



David Livingstone Birthplace

Job Description: Youth Engagement Officer

Fixed Term (24 months)

Location: David Livingstone Birthplace (DLB), Blantyre and some home-working.

Reporting to: Learning and Engagement Manager

Responsible for: Freelance staff, volunteers involved in the project.

Salary: £23,500 pro rata p.a. (30 hours per week, mostly Mon-Fri but some weekend work required)

Background:

The David Livingstone Birthplace (DLB) reopened in July 2021 after a four-year refurbishment. The historic buildings, the redesigned museum and its recontextualised narratives have been central to its reopening. The Youth Engagement Officer role is part of an exciting new project - *Power Play: Exploring narratives of privilege and power through people, places and objects* - funded through the Museums Association Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund to support DLB's work in engaging one of our key audiences (young people 12-25) with our recontextualised museum collection, and themes including decolonisation and the climate crisis.

This is an exciting time for the Trust; an opportunity for rebirth and re-establishing the ethos of the important historic site and furthering discussion around the life, values and legacies of David Livingstone. The Youth Engagement Officer will be responsible for developing and delivering an engaging and (positively) challenging programme for young people locally, nationally, and internationally. The successful individual will work to develop youth engagement opportunities which increase skills, employability, confidence and a sense of belonging.

The individual will be part of the Learning and Engagement team and will also be expected to work collaboratively with the wider museum team. The successful candidate will have a strong understanding of the histories and legacies surrounding David Livingstone's story and will be expected to help promote the culture of progress and change the museum is aiming to achieve. They will also have experience in and passion for engaging with young people.

Role Summary:

This role is funded through the Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund. The successful candidate will be responsible for developing a youth engagement programme which engages our communities (including the community of Blantyre and African Diaspora communities in Scotland) with the multiple narratives of David Livingstone's story and the David Livingstone Birthplace Museum

collection. They will be responsible for networking, identifying, and establishing partnerships with key youth organisations, as well as nurturing existing relationships.

They will coordinate activities with young people such as online and in-person engagement, blogs, podcasts, learning and digital activities, collections research and care, in collaboration with the relevant museum team member. These activities will be centred on practice of co-production and will have three key themes over the 24 months. The first two themes will be decolonisation and the climate crisis and the third will be co-developed with the young people.

We are looking for someone who is hands-on, prepared to work in a museum whose collection is multi-layered and complex and support the progressive outlook of the Birthplace team. The role is an exciting opportunity for someone who is motivated by the social and societal impact that museum engagement programmes can achieve and will be driven by a passion for sharing stories behind museum objects and histories. You will be someone who wants to make a difference to young people's lives through developing skills, employability, confidence and to support our communities. We are looking for someone who wants to work as part of a team to engage young people, to highlight unheard voices and stories and promote progress and change through action.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the development and delivery of a youth engagement programme, with a focus on the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals through linking to the key themes and co-production at its heart.
- Build and develop existing and new partnerships and relationships with youth and third sector organisations.
- Work with the Learning and Engagement Team to develop secondary school learning resources (workshop, arts engagement), volunteering, training and development and opportunities in consultation with young people.
- Develop DLB's youth engagement procedures and practice.
- Supervise, as needed, freelance staff, volunteers, artists, student placements and trainees.
- Support the ongoing sustainability of the DLB site. As we are a small team the successful candidate will be expected to have a flexible and collaborative approach to their work.

Other duties:

- Responsible for the health and safety of yourself and others who you interact with and undertake appropriate health and safety reviews, risk assessments in relation to activities.
- Continuous Professional Development – you will be encouraged to seek opportunities for growth and development.
- Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) check required.
- Provide reports as required to Learning and Engagement Manager and Head of Development.
- Any other duties as required by the DLB. There will be some evening and weekend working required around planned events and activities.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

Essential:

- Experience of developing and delivering engaging youth engagement opportunities, following best practice and adopting methods of co-production.
- Experience of working with diverse groups of young people, with differing interests and needs.
- Understanding of sensitive use of language and imagery.
- Ability to take on feedback, internally and externally to organisation.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (written and verbal) and ability to deal with a diverse range of people.
- Excellent organisational, attention to detail and forward planning skills.
- Experience of implementing organisational administrative policies and procedures.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, including Microsoft Teams, and Zoom.

Desirable:

- A relevant qualification (for example an SVQ in Museums and Galleries Practice, youth work or community/youth empowerment).
- Interest in and knowledge of the wider David Livingstone's story and the role of Scotland in Britain's colonial history.

We encourage applicants from all backgrounds, and welcome applications from those facing barriers to employment, people living with a disability, people from a BAME background and those who identify as LGBTQI+.

Applications for the role, in the form of a CV and cover letter (by 12 noon on 1 October), should be sent to Elena Trimarchi, Learning and Engagement Manager at elena.trimarchi@dltrust.uk. Any queries can be sent to the same email address (queries will be responded to on and after 21st September) and there will be an informal information session (via MS Teams) on Thursday 23rd at 1pm - please email for a link.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 7th October.

References will be required for the successful candidate.

This role is funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund.

