

Global Challenge Internship Programme 2018-19

Internship description

Company name	Silk Road Rising
Internship title	Super-Diverse Community Field Work Internship
Internship location	Chicago, USA
Company website	www.silkroadrising.org

About the company

Silk Road Rising is an art-making and arts service organization that shapes conversations about Asian and Middle Eastern Americans. Through storytelling and dialogue, we challenge disinformation, promote a culture of continuous learning, and explore what it means to be Americans.

At Silk Road Rising we understand that representation matters; it molds perception, informs discourse, and influences policy. We view our work as a strategic intervention aimed at shifting and expanding our communities' narratives. To those ends, we create live theatre, media arts, and educational programs, and assist other organizations in their efforts to include Asian and Middle Eastern stories.

About the internship

The intern will be a core member of the Phase 1 team for our "West Ridge Story" project.

The project is a long-term arts residency designed to bring arts and cohesion to Chicago's West Ridge neighbourhood, a 3.5 square mile microcosm of immigration in the United States. West Ridge is a super-diverse neighbourhood of 65,000 residents, of whom 48% are foreign-born. More than half of the immigrant population, and 28% of the total population, were born in Asia. West Ridge has the largest concentrations in the city of immigrants from India, Pakistan, Iraq, Vietnam, and the former Yugoslavia (principally Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia); the city's second largest concentration of Arab and Assyrian immigrants; and large numbers of immigrants from Romania and Sub-Saharan Africa, principally Nigeria.

More than forty languages are spoken in this fluid neighbourhood that is home not just to dozens of transient immigrant communities, but also to long-term residents who are living in the houses where their grandparents grew up.

Our project will include several storytelling workshops, in-depth interviews, and long-term playwriting residencies in neighbourhood schools and senior centres. The goals of this project are to assist the diverse communities in speaking about themselves: among themselves and to each other. We plan to create a community-generated theatrical work and a documentary film.

The intern will primarily work on designing evaluations for the West Ridge Story project. He or she will conduct preliminary interviews of potential program participants to complete a formative assessment, conduct additional research, then assist in the design of outcome and impact assessments to be carried out in later stages of the project.

The internship will help us develop a more robust program evaluation with a better-defined baseline than our staffing levels typically allow. This will enable us to better measure and report on the impact of the West Ridge Story project, which will both strengthen the project and place us in a stronger position when seeking funding and partnerships for future projects.

The intern will be the primary team member in a formative community assessment, conducting community interviews and additional research to establish baseline conditions in the neighbourhood before our artistic interventions begin.

The intern will also contribute his or her skills in social research to assist with identifying measurement criteria and establishing evaluation methods that the Phase 2 and Phase 3 project team will use to measure project outcomes and impacts.

Person specification

Essential knowledge and skills

- Must be a current University of Birmingham penultimate or final year undergraduate student
- Strong research skills including the ability to interview successfully
- Solid analytical skills
- Knowledge and confidence in using a range of evaluation methods
- Comfortable working and communicating with people of diverse backgrounds (including emigrants/immigrants and those for whom English is a second language)

Desirable knowledge and skills

- Studying a degree in Sociology, Political Science or Social Policy
- Preferably completed modules in (or similar to) Social Research II, Social Divisions and Global Societies
- Preference will be given to students who have also completed Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
- Knowledge of one or more of the following languages is preferred but not required; Spanish, Urdu, Hindi, Arabic, Tagalog, Bengali, Serbo-Croatian, Vietnamese, Russian, Igbo, Hausa, Gujarati, Punjabi, Indo-Pakistani Sign Language

Dates

- Start date: June 25th 2019
- End date: August 3rd 2019
- Internship duration: 6 weeks
- Working hours: 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday

Application deadline

Sunday 17th February 2019

How to apply

Apply online via the [Global Challenge application form](#)