



Young Researcher/Curator Positions Available

Are you between the ages of 19-29? Interested in stories, photography, podcasts or media arts? Looking to learn more about your community?

Apply to join the **Toronto Ward Museum's *Block by Block*** program team as a young researcher/curator. This is an opportunity to champion community stories and work creatively with other young people.

About Block by Block

Block by Block is a participatory, multimedia project that engages young people, newcomers and Indigenous community members in the collection and interpretation of oral histories. By training young adults to interview community members about their lived experiences, the project preserves and animates stories of migration, settlement and civic life in Canadian neighbourhoods. From 2019-2022 Block by Block is focused on four Toronto neighbourhoods: Agincourt, Victoria Park, Regent Park and Parkdale. Key activities include: Training in oral history research; preservation of 30 oral histories per neighbourhood; collective curation of annual exhibitions in each neighbourhood; group curation of an online exhibition, and annual block parties with interactive programming in each neighbourhood.

The goal of Block by Block is to deepen relationships in and between Toronto communities through the exchange of personal stories, reflections and resources. Block by Block also hopes to contribute to better public understanding of migrant settlement experiences and to encourage public dialogue about future city-building.

Job Description

We are looking for 8 young adults between the ages of 19 and 29 to preserve and animate 32 migration stories rooted in the Agincourt, Victoria Park, Regent Park and Parkdale neighbourhoods between May-December 2021. The work of the young researchers/curators will be guided by local coordinators in each neighbourhood and will be supported by the Block by Block Program Director and local program partners.

Each young researcher/curator is expected to:



- Participate in a series of online project orientation and training workshops, starting in mid-May 2021
- Work with the other members of their neighbourhood team to conduct 8 oral histories, as outlined in the project orientation and training.
- Deliver oral history outcomes to the Program Director by the assigned deadlines.
- Meet weekly in person with their local coordinator and team to review tasks, coordinate schedules and reflect on the process and stories.
- Work cooperatively with the rest of the team to create an online exhibition (this includes participation in curation training workshops).
- Develop programming for a neighbourhood Block Party/exhibition launch, which will be held in Spring 2022
- Co-host a neighbourhood story-sharing circle in Fall 2021
- Meet regularly with the rest of the Block by Block citywide research/curation team to collaborate on program outcomes
- Establish and maintain respectful relationships with community members and the rest of the Block by Block team.
- Participate in ongoing program evaluation
- Work approximately 10 hours per week on this program, at least half of which will be on weekdays during daytime hours.

Young Researcher/Curators will receive up to \$5760 CDN (Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty dollars, Canadian) for their contributions to Block by Block. The expectation is that each Researcher/Curator will work 320 hours between May 15, 2021 and December 15, 2021, at a rate of \$18 per hour. The number of working hours is equivalent to approximately 10 hours per week but the workload will vary over the course of the project. Flexibility will be necessary at times to meet project deadlines. Regular weekday availability will also be necessary.



Qualifications

There are no specific experiences or qualifications required for these positions. We are looking for young adults who are good listeners, self-motivated, responsible and flexible. Ability to work creatively in a team and availability during daytime hours on weekdays are a must. Other assets for these positions include:

- Community experience in one of the four neighbourhoods involved in the project
- Interviewing skills or experience
- Research experience
- Fluency in Bengali, Somali, Arabic, Mandarin, Cantonese, Tamil, Tibetan, Tagalog or Hungarian
- Interest in photography, digital media, filmmaking, podcasts or digital storytelling
- Design skills or experience
- Community arts or community programming experience
- Experience working with seniors

Young researcher/curators will typically be working in one neighbourhood for this project but must be willing to travel to other parts of the city by TTC for team trainings, workshops and city-wide meetings if public health guidelines change over the course of the contract.

Willingness to work flexible hours in order to coordinate with the rest of the team and meet project deadlines is also a requirement. TWM is currently working remotely but may return to in-person activities. In the meantime, Young Researcher/Curators must have the capacity to meet and conduct their work by zoom and phone using their own equipment and wifi.

The Toronto Ward Museum is committed to community leadership, meaningful diversity and work by and for historically underrepresented groups. We welcome applications for these jobs from young adults who identify as Indigenous, Black, People of Color, newcomers, immigrants, refugees, persons with disabilities, women, queer, trans or non-binary persons or any combination of these intersections. We will also prioritize applications from young adults who live or have community connections in the neighbourhoods we are working in. We encourage you to self-identify in your application.

If you are interested in applying to become one of Block by Block's Young Researcher/Curators for 2021, please complete and submit an application by Monday, April 19, 2021. You can either fill out an application using our [Google Form \(https://forms.gle/o7BWBYzGLcDi5QkaA\)](https://forms.gle/o7BWBYzGLcDi5QkaA) or answer all of the questions below in a PDF document and send to hr@wardmuseum.ca.



Questions? Visit <http://www.wardmuseum.ca/joinus/> or email hr@wardmuseum.ca

**Toronto Ward Museum *Block by Block* Program
Job Application for Young Researchers/Curators**

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Facebook: _____

Twitter: _____

Instagram: _____

Website or other Social Media: _____

Are you between the ages of 19-29? Yes _____ No _____

Which neighbourhood team would you like to join? (Please choose one)

Agincourt _____

Victoria Park _____

Regent Park _____

Parkdale _____

Why are you interested in contributing to the Block by Block program?



What is your relationship to the neighbourhood you want to work in for this program?

What will you contribute to the program team? Please tell us about any relevant experiences, perspectives, interests or skills.

Do you have previous experience conducting interviews or leading community history projects? If so, please describe.

Do you have any photography, podcasting, digital storytelling, video editing or design experience? If so, please describe.

What does “establish and maintain respectful relationships with community members and the rest of the Block by Block team” mean to you?

Which languages do you speak?

Are you able to commit to regular two-hour weekly meeting between Monday-Friday between the hours of 9 am – 5 pm? (*Note: all meetings are currently online but may switch to in-person if public health guidelines change)

This job requires flexible working hours and some weekday availability. Which days and hours are you available to work regularly? Please list all times during which you would be able to work your average of 10 hours per week (e.g. Mondays from 9 am- 1 pm)



Please list two references for us to contact:

Reference 1:

Name:

Relationship to applicant:

Email:

Telephone number:

Reference 2:

Name:

Relationship to applicant:

Email:

Telephone number:

Please use this space to tell us anything else you think we should know when considering you for one of these positions.

Block by Block is led by the Toronto Ward Museum in partnership with the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI), City of Toronto Newcomer Office, Agincourt Community Services Association (ACSA), Working Women Community Centre (WWCC), Regent Park Film Festival (RPFF), West Neighbourhood House (WNH), Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre, Toronto Public Library (TPL), Toronto Community Benefits Network (TCBN) and Ryerson University, School of Urban and Regional Planning. The program is funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, with contributions from the Inspirit Foundation.