



CAREERS IN STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION

Prepared For :
Parents, Teachers &
Careers Leaders

Spring 2023

INTRODUCTION

Did you know that the film, television, theatre and events industries in the UK contribute well over £20bn to the UK economy every year?!

Did you know that that these industries are currently growing in the UK at an incredible rate, and that there is a TALENT CRISIS?

Did you know that, **for every performer on screen or stage there are at least 8 crew working behind the scenes?** And that recording just one episode of a premium TV drama involves hundreds of people?

There are **huge opportunities** on the horizon **for the next generation** of crew, technicians, set designers and builders, costume designers, camera operators, lighting designers, make-up artists, location-scouts, prop-makers, line-producers, writers, directors, concept artists, sound engineers, video editors, special FX designers, stage managers, talent managers, mastering engineers... The list goes on...

Careers in roles like these provide **a genuine opportunity for young people with interests in the arts, crafts, and media to harness their talents and make a living doing something they love.**

Unfortunately, often parents, teachers and careers-leads are unsure of how best to guide young people to access employment opportunities in these industries.

This package provides some useful information to support you with this challenge. **We explore the range of careers and job-roles** available in Stage and Screen Production, discuss how **employment models and contracts** work, and look at what kind of **salary** you can expect. We then look at **training routes** and options.

ABOUT US

BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy sits at the centre of the production talent pipeline in Birmingham and the West Midlands. Part of the BOA Group, we are an industry-led 16-19 academy (essentially a 6th-form college), running free, full-time level 3 BTEC study-programmes with a significant component of work-based learning and industry placements. All of our students progress into industry roles or university.

The academy was set up in 2021 by industry leaders in our sector, whom we continue to work closely with, such as the BBC, PRG, ScreenSkills, Create Central, The REP Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Company, and many more.

MISSION

We believe that there is a career to be had in the Stage and Screen Production industries for every young person who has a passion for art, craft, performance or media.

However, our academy can only offer 200 places per year, so we are using our connections and expertise to facilitate change beyond the immediate remit of our institution.

We know collaboration is key, so we are actively working with other educational, cultural and creative organisations to:

- Improve the quality of available qualifications, training and resources
- Improve the quality of creative careers guidance
- Connect education with industry
- Create opportunities for young people and local communities

For example, we have recently contributed to the ScreenSkills WRySE project (<https://www.screenskills.com/training/work-ready-skills>), developing resources and guidance which will be adopted by Colleges and Universities nationwide this year.



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: BROADCAST, FILM & CONTENT

NEVAEH

DESTINATION:

BIMM SCREEN & FILM
SCHOOL

ROLE: MOTION GRAPHICS
DESIGNER

★ **Favourite subject at school:**
English

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I didn't want to do
A'Levels, but wanted to
learn about editing

CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FACTS

The UK Creative Industries:

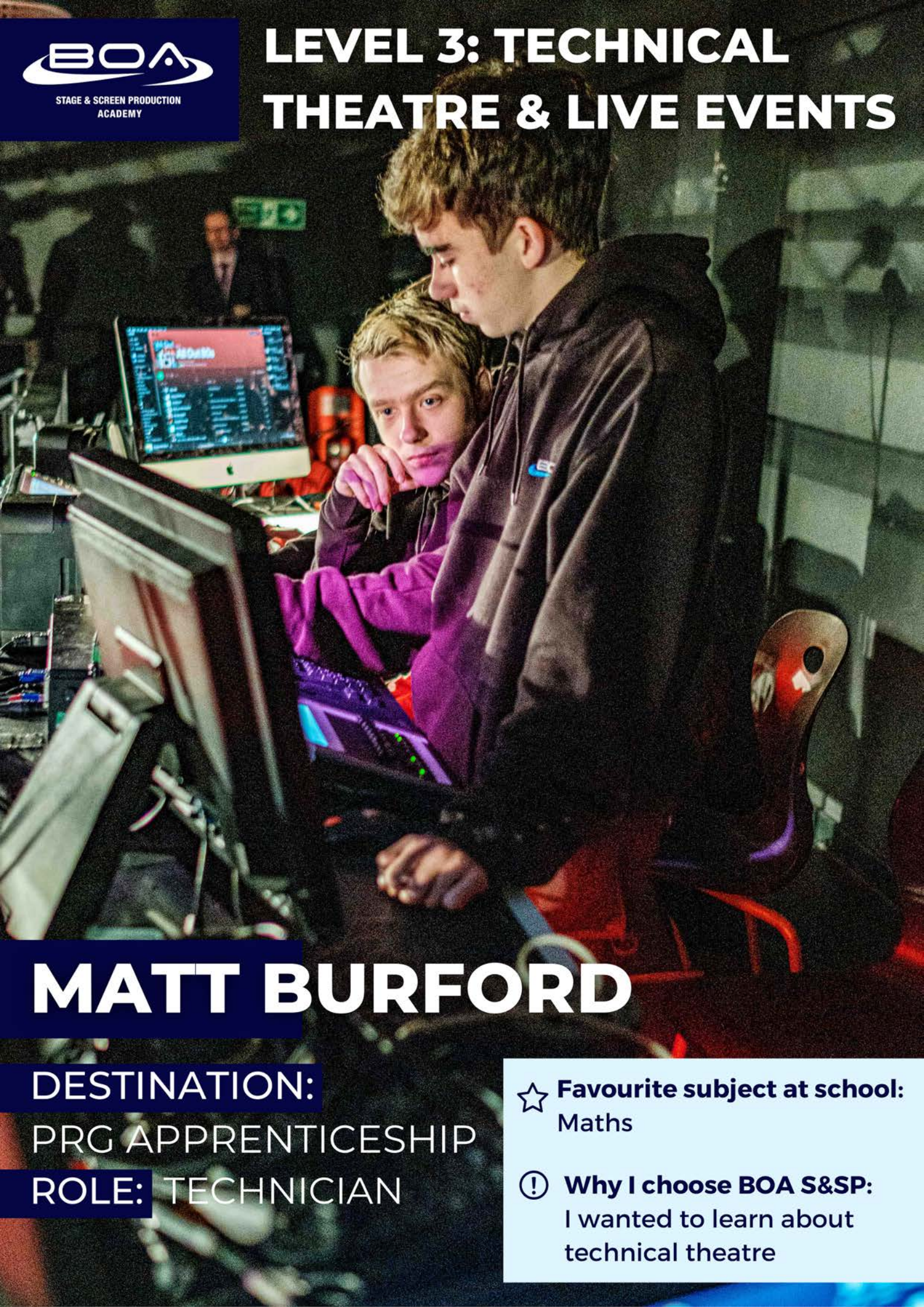
- Contribute **over £115bn to the UK economy** each year, which is greater than aerospace, automotive, life sciences, and oil and gas sectors combined.
- Are **growing at four times the rate of the UK economy** as a whole and are experiencing strong growth in all parts of the UK.
- Exported £46bn in goods and services worldwide and accounted for almost **12% UK exports**.
- Are **creating jobs at three times the UK average**, employing over 3.5 million people across the UK.
- 33% of creative workers are freelancers, double the wider UK economy, and in some sub-sectors the figure is much higher, such as 70% in Music, Performing Arts and Visual Arts.

(CREATIVEUK Statistics Jan 2023)



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: TECHNICAL THEATRE & LIVE EVENTS



MATT BURFORD

DESTINATION:
PRG APPRENTICESHIP
ROLE: TECHNICIAN

☆ **Favourite subject at school:**
Maths

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted to learn about
technical theatre

STAGE PRODUCTION FACTS

It is estimated that there are **over 1,100 active theatres** in the UK.

These theatres run in **excess of 63,000 performances** across the year and generate near £1.5bn in ticket revenue.

There are somewhere **between 800 and 1000 major music festivals** each year in the UK, contributing nearly £2bn to the UK economy.

The UK arts and cultural events industry generates around **£6bn every year**, with exhibitions and tradeshow generating a further £10bn.

Every month, events venues such as the NEC in Birmingham, and Theatres like the REP, run hundreds of arts and cultural events, exhibitions, tradeshow, and corporate events. These require significant elements of production management, design, craft, lighting, sound, and talent management. **There is currently a lack of skilled technical crew, crafts-people, and production managers in the UK** to perform these roles.

(UKTheatre.org, eFestivals, UKEvents.org Jan 2023)

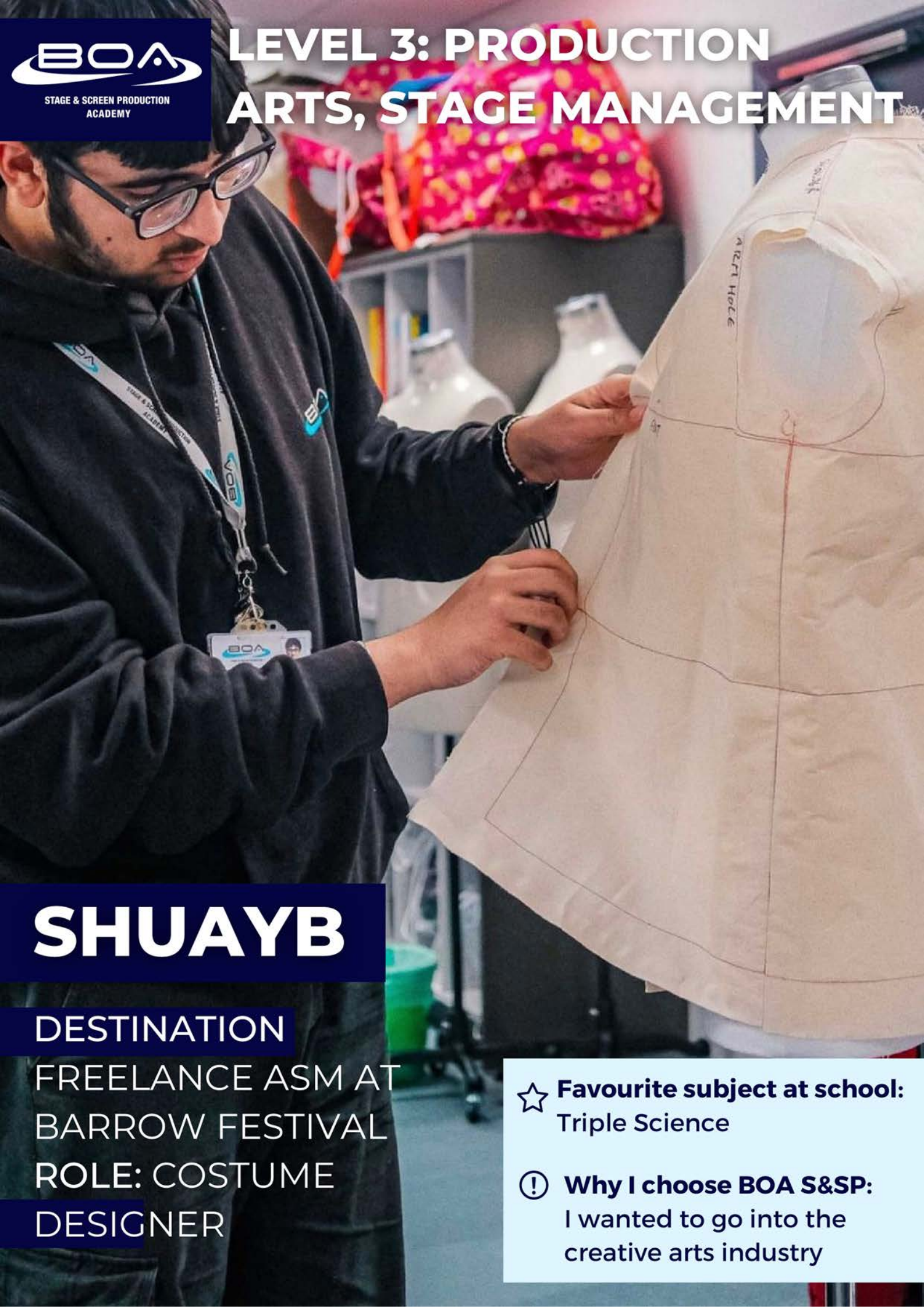
On the following page there are a few examples of the behind-the-scenes roles in stage production and the indicative salary ranges. Note this is only the very tip of the iceberg, with many more roles to explore!

You can find out more by visiting getintotheatre.org and Bectu.org



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: PRODUCTION ARTS, STAGE MANAGEMENT



SHUAYB

DESTINATION

FREELANCE ASM AT
BARROW FESTIVAL

ROLE: COSTUME
DESIGNER



Favourite subject at school:
Triple Science



Why I choose BOA S&SP:
I wanted to go into the
creative arts industry

ROLES IN STAGE PRODUCTION

Management Team

Director £30k-£70k per year	Producer £30k-£70k per year	Production Manager £30k-50k per year
Assistant Director £25k-45k per year	Casting Director £200-£250 per day	Finance Controller £40k per year
Production Administrator £13 - £20 per hour		



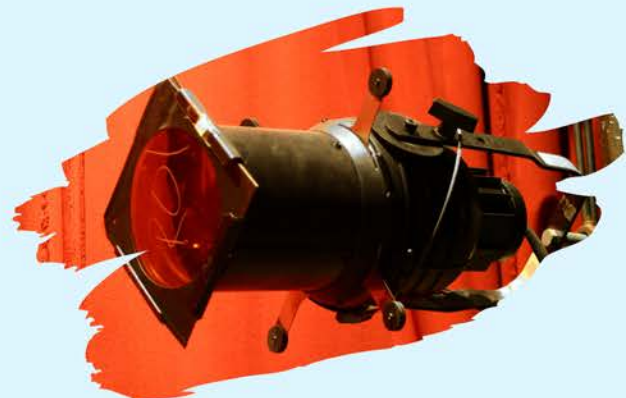
Creative Team

Artistic Director £30k-50k per year	Musical Director £35k-60k per year	Choreographer £2k-£5k per month
Playwright £6k-£9k per commission	Set/Prod Designer £300 - £400 per day	Costume Dsgnr £300-£400 per day
Set Decorator £270 per day	Hair/Make-up Artst £16 -£25 per hour	Prop Master £16-£40 per hour
Wig Maker £20-£35 per hour	Master Carpenter £800+ per week	Costume Maker £20-£35 per hour



Production Team

Lighting Designer £30k-£40k per year	Sound Designer £30k-£40k per year	Electrician/Spark £785+ per week
Lighting Tech £20 - £46 per hour	Sound Tech £20 -£46 per hour	Flyperson £20 + per hour
Stage Manager £600+ per week	Deputy Stage Manager £500+ per week	Wardrobe Mstr(s) £25-£30 per hour



Day rates are based on 10+ 1 hour working patterns. Week rates based on 55 hour working week. Accurate as of March 2023 BECTU Rates have been based on a range of production types. Bear in mind there are many sub-roles that sit under many of the headings above, each with a different rate, and that audience size, reach, venue, and production budget directly impact rates paid.

LEVEL 3: WRITING, DIRECTING, SCREENCRAFT



ALISSIA

DESTINATION:

MET FILM LEEDS

ROLE: ACTOR AND
DIRECTOR

☆ **Favourite subject at school:**
Drama

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted acting to be more
than my hobby



SCREEN PRODUCTION FACTS

Over **300 films** are made each year in the UK (e.g. Mission Impossible - Dead reckoning, Snow White, Boudica), with nearly £2bn of total investment generated by this sector. **The UK box-office generates tens of billions of pounds** in revenue.

High-end television (HETV) production in the UK has boomed over the last decade with 200 productions made, and **nearly £3bn invested every year across platforms such as the BBC, Channel 4, ITV, Netflix, Amazon** etc.

There is currently a talent crisis in the Screen Industry with **extremely high demand for skilled technicians and creatives** in Animation, Children's TV, Film, HETV, Scripted and unscripted TV, Games, Post-Production and Visual Effects.

(ScreenSkills & British Film Institute Jan 2023)

On the following page there are a few examples of the behind-the-scenes roles in screen production and the indicative salary ranges. Note this is only the very tip of the iceberg, with many more roles to explore!

You can find out more by visiting screenskills.com/job-profiles and Bectu.org



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: BROADCAST, FILM & CONTENT



JAY

DESTINATION:

BIRMINGHAM CITY
UNIVERSITY

ROLE: STUDIO MANAGER



Favourite subject at school:
English



Why I choose BOA S&SP:
Because of the reputation of
BOA and links to industry

ROLES IN SCREEN PRODUCTION

Development department

Director/Producer
£85k+ per year

Line- Producer
£65k-90k+ per year

Script Editor
£37k-60k per year

Casting Director
£54k-62k per year

Screenwriter
£10k per hour of screen-play.

Casting Assistant
£18k-45k per year



Production management department

Assistant Director
£20-£90 per hour

Locations Manager
£25-£50 per hour

Prod Coordinator
£25-£45 per hour

Prod Manager
£30-£60 per hour

Finance Controller
£50k-£70k per year

Floor Runner
£13 - £16 per hour



Craft department

Construction Mngr
£450 per day

Costume Dsgnr
£300-£400 per day

Hair/Make-up Dsgnr
£20-£80 per hour

Production Dsgnr
£35-£80 per hour

Prop Master
£20-£40 per hour

Set Decorator
£270-£500 per day



Technical department

Camera Operator
£240-£600 per day

Gaffer
£30k - £55k a year

Grip
£700 - £2500 per week

Lighting Tech
£315+ per day

Sound Tech
£16 - £65 per hour

Director of Photography
£600-£800 per day

Post-production department

Archivist
£25-£40 per hour

Colourist
£35-£60 per hour

Editor
£1300 -£2700 per week

Music Editor
£250- £400 per day

Post-prod Super
£300-£600 per day

Deliverables Producer
£300 -£550 per day



Base rates are based on 10+ 1 hour daily working patterns. Indicative salaries: March 2023 BECTU.

Bear in mind there are many sub-roles that sit around many of the headings above, each with a different rate, and that different platforms, formats and budget sizes for productions also dictate the rates paid. For example high budget film often pays more than low-budget TV drama.



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: PRODUCTION ARTS & STAGE MANAGEMENT



PIPER

DESTINATION:

LIPA - THEATRE &
PRODUCTION

ROLE: SCENIC
CARPENTER



Favourite subject at school:
Food Technology



Why I choose BOA S&SP:

I studied musical theatre before
but I love backstage work



WORKING PATTERNS

Most professionals in the the Stage and Screen industries are freelancers and work from project to project.

Major Employers (e.g. Production Companies, Theatres, Events Venues) have a small, core body of permanent employees in administrative and managerial roles, but the **creative and technical roles are usually fulfilled by freelancers on fixed-term contracts.**

When a company, producer, or theatre is commissioned to create or platform a piece of work, they recruit a development team specifically for that project, and then put out *cast-calls* and *crew-calls*, when it goes into production.

Projects will tend to last 6 weeks to 12 months in duration.

This means most people working in the Stage and Screen Industries:

- **Tend to work as freelancers or sole traders**
- **Charge a high hourly rate**
- **Rely heavily on professional networking** to line up their next projects months/years in advance.

Myth-busting: *Freelancing is not a temporary or part-time approach to working. Setting up as a sole-trader and hiring out your services can be an extremely lucrative, and a liberating career choice!*

LEVEL 3: WRITING, DIRECTING & SCREENCRAFT



MEHKEL

DESTINATION:
PERFORMERS
COLLEGE BIRM

ROLE: SCREEN ACTOR

★ **Favourite subject at school:**
Performing Arts

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted to focus on
screen acting



HOW TO GET WORK

To secure work in the Stage and Screen Production industries you need a great reputation. Most work comes from the recommendations of fellow crafts-people and technicians. You have to be a great person to work with; you need a positive attitude, to be totally reliable, respectful, and to understand set and stage etiquette.

There is a saying in these circles, "you are only as good as your last job".

With this in mind, networking is absolutely key. Connecting with the people you work with on projects and maintaining professional relationships with them over time will lead to future opportunities. In January/February every year production for stage and screen tends to slow down, and organisations like CreativeUK, the BFI, ABTT, BBC take advantage by running corporate and community events like the Creative Cities Convention and the London Plasa Show . These are essential networking opportunities for freelancers.

Having an excellent portfolio of work is critical to securing employment. This needs to capture you best work and demonstrate your skill as a crafts-person or technician.

It is also critical that you have production credits on your CV, or even better on IMDB, as proof of your experience and skill. As a young creative, securing that first professional production credit can be incredibly challenging because most employers will only employ crew who already have a credit on their CV. We recommend choosing a college like BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy or a university course that will set you up with your critical first professional production placement and credit whilst you are studying.

You will not find many job adverts in the paper, on indeed.com or in the jobseekers database. Facebook and LinkedIn are currently the networks of choice for circulating crew-calls. You need to plug yourself into the key groups. It can also be useful to sign up to agency and database sites like piratecrew and crewbirmingham.

Finally, if you do a good job for a major venue or production company, you will often be offered a casual contract (known as being on 'the books'), this means they will often come to you before crew-calls go out. It is common for a freelancer to be on multiple organisation's books.

LEVEL 3: PRODUCTION ARTS, STAGE MANAGEMENT



ABIGAIL

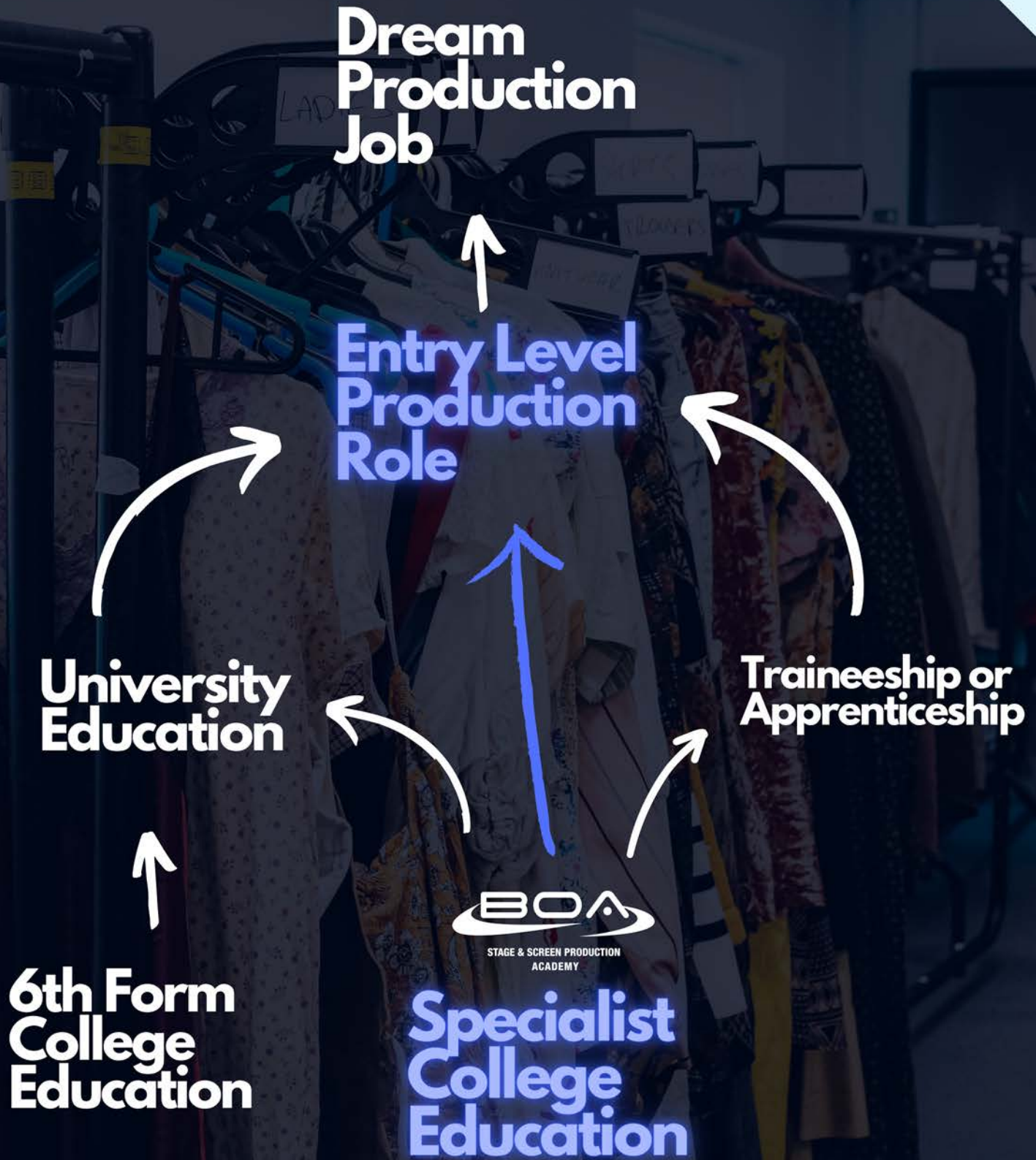
DESTINATION
BRISTOL OLD VIC
ROLE: STAGE
MANAGER

★ **Favourite subject at school:**
Art and Design

ⓘ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted to explore
costume design

TRAINING ROUTES

The most important thing to understand about the stage and screen production industries is that regardless of your level of training and education you need to be prepared to enter the industry at the bottom and work your way up. Entry level jobs include runner, researcher, DSMs, and dept assists.



ACCESS FOR ALL

Our differences are our super-powers!

We are proud that the stage and screen industries are increasingly inclusive, boasting talent from all kinds of backgrounds and walks of life, and celebrating diversity in all its forms.

Currently there is a significant push for inclusivity and geographical diversity in our industry. There are some real financial incentives for productions of all kinds to be made outside London, to be put together by diverse and inclusive creative teams, and to star local talent from a wide range of backgrounds.

Whilst this is great for Birmingham, it also puts immense pressure on the Birmingham talent pipeline, which is only in its infancy...

Institutions such as BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy has been created to address this talent crisis.



"You can't be what you can't see!"
Sir Lenny Henry



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: TECHNICAL THEATRE, LIVE EVENTS

GEE

DESTINATION
GSA - THEATRE
PRODUCTION
ROLE: PRODUCTION
MANAGER

☆ **Favourite subject at school:**
History

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted to get into the
arts

USEFUL WEBSITES & RESOURCES



ScreenSkills
screenskills.com



Get into Theatre
getintothetheatre.org



Create Central
createcentraluk.com



BOA Stage & Screen Production
boa-stageandscreen.co.uk



CIC
thecreativeindustries.co.uk



DiscoverCC
discovercreative.ca
careers



ABTT
abtt.org.uk



BECTU
bectu.org.uk



Creative UK
wearecreative.uk

LEVEL 3: WRITING, DIRECTING, SCREENCRAFT



DAMARRE

DESTINATION:

LIPA - ACTING

ROLE: MOVEMENT
DIRECTOR

☆ **Favourite subject at school:**
Dance

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
To learn a wider range of
skills



WHY CHOOSE US?

Ultimately, when you are speaking with a young person who has an interest in art, craft, performance or media, we would like you to think of *production* careers.

We also want you to think of *BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy*, and perhaps recommend young people consider studying with us when they turn 16 years old.

As you may or may not already know, BOA has become a household name in creative education over the last decade.

Our original academy, now known as *BOA Creative, Digital and Performing Arts Academy*, opened in 2011 and has developed a reputation for excellence in 14-19 education, specifically in the fields of musical theatre, acting, dance, music, and art (performance roles).

BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy sets out to do something different. *We are focused on developing young people to work behind the scenes in our industries*, and we run an incredibly innovative curriculum, which has already won awards and been recently endorsed by OFSTED and ScreenSkills.



LEVEL 3: PRODUCTION ARTS, STAGE MANAGEMENT



NOAH

DESTINATION:
BOURNEMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

ROLE: SFX MAKE_UP
ARTIST

☆ **Favourite subject at school:**
Art

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
To expand my skillset and
gain more opportunities

WHAT WE OFFER

At BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy we offer 4 distinct pathways, each underpinned by a BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma (worth 3 A-levels).

BROADCAST, FILM & CONTENT CREATION

- Moving Image (film, television, video, animation, motion graphics)
- Virtual Production and Motion Capture
- Sound (Radio, sound design, podcasting, soundtrack)
- Graphic and Lens

TECHNICAL THEATRE & LIVE EVENTS

- Lights and Lasers
- Live Sound & Sound Design
- Visual FX and Pyrotechnics

PRODUCTION ARTS & STAGE MANAGEMENT

- Stage Management
- Set and Props
- Costume
- Hair and Makeup

WRITING, DIRECTING & SCREEN-CRAFT

- Creative Writing for Film, TV and Theatre
- Directing and Developing Ideas
- Screen-craft (acting for screen, voice acting)

**100% OF OUR STUDENTS HAVE GONE ON TO WORK
IN THE INDUSTRY OR TO UNIVERSITY**

WORKING WITH INDUSTRY

At BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy we design our curriculum around collaborative projects with industry partners, and our students regularly spend time out on work placements with some of the top regional employers.



Projects we have worked on in recently include a £1million feature film development with Threewise Entertainment, multiple major Commercial Productions at The Old Rep, set and scenery for the RSC, technical production at the Brit Awards and Download Festival with PRG, light and sound for the Royal Ballet, welcome ceremonies for the Commonwealth Games, and much more...

LEVEL 3: BROADCAST, FILM & CONTENT

A portrait of a young man with curly brown hair, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue collared shirt. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong red light on the left side of his face and a blue light on the right side, creating a high-contrast effect.

CONNOR

DESTINATION:
BBC BROADCAST
APPRENTICESHIP
ROLE: DIRECTOR

★ **Favourite subject at school:**
Physics

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
I wanted to focus on
practical work and film-
making

HOW TO APPLY

We welcome students from across a range of backgrounds and academic abilities who are able to demonstrate passion and enthusiasm.

Admission to BOA Stage & Screen Production is through participation in an aptitude workshop which is designed to provide an opportunity to demonstrate your ability and skill in your preferred specialism.

To find out more, come to one of our open evenings or apply online - www.boa-stageandscreen.co.uk

Tel: 0121 359 9390 | Email: info@boa-stageandscreen.co.uk



1. Visit our website and apply



2. Come to an aptitude workshop day



3. Start in September



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: BROADCAST, FILM & CONTENT

KYLE

DESTINATION:
247TV - SPORTS

ROLE: CAMERA
OPERATOR

Favourite subject at school:
☆ Music

❗ **Why I choose BOA S&SP:**
It was recommended by a teacher who saw my videos

KEY CONTACTS



Michael Painter
PRINCIPAL



Michelle Sorensen
AP & SENCO

**Info@boa-
stageandscreen.co.uk**



Amit Mehey
ADMISSIONS



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION
ACADEMY

LEVEL 3: TECHNICAL THEATRE, LIVE EVENTS

YouTube Shorts

BRIT
AWARDS
2023

BRIT
AWARDS
2023

itv

BRIT
AWARDS
2023

BRIT
AWARDS
2023

GEORGE

DESTINATION:

FREELANCE - TED

ROLE: LIGHTING

DESIGNER &

TECHNICIAN

★ Favourite subject at school:
DT

❗ Why I choose BOA S&SP:
The industry links and
equipment



STAGE & SCREEN PRODUCTION ACADEMY



Contact Us

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