Call for Applications

“New Media” Climate Change Artist in Residence (CCAiR)

Where: Redpath Museum, Faculty of Science, McGill University
859 Sherbrooke West, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 0C4

Planned Start & End Date: May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021

Hourly Wage: $25.00 per hour + 4% benefits, paid bi-weekly

Hours/Week: 21 hours per week

Deadline to Apply: March 24, 2020

Description of Project: McGill University’s Faculty of Science is offering an Artist-in-Residency (CCAiR) to transform Quebec-specific climate change research, science and data into an interactive new media exhibit and educational workshops at the Redpath Museum. This is the first year of this unique CCAiR, generously subsidized through the Sustainability Projects Fund, Redpath Museum, Adaptable Earth Observation Systems (AEOS) research group, and the McGill Office of Sustainability.

For this residency, we are specifically interested in artists working in multimedia, data visualization and/or using technology in art. The final exhibit produced from the residency will be immersive and engaging, creating a unique way for visitors to be inspired and motivated by climate science and widening the dialogue on the climate crisis.

Primary Duties: Over one year, this AIR will do the following:

a) Learn from climate researchers: Work with climate researchers within the AEOS group to learn about the team’s research goals and methodologies, data sets available, and programs & processes used to collect and collate this data. Identify key research topics, data sets and observations that will be the focus of the workshops and final exhibit.

b) Develop & deliver climate workshops: Work with faculty & staff at the Redpath Museum to develop educational workshops to share skills gained from their time working with AEOS researchers, e.g. climate data modelling, data transformation, data visualization and the use of technology in art in the context of the climate crisis. Deliver a series of 4 – 6 workshops to members of the McGill and Montreal communities.

c) Create & launch climate exhibit: Use multimedia and technology to produce an innovative, bilingual exhibit. This exhibit, located at the Redpath Museum for a year, will act as a creative catalyst to emotionally engage visitors and enhance the visibility of climate science at McGill and by Canadian researchers.

d) Produce guides & reports: Work with museum public program staff to develop a plan for the maintenance and sustainable takedown of the exhibit. Produce a final report on the residency including objectives, data & methodologies, exhibit features, and challenges. Produce a guide to hosting the workshops and an evaluation report about the workshop results.

Required:

- Bachelor degree
- 1 year of demonstrated experience in transformation of data into interactive and/or artistic formats
- Experience with several of: coding, programming, algorithm development, data visualization, database management, UI/UX development, multi-dimensional data transformation, hardware expertise, graphic design, video editing
- Experience in explaining technical concepts and processes in an accessible way
- Experience with public outreach and/or role as an educator is desirable
- Bilingual (English & French) is desirable

Additional Information: The artist will have full access to the intellectual communities of the Museum, the AEOS group, and the Office of Sustainability. Applicants chosen for an interview should come prepared with proposal ideas, are welcome to specify whether any specific equipment or materials are required, and comment on foreseen costs associated with their project proposal.

How to Apply: Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae and an e-portfolio including finished projects blending data, technology & art, with descriptions of how these were created. Applications should include the names, position and contact information for two individuals who can act as a reference related to the experience & projects highlighted in the application. We will only contact references for those applicants chosen for the interview stage.

Please submit your application to science.outreach@mcgill.ca by March 24, 2020. Use the subject “Climate Change Artist in Residence – Application”. Documents should be provided as Word or PDF files using the following format: “CCAiR_Cover Letter_[first initial]_[last name]” and “CCAiR_CV_[first initial]_[last name]”.

We thank all applicants for their interest in this position. However, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. If you are chosen for an interview, you will be provided with a simulated topic in climate change research and asked to review a sample data set, create an exhibit proposal, and be ready to demonstrate and discuss this proposal at the interview.

INQUIRIES: Please contact Ali Rivers, Climate Officer at the Office of Sustainability at aileen.rivers@mcgill.ca.

Employment Equity: McGill University is strongly committed to equity and diversity within its community. We welcome applications from racialized persons/visible minorities, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as from all qualified candidates with the skills and knowledge to productively engage with diverse communities. McGill implements an employment equity program and encourages members of designated groups to self-identify.