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

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JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description:

A Greensperson is the member of the Prop department who procures, places, and looks after any vegetation on the film set. Working with real or artificial landscaping.

Duties & Responsibilities:

A Greensperson is a set dresser with a specialized skill. He or she uses that expertise to create landscapes from the ground up, to decorate interiors with plants and flowers, or to beef up lawns and gardens with extra plants to suit the requirements of the production designer and the script. The main responsibility is to obtain greenery, which can be live or artificial; after obtaining the appropriate plants, the Greensperson then places them according to specifications; finally, a Greensperson maintains the vegetation throughout the shoot, making sure that it retains its appearance, color, and health so that continuity is preserved.

In pre-production, Greensperson meets with the production designer to plan the designs and how to execute them. They research habitat and plant hardiness. Pre-production also includes the procurement and transportation of the vegetation itself and the necessary materials to maintain it: soil, fertilizer, and tools. On location, the Greensperson takes on traditional landscaping duties and "greening out," or concealing unwanted parts of a location or studio. Sometimes they work with members of the art department to create artificial rocks, plants, trees, or flowers, as well as creating soils, forest litter and other elements present in conventional landscaping. Maintenance continues throughout the shoot, watering and feeding the plants. After shooting, the landscaping and artificial environments are dismantled. Once the plants and materials are returned to the appropriate sources, the job is done.

Requirements:

A career as a Greensperson does not require a college degree, but it requires an extensive skill set, including a keen attention to detail, and an understanding of the filmmaking process. Greensperson are an important part of the art department. They have creative skills that allow them to create extremely realistic environments with vegetation and other materials. Strong communication skills are necessary, because you will be collaborating with the production designer and members of the art department, fabricators, sculptors and painters.