International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees 19-02 Steinway Street Astoria, NY 11105

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JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Key Rigging Grip

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The Key Rigging Grip is responsible for the setting, hanging, and focusing of lighting instruments as well as mounting cameras, especially if there is a need for a special kind of rig in order to be able to capture a shot. He or she also builds scaffolding from which to hang lights, cameras, and screens.

Duties & Responsibilities:

The Rigging Grip rigs (secures in place) all the lighting and camera support equipment. Sometimes this includes building a rig to hold something. He or she will be mounting cameras in many different types of places and is responsible for the safety of all the equipment he or she rigs, which includes monitoring his or her crew and their safety. He or she will also run the dolly track as well as build and operate the jibs on set.

Requirements:

Key Rigging Grips must be levelheaded, detail oriented, and calm under pressure. Must also be comfortable with heights.

Knowledge of carpentry, electricity, and cameras are very helpful to grips. Physically, they must be in good shape. They may have to move camera cranes or dollies as heavy as 400 pounds or climb heights as tall as 65 feet. They must also be physically agile enough to avoid the hazards associated with working on sets, such as tripping over wires and being hit with falling equipment and set sections.

The most important requirement for a grip is experience, gained through on-the-job training. Significant experience is required to operate equipment that carries cameras.

Grips are required to be very flexible regarding work hours. They may work only two days a week and from 12-18 hours a day. If a scene to be shot takes place at night, the grip must work at night. Because producing scenes is a group effort, grips must be able to work well with others and be patient. A particular shot may have to be set up repeatedly.