Request For Applications

Back Home: Apprenticeship Program

BACKGROUND:
Paradice Avenue Souf and the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience will join in collaboration to explore the intersection of Black and Brown communities in Seattle and across the globe, in the present day and through time immemorial. Major project components include: onsite exhibition at the Wing Luke Museum featuring the "Black and Brown Solidarity" mural by Paradice Avenue Souf along with new work integrating Wing Luke Museum collections; A/R digital exhibition to extend the experience; video short documenting the story of Paradice Avenue Souf; and public programming engaging participants firsthand in the experience, spurring dialogue, and sparking action to further solidarity. As we continued looking deeper into the histories, we began to see more vividly in the intertwining of Afro & Asian populations on the Indian Ocean, that can also be found among us in South Seattle! We are looking to hire apprentices to assist with the creation of the art exhibit as we continue this journey of ancestral discovery, we want you to help us tell the story of the Back Home!

Project goals include:
- Build relationships between Paradice Avenue Souf and the Wing Luke Museum to demonstrate Black and Brown solidarity in action through collaboration
- Create multilayered art experiences that immerse participants in critical issues during this time of social unrest and movement for racial justice
- Directly support and amplify youth voices, providing perspectives that challenge and inspire, drawing on the past and lead the way to the future, and affirming their leadership, artistic skills, and life stories and experiences
- Support young local artists in the creative economy through artistic creation, video and A/R production, and merchandise sales
- Extend the reach of the Wing Luke Museum, Paradice Avenue Souf and the story of Black and Brown communities in Seattle

PARADICE AVENUE SOUF BACKGROUND
Paradice Avenue Souf is a dynamic and innovative creative collective dedicated to fostering creativity and artistic expression among young minds. We believe in the transformative power of the arts and are committed to providing engaging experiences that inspire, educate, and empower youth.

MUSEUM BACKGROUND
As a National Park Service Affiliated Area and the first Smithsonian affiliate in the Pacific Northwest, the Wing Luke Museum (WLM) offers an authentic and unique perspective on the American story. Nationally recognized for our work in creating dynamic, community-driven exhibitions and programs, we put our community at the heart of each exhibition we create. The stories you see and hear within our walls are their authentic experiences and perspectives. From the struggles of early Asian pioneers to accomplished works by national AANHPI artists, their contributions give us a look at what it means to be uniquely American. Our values are: people give us meaning and purpose; relationships are our foundation; and we desire community ownership and empowerment. For more information, please visit www.wingluke.org.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES:
This Request for Application represents the requirements for an open and competitive process. Priority given to applications received by 11:59 PM PST on July 29, 2024. Applications received after this date may be considered for volunteer opportunities. Must be 18+. 
Youth Apprenticeship Application

Please send the following items to: thebackhomefoundation@gmail.com

1. Cover letter that includes your personal and professional interests
2. Art Portfolio samples
3. Resume

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Our mission is to establish a partnership with the Wing Luke Museum, connecting with BIPOC residents in the local Seattle area and learning how to curate art activities within the Seattle area. This is a unique opportunity inspired by the principles of Sankofa as an Indigenous African economic model that quickly incubates business. It also provides youth an opportunity to create an intergenerational link with the folks that have been serving their communities through a genuine experience of the realities of creating art via this entrepreneurial practicum.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Core Competencies: This 4-week professional development series will draw out skills from the youth leaders to discover more impactful roles in the creation of the Back Home Art Exhibit. Through a rigorous multi-cultural engagement with these 4 core teams, these youth leaders will be prepared to succeed in any future endeavors they undertake: (1) Media; (2) Organizing; (3) Fabrication; (4) Research & Development. We have convened a dedicated cohort of 3 established artisans to facilitate youth-centered work groups on these topics for a group of 3 youth scholars. Each work group facilitator will draw upon their unique backgrounds and their respective sector of industry, which encompass music, graphic design, scholarly research, creative writing, project management, videography, set design, painting, and fun community building! As this theoretical portion of the program winds down, we will support the youth leaders in deciding what industries and skill sets they feel called to explore further as apprentices.

Apprenticeship Model: We will carefully match youth leaders with the appropriate core group over the course of a 10-week practicum informed by the Sankofa model of apprenticeship and predicated upon the learning cycle methodology of Literacy Efficacy and Advocacy. The owner of an enterprise may take a novice under their wing to impart the wisdom and know-how of their trade. Apprentices benefit from this hands-on training from their mentor, while mentors benefit from an extra set of hands to assist in their trade. When the apprenticeship is complete, the mentor is responsible for assisting their former apprentice through the start-up phase of their up-and-coming business, contributing to more cooperative neighborhoods throughout the Seattle area. By nurturing trust along the way, we hope to grow a local network of entrepreneurs who can rely on one another for years to come.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS:

- Bringing enthusiasm for learning, best effort, and growth mindset to the program.
- Being available during evenings for all workshop dates posted on the timeline.
- Completing requested reports, invoices, and evaluations in a timely fashion.
- Offering assistance to the completion of the Back Home Exhibit
- Participate in the Multicultural Team Building Exercises
- Complete a 14-week apprenticeship practicum.

PARTICIPANT FUNDING

- $2,133.00 stipend, paid in installments over the time of the project.
KEY PROJECT DATES BELOW

Mid-August 2024
Interviews
September 2024 through February 2025
14-week apprenticeship program

March/April 2025
Back Home Exhibit opens in Wing Luke Museum