

Sophia's Story Learning Producer

Contract & hours: 0.6 FTE
Location: London – Combination of Museum-based and homeworking
Salary: £28, 000 - £30, 000 (pro rata, £16, 800 to £18, 000)
Contract: 2-years fixed term
Reporting to: Director
Updated: August 2022

BACKGROUND

In 2017, the Brunel Museum acquired a pre-eminent collection of thirty watercolours, drawn and hand coloured by Marc Brunel, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and their chief engineer Richard Beamish during the construction of the Thames Tunnel. These unique watercolours are due to be redisplayed from 2024, as part of the Brunel Museum reinvented project.

The designs show in great detail the miners and bricklayers working in the world's first Tunnel Boring Machine. They show the miners at the face of the tunnelling shield, bricklayers, and even foot passengers and carriages as Marc Brunel imagined they might use the tunnel when it opened. All these figures have one thing in common – their gender. There is only one watercolour, already on display in the Museum, which shows a woman. This watercolour shows Sophia Brunel, Marc's daughter and sister to Isambard, walking in her father's tunnel. This is the only representation of Sophia in the Museum in its current form. Yet, she was a promising engineer in her own right, once described as "Brunel in petticoats", had she not been denied the opportunity to study by the strict behavioural codes of her time.

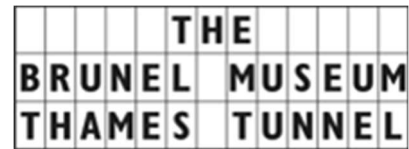
Using Sophia as a starting point, the 'Sophia's Story' programme is an ambitious but achievable step towards better gender representation in maths and science courses and ultimately the engineering careers they lead to.

So many attempts to encourage girls into STEM subjects focus on problematizing young women, by encouraging them to build their confidence, rather than tackling the biases that exist, in educators, among their peers and society at large. Therefore there are two key aims of this project: to improve gender representation and access to female role models in engineering careers; alongside exploring and tackling gender bias among co-educational groups in schools.

PUPOSE OF THE ROLE

This project has three key strands that will allow the Museum to develop its engagement with young women and girls under the age of 15, both within and outside of a school setting:

- Stemazing Inspiration Academy and After School Clubs (Years 1 and 2)
- What I Am Is, Key Stage 3 school workshops (Years 1 and 2)
- Women in Engineering film with Bacon's college (Year 2)



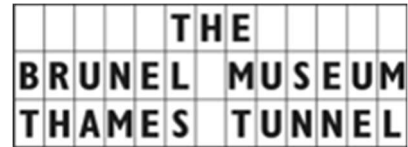
Job Description

- Mentor and support Stemazing volunteers to deliver two six-week afterschool clubs at the Brunel Museum for local children, including ensuring their expenses are processed and paid in a timely manner
- Recruiting participants for the afterschool clubs
- Recruiting new volunteers for the Stemazing Inspiration Academy
- Develop a new series of school sessions and resources for local secondary schools
- Work with students to produce a film for the Brunel Museum reinvented new gallery, liaising with Community Curator and external design team on inclusion in the gallery
- Recruit and work with a consultant to create an evaluation strategy for the Sophia's Story programme
- Maintaining the Sophia's Story budget, including purchasing equipment and working with the Project Finance Manager
- Working closely with colleagues across the Museum to coordinate use of Museum space
- Maintaining accurate records of after school clubs, participants in projects and school numbers – ensuring GDPR compliance at all times
- Act as an advocate for inclusion of women's stories in the new gallery
- Work with the exhibition Design team to ensure new gallery has links to the Primary and Secondary curriculum
- Undertake any relevant training as necessary during the course of the role

Person specification

Skills and experience

- Experience of coproduction or cocuration
- Experience developing schools' sessions in a community, voluntary organisation or museum context
- Experience working with children and/or young people or willingness to undertake delivery training
- Understanding of national curriculum
- Experience directing the work of freelancers or consultants
- Attention to detail and some experience reporting to funders, managers or similar
- Some experience tracking or managing project budgets
- An awareness of the urgency of the climate emergency and the role of museums in raising awareness and mitigating the impacts
- Awareness of inclusive practice in museums and/or Specific experience on programmes to improve gender or minority representation, ideally in STEM



Any questions about the role should be directed to the Director, Katherine McAlpine in the first instance, Katherine.mcalpine@thebrunelmuseum.com

Deadline: Please apply with a CV outlining your relevant experience and a covering letter explaining why you want to work at the Brunel Museum, and how you meet the required experience and skills by **9am Monday 19 September**.

If you wish, you may apply in an alternative format, such as an audio or video application. Please email your application to the address below.

Interviews are expected to take place Thursday 29 and Friday 30 September

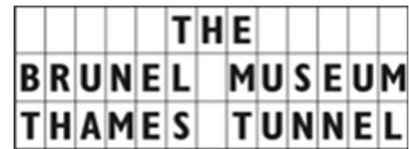
The Brunel Museum, Railway Avenue, London, SE16 4LF

www.thebrunelmuseum.com

Flexibility is key as the small museum with the big story continues its post Covid-19 recovery. We recognise that flexibility is a two way street so while we are asking for flexibility from our staff, we want to try and provide the same in return. If you meet the criteria but require additional flexibility in hours, please do get in touch with the Director.

Please note that The Brunel Museum is committed to equal opportunities in employment and ensuring that no one is denied opportunities or discriminated against through prejudice or exclusion due to characteristics protected under the Equality Act. The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service and appropriate references.

If you have a disability which means you are unable to meet some of the job requirements, specifically because of your disability, please address this in your application. If you meet all the other criteria, you will be short-listed and we will explore jointly with you if there are ways in which the job can be changed to enable you to meet the requirements.



Appendix 1

The Brunel Museum's Charitable Objects:

1. To preserve and encourage the preservation for the public benefit of the Engine House situated in Rotherhithe Street, Greater London and the precincts thereof by such means as may be necessary.
2. To educate the public in the appreciation of the engineering works of Marc and Isambard Brunel, particularly the construction of the Thames Tunnel, and to publish and catalogue, leaflet or other material in connection herewith; and
3. To provide a recreational facility for local residents and for the public at large at Rotherhithe and, subject thereto, to generally enhance the surrounding conservation area.

Our Values

- Inclusion
- Ingenuity
- Integrity
- Enjoyment