Call for research

Network of European Museum Organisations



Climate Action & Civic Engagement:

A Methodology for Museums to Host Citizen Assemblies

Museums emerge as crucial spaces for fostering dialogue, democratic engagement, and collaborative actions. The NEMO Working Group *Sustainability and Climate Action!* invites proposals for authorship of a collaborative research project, aiming to develop a methodology empowering museums to host citizen assemblies.

Main Tasks Envisioned:

The primary goal of this research is to establish a methodology for museums to effectively host citizen assemblies. This aims to facilitate meaningful engagement with diverse audiences on climate action while considering the following **key objectives** defined by the working group during a 2023 Workshop, *Amplifying Democracy*:

- Audience Definition & Recognition: Understand and define the target audience and acknowledge the diversity of audience groups, each with distinct motivators, priorities, and capacities.
- **Community Outreach:** Recognize that allies may exist beyond the museum's existing community and develop strategies for establishing relationships with them.
- Mediation: Ensure that the museum serves as a space for constructive dialogue, fostering an environment conducive to open and inclusive discussions.
- Motivation: Reflect on the factors motivating individuals to join the conversation and contribute to the development of the museum's climate action initiatives.

Your contribution as a researcher and main author:

We are seeking a main author to lead this research project in collaboration with an established working group. They will play a pivotal role in synthesizing workshop findings and case studies, connecting insights of the working group with independent research to formulate a comprehensive and impactful final product. This research has the potential to significantly impact the way museums engage with their communities on critical issues such as climate action.

Your participation in a collaborative session:

The Working Group plans to host a workshop where insights and contributions to the topic can be further developed, to which the selected main author is invited and highly encouraged to attend.

Parameters: The final research product should be a concise document, not exceeding 30 pages.

This may include an exploration of relevant literature and examples. It should culminate in a methodology for museums to host citizen assemblies.

Eligibility: This call is open to researchers with expertise in museum studies, cultural heritage, and related fields. Experience in community or activist organising as well as democratic engagement also highly desired.

The research period is April - July 2024

The budget for this research should not exceed 1.500,00 Euro (incl. VAT).

Applications

Please send your proposal including a

- letter of motivation,
- timeline/intended approach, and
- estimated fee to office@ne-mo.org

Deadline for applications: 18 March 2024