



Researcher 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 My Route

My Route is an 18 month project that explores the history of the people who have lived and worked around the Stratford Road in Birmingham since the Second World War. Aided by the local communities between Sparkbrook and Hall Green, the project will look at how the culture, architecture and populations have changed over the years, mapping the migration of the different communities along the road over time. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to research and learn about their heritage through a series of activities and research opportunities, ending in an exhibition along the road. Several resources will be created based on what is discovered, including publications, phone trails and an interactive map. This project has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Role

Volunteers will receive training in basic history collation, with a focus on how to collate information for contemporary history, which is often copyrighted. They will then complete the following tasks;

- Use the Kelleys directories in Birmingham Archives to compile a database of the different trades that existed along the Stratford Road, which can be fed into our interactive map
- Explore the archives for visual content that relates to the project
- Work with the public to try and crowdsource missing information
- Undertake independent research into a business, theme, topic, person etc which will feed into our publication and interactive map.

Reasonable expenses agreed with Sampad beforehand that arise from undertaking this work will be reimbursed by Sampad.

Commitment

Volunteers **must** attend the training session, which will be approximately one day in duration. They are then expected to commit approximately 3 hours of their time each week to undertaking the research, which will be made up of fixed sessions at the archives and independent study sessions they can choose when and where to participate in.

Benefits

- Free professional training
- Improved communication and research skills which will look good on your CV
- Opportunity to meet new people and make new friends
- Opportunity to learn something new about the area you live in
- A reference on request once work has been completed

Can I apply?

We are keen to hear from reliable individuals who have a passion for history. All volunteers will be considered, although if you are under 16 we will need you to get a parent or guardian to sign permission forms for you to take part.

How to apply

Please complete the application form and email it to katy@sampad.org.uk by **Friday 4th April 2014**. We will then contact you to arrange an informal meeting where we can discuss the position.