

MERCURY

Customer Experience Assistant

August 2026

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the Mercury and the role of Customer Experience Assistant.

We are recruiting fantastic front of house staff to join our customer-facing team for the Autumn and Christmas season. Our Customer Experience Team deliver outstanding customer service in our café bar and for performances.

Our Customer Experience Team are the first point of contact for our audiences, supporting them, as required, be it at the café bar or during a show or event.

The Mercury provides a social and safe space for multiple voices, giving people with different backgrounds and experiences the opportunity to meet, take part in a creative process and start to realise their own creative potential and, most importantly, to connect.

In this pack you will find:

- Job description and person specification
- Information about how to apply

Further information about the Mercury can be found on www.mercurytheatre.co.uk.

We recognise that these are challenging times for everyone, but we are committed to maintaining and building our audience, delivering artistic excellence, and growing the Mercury's reputation as a launchpad for talent and innovation in the East of England and on tour across the UK.

To apply, complete the application form and questions on the [Staffology Link](#) by **10:00am on Thursday 10 September 2026**.

Interviews will be held on **Tuesday 22** and **Friday 25 September 2026**.

Successful candidates can expect their first day of employment to be on **w/c 26 October 2026**.

We warmly encourage applications from people who identify as having a protected characteristic.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Deborah Sawyer
Executive Director



Job Description

Job Title	Customer Experience Assistants
Department	Operations
Responsible to	Customer Experience Supervisors
Key working relationships	Head of Customer Experience Commercial and Operations Director Head of Facilities Café Bar Supervisors Catering Team

Purpose of the Post

The Customer Experience Assistants work within the Customer Experience Team to ensure the smooth running of our Front of House operations and ensure first class customer care, in line with the Mercury's values.

The Customer Experience Assistants provide a welcoming, friendly and safe environment for all customers, visitors and participants to the Mercury. They usher, sell merchandise/tickets or work in the café bar whilst ensuring customer safety is maintained at all times.

These posts will involve evening and weekend work, as well as training opportunities.

Main Duties

Café bar

- To sell/serve drinks, food, ice cream and merchandise, using our till and stock control system and taking both cash and card payments,
- To sell drinks in the bar, ensuring that all alcoholic drinks dispensed conform to legal measures and that all other drinks conform to measures as advised and displayed, as per legal requirements,
- To ensure that service in the bar conforms with licensing legislation with regards to opening hours and age restrictions,
- To prepare bar snacks, hot drinks and café produce, in line with training,
- To serve food and drinks to customers,
- To ensure the cleanliness and tidiness of the café bar area, keeping on top of table-clearing.

Performance and events

- To show an active interest in the theatre's programme of events and to be able to promote the work of the Mercury and all its activities in a positive and professional manner,
- To welcome customers and deal with their enquiries in a professional manner,
- During performances, to direct customers to their seats, act as an usher and assist in emergency procedures,
- To set up rooms and events for hirers of the building as directed,
- To maintain the cleanliness and tidiness of all areas.

Health and Safety

- To contribute to maintenance of a clean, tidy and safe working environment,

- To assist with an evacuation of the building if required,
- To take part in trial evacuations and drills as required.

General Duties

- To be fully informed and proactive in the marketing of the Theatre's products, services and facilities, looking to create sales opportunities whenever appropriate,
- To manage time effectively meeting deadlines as directed by the Customer Experience Supervisors,
- To participate actively as a member of the Operations team,
- To undertake training as required,
- To attend and contribute to staff meetings and/or training sessions,
- To maintain positive and effective relationships with colleagues across the organisation,
- To adhere to all Mercury Theatre policies included Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and environmental policies,
- To maximise income and minimise expenditure whilst ensuring high quality delivery,
- To undertake any further duties as may be reasonably requested.

This job description is a guide to the nature of the work required of this position. It is neither wholly comprehensive nor restrictive and does not preclude change or development that might be required in the future. It does not form part of the contract of employment

Person Specification

Professional Competencies

Essential

- Experience of working in a customer focused environment,
- Previous food and beverage experience,
- Excellent timekeeping,
- Experience of delivering excellent customer service,
- Excellent communication and people skills,
- Basic understanding of bar licensing regulations,
- Cash handling experience,
- Understanding that the role will include evening and weekend hours.

Desirable

- Knowledge of current production food safety health and safety regulations and good practice.

Personal Qualities

- Enthusiasm and cheerfulness are essential to gain the opportunity to join this friendly team,
- Self-disciplined, organised and self-motivating,
- Ability to work as part of a flexible team, responding to instructions, contributing ideas, supporting other team members as required,
- Adaptable and receptive to new ideas and initiatives,
- Ability to work under pressure and manage competing deadlines,
- Good organisational/housekeeping skills,
- Excellent interpersonal skills with an ability to listen, build rapport and communicate with people at all levels.

Outline of Terms and Conditions

Salary:	£12.71 per hour
Duration:	From 26 October 2026 to 17 January 2027, initially.
Hours:	This is a variable-hours contract. Hours will be allocated on a rota basis. It is expected that each post holder will work an average of 2 to 3 4-hour shifts per week. This post will require the successful candidate to work weekends (Friday evening, Saturday, and occasionally Sunday) and unsocial hours on a weekly basis.
Annual Leave:	Annual leave is paid monthly at a rate of 12.07% of monthly earnings.
Probationary Period:	8 shifts.
Notice Period:	One month by either party in writing after an initial probationary period during which time the notice period is 2 weeks by either party.
DBS Check:	Should your post have regular contact with children and/or vulnerable adults a DBS check will be required.
Pension:	Colchester Mercury Theatre Ltd operates a Stakeholder Pension scheme. Full details of the scheme are available from the Finance Department.

Other Benefits

- Discount drinks in the Mercury's bar
- Access to the discounted staff menu in the café bar.
- The company encourages attendance at performances with an allocation of tickets to employees (subject to availability and the Mercury's ticket policy).
- Discount on selected Creative Engagement activities and workshops.

