



Seeking Project Coordinator for (DIS)PLACED: Philadelphia | Expressions of Identity & Transition

Organization + Project Overview

Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture is a non-profit organization offering structured exposure to the language, art, music, dance, literature, and natural environment of the Arab world. “Al-Bustan,” Arabic for “The Garden,” promotes cross-cultural understanding among youth and adults of all ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds through artistic and educational programs.

(DIS)PLACED: Philadelphia is an 18-month long project exploring the theme of (dis)placement through the documentation of local stories and invitation to four artists of Arab heritage to produce new works, with public opportunities for critical engagement in the Philadelphia community.

In the first phase of the project, Al-Bustan will engage two local documentarians – writer Ann de Forest and photographer/videographer Dave Tavani – to tell the stories of Philadelphia residents who have been impacted by displacement. They will compile narratives, photos, and videos of 12 individuals/families, examining how displacement affects the Arab-American as well as African-American, Hispanic, and Asian populations in Philadelphia. These stories foreground a localized context that will inform the work of the artists-in-residence in the second phase of the project. The four guest artists include poet Nazem El Sayed (Lebanese, recently relocated to Washington DC), visual artists Buthayna Ali (Syrian, based in Damascus) and eL Seed (Tunisian, based in Paris and Dubai), and composer Kinan Abou-afach (Syrian, based in Philadelphia). Each artist’s residency in Philadelphia will include public viewings and open rehearsals of works in progress, accompanied by poetry readings, public discussions, educational visits, art installations, and/or performances which will take place between March and December 2017.

Find out more: <http://www.albustanseeds.org/featured-story/displaced-explorations-in-poetry-art-music-composition/>

Position Summary + Responsibilities

The Project Coordinator will work in coordination with the Executive Director and several team members and consultants in the following, with shifting focus depending on phase of project:

- liaising with partners (social service organizations and arts organizations)
- coordinating outreach to various constituents and community members
- coordinating the compilation of community stories and the work of two documentarians
- planning and coordinating a series of public/community events and forums
- coordinating logistics for the four commissioned artists
- coordinating the work of consultants in development of mircosite, graphics, photo/videography documentation, and public relations
- assisting in development of the artists’ produced work (art installation, exhibit, recorded CD, blog, booklet)
- assisting in creative fundraising strategies for the project
- **Time commitment: 25 hours/week, 5 days/week – part-time starting Oct 2016, shifting into full-time in spring 2017 once additional funding secured**

Experience + Qualifications

- bachelor’s degree in arts, education, social sciences, or related field
- experience at least 2 years with project implementation, arts and culture sector, and/or social justice work
- knowledgeable of Philadelphia neighborhoods and history
- strong creative, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills
- excellent organizational skills, attention to detail, ability to multi-task
- friendly, can-do attitude, able to work independently and effectively as part of a team
- proficient in use of Microsoft Office applications; Adobe Creative Suite; experience with Mac OS preferred

**To apply, please send cover letter and resume with 3 references to Executive Director at:
hsayed@albustanseeds.org**