

United Scenic Artists • Local USA-829, IATSE

• REPRESENTING •

Art Department
Coordinators

Art Directors

Computer Artists

Costume Designers

Lighting Designers

Production Designers

Projection Designers

Scenic Artists

Scenic Designers

Sound Designers

• FOR •

Major & Independent
Motion Pictures

Network & Cable TV

Broadway &
Regional Theatre

Opera

Ballet

Commercials

Industrial Shows

Special Events

• WORLDWIDE •



SOUND DESIGN EXAMINATION INFORMATION – CENTRAL REGION

Dear Applicant,

The IATSE Local USA 829 Sound Design Examination is a screening process for admitting those individuals who earn a living by designing sound professionally, and those who possess employable skills as a Sound Designer, supervisor or assistant. The professionals we are looking for can be found working on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in Regional Theatre (LORT), Dance, Opera, Concert, Cabaret and Industrial Shows. Since the Union is a professional organization, students are advised not to take the Exam until *after their final year of studies*.

The following items must be submitted to the Sound Design Exam Committee at the Union office by the appropriate deadlines, as specified on the Date Schedule:

- A) One (1) Completed Application
- B) Seven (7) Copies of your current Résumé (including specific history of employment, *especially dates of production*)
- C) Seven (7) Copies of completed Production Questionnaire
- D) Four (4) Letters of Recommendation (minimum) from professional, *not academic*, contacts (i.e., designers, directors, producers or electricians) which are to be mailed directly to the Sound Design Exam Committee
- E) Three (3) Self-addressed Adhesive Mailing Labels
- F) One (1) \$200.00 combined Filing & Exam Fees on Personal Check *only* (make sure “Sound Design Exam” is on the check’s “Memo” line)

The Sound Design Examination consists of a 40-minute comprehensive Interview. During this Interview, a panel of working designers will view your portfolio and application materials and discuss your work-related experience with you. Within two (2) weeks following the Interview, you will receive written notification of the panel’s decision by mail. Since this Interview is the most critical part of the Exam, we stress the importance of **demonstrating your very best work**.

111 N. Wabash Ave.
Suite 2107
Chicago, IL 60602

tel: 312-857-0829
fax: 312-857-0819

AT YOUR INTERVIEW

We ask that you **present a portfolio of three (3) complete sound designs, at least two (2) of which were produced**. Of your production work, at least one (1) design

must have been produced in a non-academic situation. Each design must provide all necessary information for a sound engineer to pull the show from a rental shop (and hang and cable it *in your absence*). ***Paperwork we must see for each design includes:***

- | | |
|---|--|
| [A] Ground Plan with Speaker & Microphone Placement | [D] System Block Diagram |
| [B] Section with Speaker Placement | [E] Shop Order (Equipment List) |
| [C] Sound Cue List | [F] CD of Sound Score (Music Cues/Effects) |

For all the drafting above, 1/2" scale is preferred, but 1/4" is acceptable for produced designs. No photocopied reductions of drafting will be accepted. Please ***do not*** bring any original paperwork. Only folded blueprints and photocopied paperwork will be accepted.

Rather than a finished blueprint, the section you present should be a working drawing reflecting your design process. It must show how you determined the selection, placement and trim height of loudspeakers. It should indicate the focus and coverage angle for each speaker shown on the groundplan.

NOTE: You must supply a means of playback for the CD of the Sound Score. Headphones are acceptable

Please be very selective in preparing your portfolio, as your time with the panel will be limited. We suggest you present your strongest work first, since there may not be enough time to thoroughly discuss all productions.

If you have any questions about the Exam, you may contact:

Matt Walters (Asst. Bus. Rep.) • E-mail: MWalters@usa829.org • Phone: 312-857-0829

Matt will pass your questions on to the appropriate Exam Committee member if he cannot answer your questions personally. Also note: your initiation and IATSE fees must be paid *within three (3) months of being notified* of the recommendation for membership. After three months your membership recommendation will be forfeited. **Please do not apply if you cannot afford to pay the full initiation and IATSE fees within three months of being recommended for membership.**

Thank you for your interest in IATSE Local USA 829.

Sincerely,

THE SOUND DESIGN EXAM COMMITTEE