STORYHOUSE

Chef Recruitment Pack





Storyhouse, 2017, Becci Lane

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Welcome from the CEO

Storyhouse is one of the UK's foremost cultural charities; its home in Chester incorporates a library, theatres, and a cinema. It is also an acclaimed theatre producer and runs the country's most successful regional open-air theatre in the city's Grosvenor Park, as well as the innovative Moonlight Flicks open-air cinema each year.

Storyhouse plays an important part of cultural life in Chester and continues to be a beacon of inspiration for many other cities and towns for the role it has played in social and economic regeneration, its successful and unique integration of world-class theatre, cinema, and library facilities, as well as its bold, exciting, diverse, and award-winning programming.

It is also a great place to work. We offer a flexible and supportive working environment, value experience as well as skills and qualifications, and work to ensure everyone in the organisation is aware of our equality and diversity commitments. We want to support all staff to fulfil their potential and enjoy a happy and healthy workplace.

We hope you decide to join us,

Annabel







This House is Your House

We've become vital part of the region's cultural landscape and a place of safety and support for the community - especially for young people, giving them a space where they can reimagine their place in the world.

Over 40 community groups use us as a base for creative activity each month, including LGBTQIA+ and disability groups, refugee integration activities, mental health support sessions, and groups combatting social exclusion by age.

We work extensively with young people and provide a range of different programmes, from youth theatre and our young company, to young leaders, young programmers, and our many schools and education programmes. Throughout our work we collaborate with local partners throughout to ensure we are reaching the people that would usually have the least opportunity to participate.

Across everything we do, we work to give people the power to build their own creative communities through inspiring stories and shared creative experiences: this house is your house.

As we blend theatre, library, restaurant and cinema services, we share inspiring stories and stage creative events which empower people to nurture their creativity and bring together communities. Through our work, we hope to build a more connected, inclusive and creative community network.

The more open we are to the true and rich diversity of our communities, the more vividly we fulfil our purpose. More engagement from more of our communities will make more of Storyhouse.

We are committed to creating a team which is representative of our communities and to bringing together those with a variety of skills and experiences to help shape what we do and how we work.



A Midsummer Night’s Dream, 2023, Mark McNulty

Our Strategy...

Storyhouse is about to enter an exciting new phase in our evolution as we look to develop our programmes, based on a new strategic plan, to deliver world class arts and meet community needs.

Our Vision:

Here at Storyhouse, culture is owned by everyone.

Our Mission:

We work every day to be a creative home for our communities.

Our Values:

LISTEN CLOSELY.
True empathy takes effort. So we work hard to understand different points of view.

LOOK AROUND.
Opportunities can be spotted by anyone, anywhere, at anytime. So we always have our eyes, ears and minds wide open.

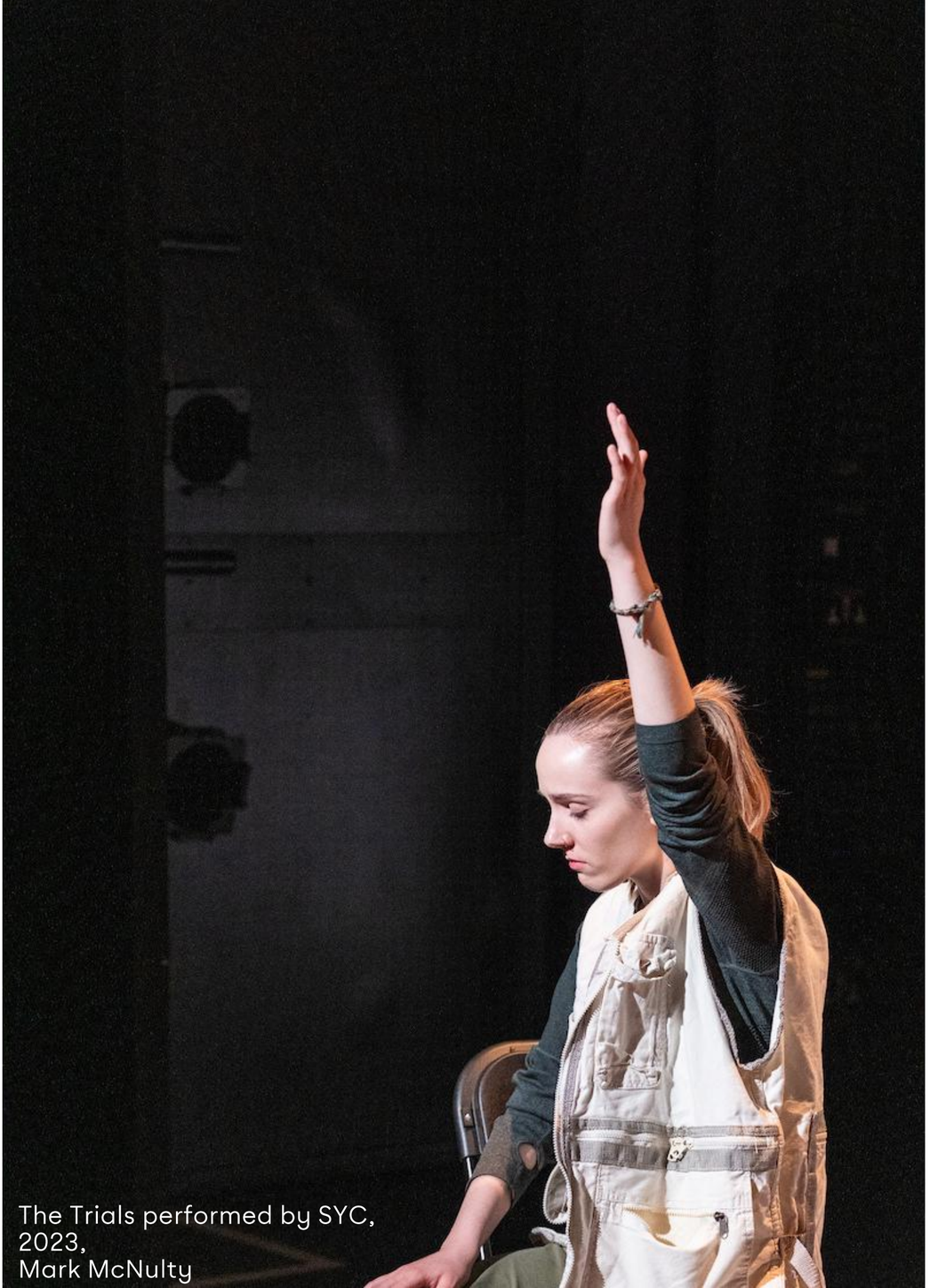
SPEAK UP.
Not everyone's stories have been told. So we use our voices to amplify those that haven't been heard.

STAND UP.
Debate and discussion make things better for us all. So we don't shy away from a challenge.

REACH OUT.
Diverse perspectives solve the hardest problems and make the best decisions. So we seek them out, and invite them in.



A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2023, Mark McNulty



The Trials performed by SYC, 2023,
Mark McNulty

Our Resources

Storyhouse is a medium-sized charity with approximately 140 staff and a gross revenue of over £6 million per year. The charity is financially stable, with a number of steady revenue streams, including a 20-year lease and contract for services with the local authority (Cheshire West and Chester) and NPO funding from Arts Council England for 2023 to 2026. Revenue from commercial activities is also essential to the charity's financial stability, and over 57% of its revenue is earned.

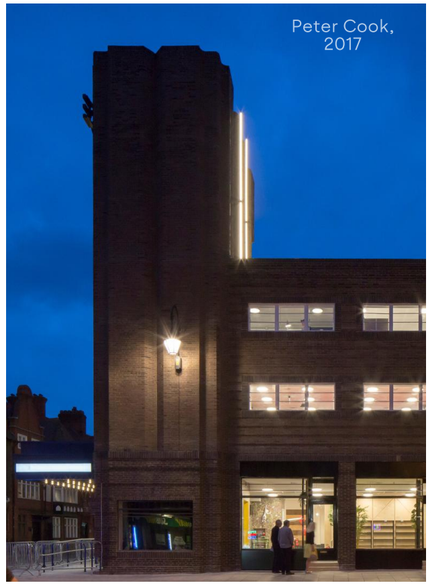
Storyhouse runs two wholly owned commercial trading subsidiaries: Storyhouse Production Company Limited - creating and staging Storyhouse Originals theatre productions – and Storyhouse Catering Company Limited - providing a range of catering, retail, cinema, receiving theatre and commercial services.

Despite our financial stability, like all other charities our resources are being eroded by rising costs caused by inflation and higher energy prices, and as a result of the continued cost of living crisis, demand for free-to-access services (such as warm spaces) is increasing.

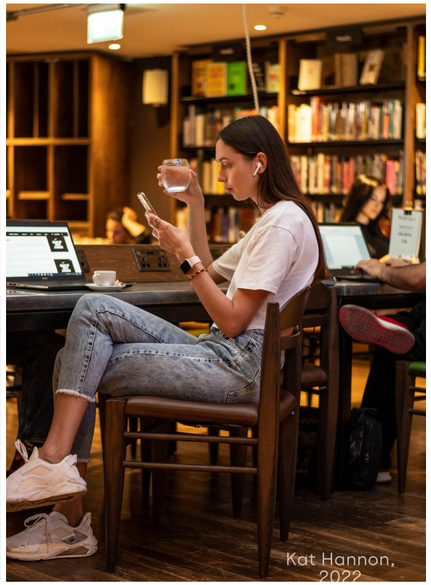


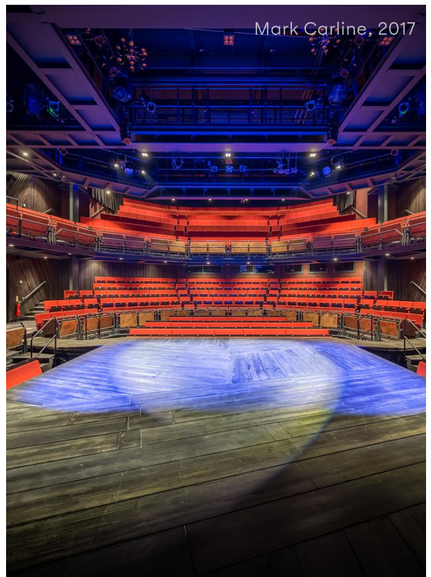


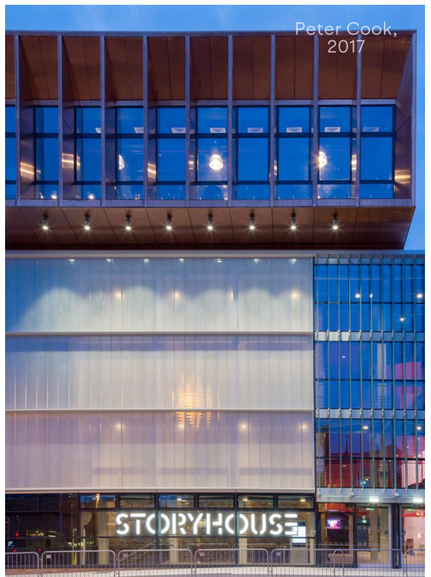














Our Building

The original parts of Storyhouse were constructed as an art deco Odeon cinema in 1936, and have been restored, extended and renovated into a library, two state of the art theatres, a cinema, restaurant, and two bars.

The larger theatre is an 800-seat proscenium arch stage. With state-of-the-art facilities, its auditorium spreads across three tiers: stalls, circle and gallery. This same theatre converts into a 500-seat thrust stage (with the audience wrapping around three sides of the stage). In this format, the auditorium spreads across two tiers, with intimate seating putting the audience right in amongst the action.

On top of the building sits the Garret Theatre and Bar. This 150-seat black-box theatre is a flexible, fully-equipped performance, rehearsal, or workshop space. It is designed to be full of work made by local creative companies, individuals, and community groups, as well as a space we hire to companies and individuals.

The 100-seat boutique cinema is designed to honour the original Odeon's history as a cinema in 1936. With red velvet, soft, sunken seating, it is a beautiful event space.

The library spreads right through the building, with a dedicated family-friendly area (with wet play, storytelling room, and arts and crafts) in The Den and extensive book-stocks covering the walls throughout Storyhouse offering opportunities for studying, learning, and research.

The Role

As a Storyhouse Chef you will prepare and cook food under the guidance of our Head Chef in Storyhouse in-house food operation ‘The Kitchen’ and our wider food and beverage offerings.

The Kitchen focuses on sustainable, locally sourced ingredients and is open from 8am to 11pm, offering a relaxed atmosphere with excellent service. Food is served between 9am and 8pm in a vibrant food-hall-style setting, and our menu celebrates simple, seasonal dishes created with fresh local produce.

We are seeking a chef with experience or someone eager to enter the hospitality field. A genuine passion for food and working with fresh ingredients is essential



The Kitchen, 2023, Mark McNulty

Role and Responsibilities

You will

- Prepare and cook necessary ingredients and assisting in all sections of the kitchen as directed by the Head Chef.
- Display a genuine interest in food and working with fresh ingredients.
- Maintain high levels of service with an overwhelming desire to achieve customer satisfaction with every item delivered from the kitchen.
- Contribute to the kitchen’s cleanliness by adhering to food safety and hygiene regulations.
- Assist in monitoring stock, including stock rotation.
- Support with deliveries, ensuring items are checked, stored, and organised correctly in fridges and larders.
- Minimize kitchen waste through efficient preparation and careful handling of ingredients.
- Contribute to menu development with creative and innovative ideas
- Ensure that food storage areas are maintained in accordance with the company’s Food Hygiene, Health and Safety and Environmental policies and procedures.

Skills & Experience

Previous chef experience (desirable)

Knowledge of food preparation and kitchen hygiene

Experience working as part of a team

Ability to work unsupervised

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Food hygiene certificate (desirable)

Ability to prioritise workload and work effectively to deadlines and under pressure.

Passion for cooking and a keen eye for detail

Flexible approach, and drive to achieve

Opportunity and Staff Benefits

Title: Chef

Reports to: Head Chef

Salary: £13.50 per hour

Contract: Permanent, full time, 40 hours – worked 5 days out of 7 including evening and weekends.

30 days annual leave per year, including bank holidays, increasing annually up to a maximum of 3 extra days. Annual leave is pro rata for part-time employees.

Birthday leave

A defined contribution pension scheme or a People's Pension scheme

Employee Assistance Programme, including Medicash

Cycle to Work and Travel to Work schemes

Discounted gym membership schemes

Complimentary tickets and discounts on food and drink

Company sick pay after qualifying service

Hybrid working practices and flexible working requests available from day one

Application Process

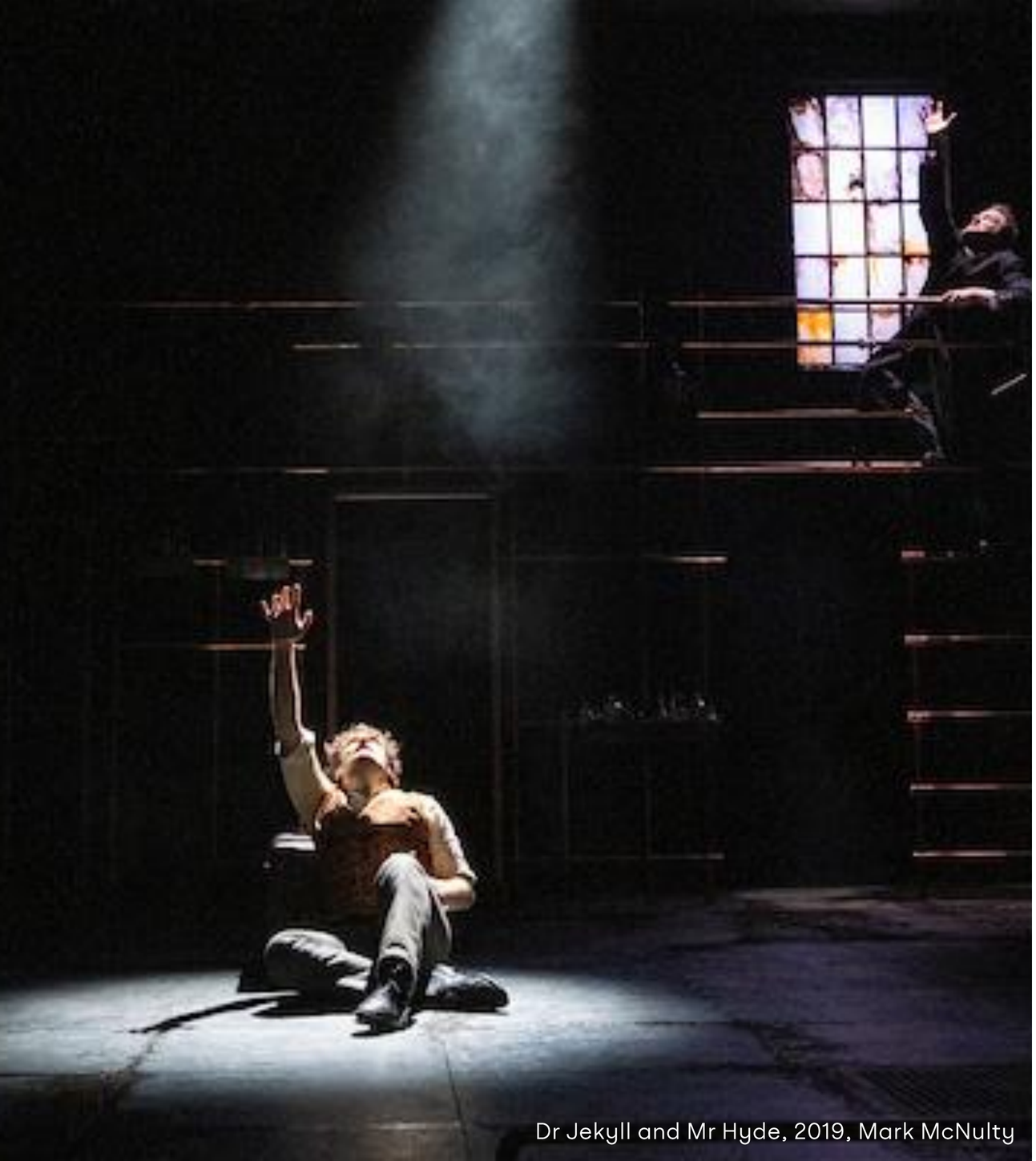
Applicants are asked to submit a cover letter expressing interest in the role and a CV demonstrating relevant experience online at: www.storyhouse.com/jobs/

Applications should be submitted on or before 10am 22nd November 2026.

For an informal discussion about the role or support in the application process, please contact our Head of People, Emma Hutt, at peopleteam@storyhouse.com.

No agencies please.





Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, 2019, Mark McNulty

GDPR

Personal Data Notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent.

The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

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