it is of suitable quality and humorous in style. Coordinating with the directors & choreographer on the opening and closing dance, and any other musical elements within the show.

# **Qualifications and Experience**

Capping Show is a student-led production, so the qualifications and experience required for this position is more flexible than in other professional theatre productions. However, the following characteristics are preferred:

- Band leader experience
- A great sense of humour
- Good connections with local student musicians
- Experience in the theatre and/or music industry

#### **Areas of Responsibility**

Area	Expected Outputs
People Management	<ul> <li>Recruit musicians for the Capping Band</li> <li>Supervise and encourage involvement from the cast and musicians.</li> <li>To ensure that suitable lines of communication between the volunteers, cast and crew are maintained.</li> </ul>
Financial Management	• Nil
General Tasks	<ul> <li>Preparing a set of cover songs with parody lyrics to perform before and after the show, and during intermission</li> <li>Finding band members and ensuring their wellbeing.</li> <li>Organising band rehearsals, and leading any writing of music.</li> <li>Working with the Capping Show Directors finding songs for the opening and closing numbers to present to OUSA Events for approval.</li> <li>Directing the musicians and actors in all areas where music is concerned.</li> <li>Providing hard copies of songs etc. to cast and musicians.</li> <li>Providing any digital recordings to the cast for rehearsal</li> <li>Liaising with the Director and Sound Technician.</li> <li>Liaising with OUSA Events Team regarding auditions for musicians, coordinating rehearsals, band requirements and sound requirements.</li> <li>Ensuring that the deadlines are met, without exception.</li> <li>Planning and Reporting:</li> <li>Attend meetings with the OUSA Events Team and report on whether target goals are being achieved and to communicate</li> </ul>



	relevant issues relating to the successful production of the Capping Show.  • Provide a written 'lessons learned' report to the Events Coordinator after the completion of the show, which will be used to benchmark any problems/issues and highlight any recommendations for future Capping Shows.
Health and Safety	<ul> <li>To ensure staff and volunteers report accidents to the Producer or Capping Show Stage Manager, participate in hazard identification specific to their place of work and ensure that they carry out their duties in accordance with OUSA's Health and Safety Management systems. To ensure that all staff and volunteers are made aware of the appropriate emergency procedures and the hazards of whatever venue/s they are working in.</li> <li>Take personal responsibility for engaging in OUSA's no-harm, health and safety culture</li> <li>Be familiar with the hazard register for the work area that you</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>work in</li> <li>Communicate to the Producer and colleagues any potential hazards that you identify that are not on the register</li> <li>Be familiar with the location of first aid kits and qualified first aiders in the Association</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Be familiar with and adhere to any health and safety plans</li> <li>Ensure incident and accident forms are filled out for all incidents and accidents that you are involved in, and notify the Events Manager of these</li> </ul>
	Be proactive in identifying new health and safety initiatives within the department and the wider OUSA community
Delegated authorities	• Nil

# **Personal Attributes**

Working Collaboratively	Ability to build and maintain professional and productive relationships
	Ability to relate to a diverse range of people
	Excellent written and oral communication skills
	Communicates positively with colleagues across the OUSA to ensure a strong collegial culture within OUSA
Organisation	Manages self, resources and workload to meet timelines
	Is reliable, organised and keeps all files and documents in order
	Is self-motivated and able to work independently and as part of the team
	Ability to recognise when issues need to be escalated to the Departmental Manager



Change	Is flexible and resilient to meet the ever changing needs of the OUSA
Problem Solving	Anticipates problems and proactively resolves them in an appropriate manner, escalating issues to the Departmental Manager when appropriate