



Wikipedia 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

Sampad is looking to recruit volunteers who can upload and edit historical information about the Stratford Road onto the free online encyclopaedia, Wikipedia (see here for information about Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:About>).

In order to do this, volunteers will receive training on the following topics;

- What is Wikipedia?
- Open licensing and free content
- Wikimedia Foundation and Wikipedia's sister projects
- Wikipedia in language other than English
- Wikipedia page structure and navigation
- How to read an article history
- Use of talk pages; dispute resolution
- Sandbox: a safe place to edit

- Wikipedia formatting
- Linking pages
- Notability: suitability of subjects for inclusion Wikipedia
- Adding references
- Starting a new article

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

Commitment

Volunteers will be expected to attend one day of training in October (the time and date will be confirmed nearer the time). Volunteers will then be asked to either work from home or come to the office to write and edit the articles, with each volunteer expected to write approximately 10 Wikipedia entries.

Benefits

- The opportunity to develop new research and ICT skills
- New knowledge about Wikipedia and how it is used
- Training which will allow you to write Wikipedia articles in the correct style, which you can reuse for future articles in other subject areas
- Integrating into a new digital community
- The chance to meet new people and make new friends
- The opportunity to learn something new about the area you live in
- A reference on request upon successful completion of work

Can I apply?

We are keen to hear from reliable individuals from a range of backgrounds and experiences, particularly if you live in the local area! 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 found on the website and email it to katy@sampad.org.uk as soon as possible. Deadline for applications is Friday 10th October 2014.

