



Swansea's unique and much-loved children's literacy project is recruiting!



Job title: Producer

Start date: April 2019

Terms: A fixed-term freelance contract for approximately 9 months (with possible extension); part-time (1 day per week), ideally spread over two half-days

Fee: £150 per day

Location: Storyopolis is based at Volcano Theatre on Swansea High Street

Outline of the role

Collaborating closely with Project Director Tim Batcup, your role will be to lead on the design and implementation of Storyopolis' broad-ranging programme of literacy-based activities, with responsibilities spanning strategic direction to detailed delivery. As partner-in-crime and creative foil, you will have the opportunity to shape the direction of this innovative project so that it continues to benefit Swansea's most in-need children and young people into the future.

About Storyopolis

Storyopolis is a children's literacy project with a difference. A vibrant, city centre-based initiative, Storyopolis provides an innovative framework for schools and families from areas of socioeconomic and cultural deprivation to engage with high quality activities that build the confidence, communication skills and creativity of children and young people, empowering them to make their voices heard in the world.

We collaborate with a wide range of artists and organisations, seeing 'literacy' as a very broad church. We have worked with Rufus Mufasa, Cynan Jones, Swansea Comic Collective and Helen and Thomas Docherty, amongst others, and previous activities have included book-writing, illustration, performance poetry, scriptwriting, rap, journalism and flash-fiction. We believe that the more ways in which we can approach literacy, the greater the potential for us to meet the diverse needs of the children who take part and to enable them to develop their own unique creative voices.



Originally a cornerstone project of Volcano Theatre and Coastal Housing's Arts Council of Wales-funded 'From the Station to the Sea' programme, Storyopolis has now received funding from the Garfield Weston foundation to continue to grow its activity. Starting in spring 2019, this second phase will consolidate and build on year one, developing how Storyopolis both works with schools and reaches beyond them, expanding its network of collaborators and looking to become a permanent and sustainable enterprise with its own dedicated High Street premises in the next three to five years.

We are looking for a producer to join us on this journey and help us shape the direction of the project. We want Storyopolis to continue to grow and be able to stand on its own two feet, meeting the ever-increasing demand for creative approaches to addressing literacy and associated issues in some of Swansea's most deprived communities, at the same time as retaining what makes it so distinctive: its fresh, fun and playful spirit.

"Making a story is powerful." – Year 4 pupil

"The ideas flowed, and the children were engaged." - Clare Harvard, Year 4 Teacher

"The event was the best we have ever been involved in" – Pete Taylor, Swansea Comics Collective



ABOUT THE ROLE

Storyopolis is headed up by Project Director Tim Batcup, supported by the team at Volcano Theatre. The producer will work closely with Tim to share responsibility for all aspects of the project's delivery, including:

- Programme design, management and administration

Devising and scheduling the Storyopolis programme, including but not limited to: one-off and series of workshops with schools and other education providers, CPD activity for teachers, and community outreach workshops; liaising with schools, artists, and other partners as necessary; arranging transport; acquiring materials; writing risk assessments

- Budget management

Monitoring expenditure and reconciling accounts

- Marketing

Working with Volcano Theatre to market the activity as appropriate, including maintaining the project's profile on social media and its website, managing the email database, and arranging distribution of leaflets and fliers; press relations; print design

- Evaluation

Monitoring the activity, collecting and compiling quantitative and qualitative data (including through case studies) in line with funders' requirements; report writing

- Volunteers

Recruiting and managing a small cohort of volunteers to support the delivery of the activity

- Strategic development

Developing a Storyopolis Business Plan for the next 3 – 5 years, including researching additional funding options, possibly in collaboration with a fundraiser; developing partnerships with other local and national organisations

Person specification

We are looking for an early-to-mid-career producer who's able to demonstrate experience and skills in the above areas. IT literacy is essential and an understanding of how schools work would be very desirable, as would an appreciation of the merits of literacy as a positive influence on the lives of young people and an enthusiasm for socially beneficial projects. The right person will need to be able to work equally happily alone and as part of team, and it's important to us that you're articulate, warm, friendly, confident, conscientious and very well organised.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your CV and a covering letter (no more than 2 sides of A4) outlining your interest in and suitability for the role, to claud@volcanotheatre.co.uk

Deadline for applications is Monday 25 March 2019 5:30pm

Interviews will be at Volcano Theatre in the week beginning 8 April.

If you've any queries, please contact us on claud@volcanotheatre.co.uk or 01792 464790

About Volcano Theatre

Volcano Theatre has been creating high-impact performance for over 30 years, as well as initiating and managing projects ranging from temporary building transformations to festivals, residential workshops, exhibitions, publications, and public events. Volcano is an energetic, responsive arts company that moves quickly to make things happen, inspiring others and setting big ideas in motion.

