



Role Description

Storytelling Fellowship Storyteller: AKO Storytelling Institute

Basic Information	
Post Title	AKO Storytelling Institute Story Associate
Story Host Organisation	AKO Storytelling Institute
Partner University	University Nominated by the Story Associate. If you are not currently based at a University, or would like us to find you a partner University then please indicate this on your application.
Size of Award	£37,099 pro rata, point 30 on National Spinal Point, or equivalent value fellowship grant (paid on supplier contract basis).
Contract Type	Your contract may take one of the following forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A PDRA Employee-based Contract (or equivalent)• A Fellowship Contract, paid as a grant, or on a supplier basis. The appropriate form of contract and the final specification of the role will be determined by the partner university, in line with their internal regulations.
Working Pattern	Six months full-time or one year part-time. It is essential that the Story Associate is on site for contact days with the fellows and also able to spend some time in London as AKO build their team.
Location	London
Meeting the Specifications	When applying for the role, the Story Associate must demonstrate that they meet the Host Specifications and Generic Specifications. Each solution to the Host's challenge should also be driven by an active exploration of the value and uses of Story in professional and community settings, as per StoryArcs' mission.



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Host Specifications	
About the Role	<p>The Story Associate will tell the stories of practitioners undertaking fellowships, exploring how storytelling can drive social impact. They will produce regular output such as a blog, and will pull findings together at the end of the placement.</p>
About You	<p>It's important that the person coming to us is interested in evaluation.</p> <p>We are interested in a good story/ies of the fellows and fellowship activities, but we are also interested in using this documentation as a process to find out if we are managing to achieve our aims: to create better storytellers for change, and to examine which processes, methodologies and interventions are working.</p> <p>It means we are looking for an excellent storyteller as well as someone skilled and interested in evaluation.</p>
About the Story Host	<p>The AKO Storytelling Institute works at the intersection of storytelling and social change. As a part of University of the Arts London's new Social Purpose Group, their mission is to enable storytellers and campaigners to make a greater social impact.</p> <p>In September 2023, they will start a nine-month storytelling fellowship for ten talented practitioners to help them explore how storytelling can drive social impact. Their inaugural year will focus on the theme of 'Truth and Lies'.</p> <p>They will seek to better understand which processes and methodologies to follow in order to enable storytelling to have a substantial societal and environmental impact, and will seek to transform the fellows into better storytellers for change. They will attempt to find undiscovered techniques for storytelling for change, facilitate the creation of work that has social impact, and create a community of storytellers for change.</p>
Summary of Project Brief	<p>The Story Associate will help to tell the story of the Fellowship programme and evaluate it. You will look at the interventions made by the curriculum to see how they are accepted, adapted, and rejected by individual fellows. You will also analyse the effect of the Fellowships on the fellows.</p> <p>As Associate, you will produce regular output. This could be in the form of a blog with multimedia content embedded, or in another</p>



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	<p>form if you have a specific media specialism. At the end of the placement, you will pull learnings together, perhaps in the form of an interactive hub.</p> <p>The role will involve working alongside the AKO Storytelling Institute’s Director Francesca Panetta, an Emmy award-winning Immersive/Interactive Director. It is important that you are interested in evaluation. The audience will be artists, media professionals, change-makers, policy makers, and eventually students.</p>
<p>Essential Skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A skilled Storyteller (this could be demonstrated through exceptional writing ability, or through other social and traditional media skills) ● Skills in research ● Ability to see and build connections between different projects and findings ● Understanding of evaluation methods and processes ● Strong understanding of impact and audience targeting <i>(See Job Description for further desirable skills required across all projects.)</i>
<p>Desirable Skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listening ● Collaboration ● Experience of applying existing models and frameworks to the evaluation process
<p>Further Information</p>	<p>The Story Associate post is an exciting one. It comes at a time when the AKO Storytelling Institute is being set up and experimenting with what the fellowship programme could be.</p> <p>Additionally the associate will learn from a talented and experienced team.</p> <p>The Story Associate will be working alongside the AKO Storytelling Institute’s Director Francesca Panetta, who is an Emmy award-winning Immersive/Interactive Director. She worked at the Guardian for over a decade pioneering new forms of storytelling (from audio and video, to VR and AR), and is now working in machine learning. The Story Associate will benefit from this varied experience of creative factual storytelling as well as getting regular</p>



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	<p>feedback. The associate will also be part of a multidisciplinary fellowship community.</p> <p>The Storytelling Institute has a team of evaluation advisors on-board who the Story Associate can work with. The Story Associate will also have access to StoryArcs' emerging Story Skillset and Evaluation Toolkit. They will receive mentoring from Professor Soyinka and team to adapt and apply these tools for the purposes of this project.</p>
Digested Brief	<p><i>Challenge:</i> Tell the stories of practitioners undertaking fellowships, exploring how storytelling can drive social impact.</p> <p><i>Who they're looking for:</i> A team player with a keen interest in storytelling and its ability to drive social change. The ideal candidate will have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to help people tell their stories.</p> <p><i>Goal:</i> Evaluate the impact of the fellowships and tell the stories of the fellows.</p> <p><i>How:</i> This could involve combining Story analysis skills with storytelling skills in order to aid understanding of a programme and its impact.</p>



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Generic Job Description

Job Purpose

We are offering the chance to undertake a placement with a Host organisation, either for six months full-time or one year part-time.

Each Host will define a problem they think Story Skills could help with. As a Story Associate, you will propose, define and deliver a project that works with your Host to see how Story Skills can meet their needs. In doing so, you'll contribute to the production of a 'Story Skill Set'.

This is an opportunity to contribute to a prestigious AHRC-funded programme, and to develop your skills as a storyteller or story analyst. This programme will support you to explore the value of your skills in professional settings, and will allow you to use your skills in unique and innovative ways.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Lead and deliver a project in response to the host's brief.
- Document your experience with a focus on how you use and apply story and/or narrative skills.
- Contribute to the evaluation of the pilot scheme through participation in pre, midway and post surveys.
- Apply your story and/or research skills and expertise to a real world challenge, using appropriate methods and/or technique.
- Contribute to knowledge generation, knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer activities including community engagement events.
- Co-author research reports, blog posts, case studies, press releases and/or editorials as required by the funding body or for dissemination to the wider academic community.
- Maintain accurate, complete and timely data and records in accordance with funding council requirements.
Consolidate work and records produced by others within the project in an accessible dataset or evidence bank.
- Act as a general ambassador for the StoryArcs Programme.
- Contribute to the gathering of evidence towards a transferable 'Story Skill Set'.
- Ensure that responsibilities identified within internal processes such as Ethics, Health and Safety guidelines are well planned for and robustly met.
- Assist with dissemination of research findings and contribute to publications across a range of platforms.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake any other duties relevant to the programme of research.
Qualifications and Experience	<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Early Career Researcher defined through completion of a PhD or equivalent experience. (Equivalent experience may involve 4 years professional experience and/or evidence of high-impact public works.) • Extensive experience in the field of Story, narrative, knowledge exchange and/or an allied discipline. • Experience of producing public works (e.g. books, films, exhibitions, media) or publishing research results and conference papers. • Knowledge and experience of conducting data gathering and analysis. <p>Desirable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in managing and delivering research and/or service improvement projects. • Experience in delivering community engagement projects and working with diverse groups. • Experience of cutting-edge approaches to the use of data (e.g. data analytics or AI) within research and industry.
Skills and Knowledge	<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An excellent story gatherer and teller, utilising verbal, visual and written communications skills with evidenced ability to write and/or co-author case studies, reports, blogs, presentations and/or other publications as appropriate. • Proven project management skills with strong analytical, problem-solving, decision-making and evaluation skills. • Ability to respond to sensitive and complex situations. • Ability to work calmly in tight deadline scenarios. • Excellent ICT skills. Competent in using standard Microsoft Office, Google Drive, Zoom, and other applications and social media as appropriate.



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	<p>Desirable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ability to apply qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, including the conduct and analysis of interviews and surveys.● Demonstrable understanding of and interest in knowledge exchange, impact, the Higher Education policy landscape and the wider Arts and Culture landscape in the UK.● Community engagement - running workshops as part of public engagement and research exploration.● An extensive understanding of the national and international contexts of research.● A good understanding of the research environment in a university.● Experience of utilising social media.● Ability to assess, interpret and evaluate outcomes of research.● Ability to develop new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding.
<p>Personal Qualities</p>	<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A clear commitment to contributing to the research environment and producing high-quality research outputs.● Interpersonal networking skills to develop relationships between a range of societal groups.● Proactive independent attitude. Think and work creatively to tackle problems and challenges.● Flexible and adaptive with a positive approach to managing substantial projects and associated resources.● A committed team-player with the skills needed to work effectively within small teams. Show initiative and judgement within given constraints; ask for and give help when needed and be able to work effectively within academic and industry environments.● Analytical skills and capacity to work across disciplines.● Commitment to high-quality, cross-disciplinary research.● An openness and willingness to learn new skills.



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How to Apply	
For any further information about the StoryArcs Programmes, Story Host Information, Story Associate Information, Project Timeline, FAQs, etc., please see the attached Applicant Pack.	*Link to Applicant Information Pack*
To apply for this Story Associate role, please see the Application Portal to download an Application Form and optional Equality & Diversity Monitoring Form.	*Link to Application Portal*