**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Artist/Director for Sensory Storytelling Co-development**

**for Mercers’ Nursery Project**

**Overview**

Discover Children’s Story Centre is seeking **three Artist/Directors** to play an integral role in the co-development phase of a 4-year “Sensory Storytelling” project, in partnership with LEYF Nurseries and UEL’s Baby Development Lab. This project aims to enhance language, literacy, and communication skills in children aged 2-5 through immersive, sensory storytelling sessions. The Artist/Directors will collaborate with **three Story Builders (Discover’s in-house storytellers) and an Early Years Specialist to co-create a 20–25-minute storytelling piece that will be delivered across East London nurseries.**

**Contract:** Freelance, 5 days at £200 per day, total of £1000

**Location:**

* Discover Children’s Story Centre
* Deanery Road Nursery & Pre-School, Stratford

**Timeline:** Between January and March 2025

**Responsibilities**

The Artist/Directors will engage in a **5-day collaborative co-development process to design a storytelling performance** that uses sensory methods—such as repetition, props, sounds, and music—to foster an engaging, child-led experience. The devised piece should allow flexibility for interactions between children and adults and adapt to the unique needs of each group.

Additionally, there is a budget of **£2,000 available to engage a prop maker** to create high-quality, sensory props for the 20–25-minute piece. Artist/Directors will collaborate with the prop maker to ensure that the props align with the storytelling goals and enhance the immersive experience.

**Timeline & Commitment**

**1 Day:** Brainstorm session with three Story Builders, Project Manager, Early Years Specialist, and PhD student from UEL’s Baby Development Lab.

**1 Day:** Storybuilding session at Deanery Road Nursery & Pre-School (conducted by Story Builders), gathering ideas from children, families, and staff to inform the story arc.

**3 Days:** Devising the sensory storytelling piece with the Story Builders and Early Years Specialist.

**Key Requirements**

* **Creative Vision:** Proven experience in directing or creating sensory and interactive performances for young children.
* **Collaborative Spirit:** Comfortable working closely with educators, children, and community stakeholders.
* **Early Years Experience:** Familiarity with early childhood development and creating age-appropriate content, particularly for ages 2-5.
* **Flexibility:** Ability to adapt creative concepts to meet diverse developmental needs and respond to feedback from children and staff.

**Desirable**

* Experience with early years or sensory theatre.
* Background in community-engaged or participatory arts.
* Interest in child development and sensory storytelling techniques.

**Compensation & Travel Reimbursement**

Artist/Directors will be compensated at £200 per day, for a total of 5 days. Travel costs can be reimbursed up to £10 per day per person.

**How to apply**

Please submit the following to **recruitment@discover.org.uk** by **24 November 2024 (midnight)**:

* A proposal outlining your content and ideas for a 20–25-minute storytelling piece. In your proposal, consider the potential props and materials involved, how the piece can adapt to the needs of different groups, and how it might evolve throughout the project. This can be submitted as:
	+ A written proposal (maximum one page),
	+ A video or audio recording (maximum two minutes), or
	+ A PDF presentation.
* Your CV and a covering letter detailing relevant experience.
* Discover’s Equal Opportunities form.

Discover values diversity and is an equal opportunities employer. We especially welcome applications from ethnically and culturally diverse artists and from artists who self-identify as disabled.