

Co-Curator Volunteer Brief

About Sampad

Sampad is a dynamic development agency for South Asian Arts based in Birmingham. It plays a significant role regionally, nationally and beyond in promoting the appreciation and practice of diverse artforms originating from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Through its work Sampad serves, supports and initiates South Asian arts in all its forms working with youth, community, education and professional artists.

About The Partition Trail

Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), “The Partition Trail, Voices of 1947” will examine the complex legacy of the Partition and its lasting impact on communities in Birmingham and the West Midlands, particularly those of Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi descent.

Sampad’s project will capture personal memories from local people who were directly affected by the sweeping turmoil of the Partition, recording their first-hand experiences as well as uncovering stories that have been passed down through families. The 18 month initiative will also incorporate talks, learning workshops, an exhibition in partnership with Birmingham Museums Trust and a public commemorative event.

The Role

Sampad is looking to recruit 20 volunteers who can help to curate our new Partition Trail exhibition based at Soho House, Birmingham, which will launch 16th November 2017.

The selected volunteers will attend a series of workshops over the summer holidays to help form the exhibition’s ideas, messages and design.

The volunteers will be put into small groups who will be responsible for specific sections of the exhibition, working alongside the curator to select the materials and art pieces which will contribute to the exhibition’s overall story.

They will then pitch their idea to staff from Sampad and Birmingham Museums who will provide professional feedback on their proposals.

Proposed Schedule

We would expect volunteers to attend all workshops wherever possible to gain the most value from their experience volunteering with us. The sessions are at a variety of locations within the town centre and a light lunch will be provided. Below is the suggested programme, though this could change.

Session 1	27 th July 2017	10am-2pm	Introduction to the project & what the Partition was
Session 2	3 rd August 2017	10am-2pm	Archive Training & Site visit
Session 3	10 th August 2017	10am-2pm	Design Workshop & Review of Materials
Session 4	18 th August 2017	10am-2pm	Proposal development and concept
Session 5	24 th August 2017	10am-2pm	Creation & Collection of Materials
Session 6	29 th August 2017	10am-2pm	Design & Pitching of ideas

Benefits

By volunteering in this role participants will receive the following benefits;

- New knowledge about a significant historical event
- Free professional training in research
- Professional experience in curation
- Skill development in software such as Adobe Photoshop
- Professional experience in the heritage sector
- Opportunity to meet new people and make new friends
- Opportunity to learn something new about the area you live in
- All reasonable expenses reimbursed
- A reference on request upon successful completion of work

Thinking about applying?

We are keen to hear from anyone over the age of 18 who is interested in being involved. You don't need to have prior knowledge about the Partition, although we welcome those who do, or who have family that were affected by this significant historical event. Below is a checklist to help you decide if you are right for the role:

- I am at least 18 years old
- I am available for 90% of the programmed dates
- I am keen to learn more about the Partition of India
- I am able to be respectful and sensitive to this highly emotional topic
- I have good ICT skills
- I am a committed and punctual person
- I have excellent punctuality
- I am independent and am happy to travel to different locations to carry out the work

How to apply

Please email a CV and a cover letter explaining why you would like to volunteer with us, and why you think you would be a good candidate to katy@sampad.org.uk