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TOYNBEE  
HALL



## Storyteller/Writer Residency - Role Description

(please read with Open Call Out document)

*"If you want to get anything done in an organisation, you need to know how to use story to move people."(Stephen Denning)*

### **Opportunity: Storyteller/Writer - Residential Voluntary Worker at Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, London E1 6LS**

We want to share and celebrate our heritage with the public, and ensure we carry our history of community action into the future, by recruiting our second cohort of residential voluntary workers

**Invitation:** We are offering a six-month residency to live at Toynbee Hall. Unfortunately there is no studio space available during this residency, but there will be access to our multipurpose education space. We are inviting applications for a **Storyteller/Writer** (any discipline) **Residential Voluntary Worker (RVW)**. We are particularly interested in creatives with a socially engaged practice. We welcome proposals that demonstrate how your practice can draw upon our rich heritage, drawing on Toynbee Hall's archive, and actively engaging with Toynbee's direct services and the communities that we engage with. It is a unique opportunity to develop your practice in new ways; supporting a charity that focuses on working towards a future without poverty, and bridging the gap between people of all social and financial backgrounds

#### **What will I be doing?**

- Exploring and drawing upon Toynbee Hall's archive and the direct services we provide to develop a series of participatory creative community engagement activities that relate to your practice
- Focusing on one of our direct services to create a permanent story/piece that tells a story of Toynbee that is informative and empowers and challenges its audience by addressing social change
- Shaping stories, revising stories, re-interpreting stories to engage a diverse contemporary audience in an accessible form, incorporating relevant story assets i.e. audio/visual content

#### **We want you to:**

- Draw on research and interviewing skills to ask constructive questions and uncover hidden histories
- Inform Toynbee Hall's social media platform by contributing to 'Your time at Toynbee Blog' through at least 5 entries during your 6 month residency
- Share your process and creative achievements here at Toynbee, resulting in an end-of-residency showcase/exhibition/conference alongside the other RVW residencies
- Evaluate your practice; reflecting upon participants taking part in your programme and its impact, and upon your residency experience. Our evaluation team will hold regular evaluation meetings with you to support this process

#### **What skills, knowledge or qualities do I need?**

##### **Skills**

- Professional/emerging creative (minimum 2 years experience in chosen field)



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- Socially engaged practitioner with demonstrable experience of, and passion for using your specialist practice to engage with local communities and schools
- Experience of working on arts based projects that encourage community participation and dialogue with partners, stakeholders and the general public
- Proven ability to work independently as well as successfully collaborating with others
- Strong communication and people skills, with the ability to work with different audiences including young people, hard-to-reach communities and schools

### **Knowledge**

- Some knowledge and interest of how arts related process impacts on community learning, skill sharing, and the promotion of under-represented voices
- Some knowledge and interest in social policy and the mechanics of influencing social change
- Sound working knowledge of social media platforms

### **Qualities**

- Commitment to giving your time and a genuine passion and interest in the voluntary sector / community engagement - we are looking for individuals whose own practice reflects this
- Reliable, flexible, punctual and committed to delivering projects on time through effective time-management
- Inquisitive; a willingness to learn more about Toynbee Hall's heritage and direct services, and open to learning new skills
- Imaginative and innovative – a desire to experiment with new ideas and approaches.
- Positive, enthusiastic, and friendly
- Sensitivity when working with people and communities; actively supporting Equal Opportunities and observing and respecting confidentiality

**Additional Information** Please read the **call out document**; this will help you decide if the role is suitable for you

### **How to apply**

Please submit the following documents to [recruitment@toynbeehall.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@toynbeehall.org.uk)

- A completed Toynbee Hall application form
- A proposal demonstrating how your socially engaged practice relates to the skills, knowledge and qualities outlined in this role description
- An up-to-date CV
- Please attach up to four examples of your work that are applicable to the specific role that you are applying for. You can send work as PDFs, jpegs at 700dpi, or a link to your website for any larger files or film/mp3. Any work submitted should have the year that it was produced, and a short paragraph explaining its relevance to your application
- Please **do not** send hard copies of your work, as we are unable to return them

### **Timeline**

**Closing date for applications:** Monday April 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 9am

**Interviews with short – listed applicant:** April 23 -26<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Residency length:** Approx. 6 months from July 2019 – January 12<sup>th</sup> 2020 tbc  
Minimum 15 hours a week (to be discussed)