



Reclaiming the narrative - Black Joy Chronicles (Student brief)

Background

LU Arts have invited Loughborough graduate, [Rennae Walker](#) to develop a new audio platform that will be launched in late October 2021. We are commissioning students and practicing artists to develop new creative work that mixes up storytelling, poetry and sound art to present innovative audio experiences. As Creative Producer, Rennae has developed the concept and will curate the content. We would now like to invite students to respond to the brief (below) and submit their ideas following which Rennae will select the work to be produced and released via the platform. Student work will be presented alongside established artists on this dedicated platform as well as being made available on established streaming platforms. As such, it is a great opportunity for you to make your work visible and support your employability.

Brief

Too often the narratives of the Black British experience perpetuated in the media, popular culture and even institutions are tainted with trauma and struggle. This is true for our development and survival as a people and should not be negated. We have struggled and we have experienced, inherited and are still in the journey of combating racial trauma. Unfortunately, the historical and daily traumatic experiences we face as a community dominates conversation leaving little room for black stories of joy. And there is so much joy in being black that is

seldom expressed. However, there are an array of trailblazing black British storytellers, poets and musicians, emerging and established, who are committed to reclaiming the narrative through their artistic practice. We are now looking to commission four student writers from Loughborough University to create work that will be presented on a new audio platform dedicated to a celebration of black joy.

Format

We are inviting expressions of interest from Black writers, poets and sound artists to create a new audio work that is inspired by lived experience or history and communicates and celebrates black joy.

The work should be no more than five minutes long and should utilise the potential of the medium through both words and accompanying sound effects/scapes. The words can take the form of poetry, experimental storytelling or sound art.

The work will be presented on a dedicated website and streamed via various platforms. We will present your work alongside that of professional artists, thereby supporting your professional development and getting your work seen by a large audience.

We intend to release an episode and new work each month over a four-month period from October 2021. The project is being delivered by a creative team of three recent Loughborough graduates (Rennae Walker, Reece Ferreira and Vuyo Ngwenya) with the support of LU Arts who will lead on the marketing and promotion of the content.

Technical Information

We will have limited audio recording equipment available to borrow and, if required, we can cover the cost of studio space hire. Any such costs will need to be agreed in advance.

We are employing an audio technician (Reece Ferreira) who will do sound editing and release your podcast on various platforms as well as the website. They will also advise on the format for your work to be submitted in.

Fee and Submission

We will pay each student selected a £50 fee for their commissioned work.

This opportunity is only open to current students (UG and PG) from Loughborough University, including students from our London campus.

If you would like to be considered for this project, then please email Nick Slater n.slater@lboro.ac.uk with an expression of interest. This should provide some information on what you might want to do, and a little bit about you and any previous experience or examples of work.

Please note we are not expecting you to have produced lots of audio content before; the most important thing is an interesting idea that relates to the brief.

If you have any questions prior to making an expression of interest, then please email n.slater@lboro.ac.uk.

Deadline for receipt of expression of interest: Monday 11 October

Selection of students will be undertaken by Rennae Walker as Curator/Producer for this project.