**Call for Change-Making Research Project Participants**

**How do socially engaged museum staff manage their personal values and emotions within organisational cultures?**

***Are you interested in exploring emotions in museum change-making?*** ***Socially engaged museum professionals sought for participant-led, feeling-focused interviews with activist goals.***

*Project Introduction*

My name is Holly Bee, I am a PhD student at the School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester, interested in museum workforces and intersectional feminism, emotionality, and socially engaged practice. My PhD, “How do socially engaged museum staff manage their personal values and emotions within organisational cultures?”, seeks to understand the challenges and rewards of activist work through the lived experiences of socially engaged museum and gallery staff.

How can we cultivate organisational cultures that nurture change-makers and shape to their values? How is the pursuit of social justice suppressed and adopted by the museum workplace? Interviewees will take part in creative, feelings-led conversations in a compassionate, feminist space to explore how personal emotions, values, and actions impact and are impacted by working life. Working collaboratively, we will generate emotional knowledge that will contribute to raising the agency of change-makers within museums and galleries.

*Participation Details*

I am looking for museum and gallery education and interpretation practitioners in the UK who would identify themselves and their work as socially engaged, activist, change-making, or aligned with social justice and inclusion values, to take part in interviews that explore the emotional experiences of change-making and working within museum organisational cultures. Participants need to be in (or recently in) minimum 9-month employment contracts, preferably in established museums, (rather than, for example, pop-ups). You do not need to have had any significant change-making breakthroughs or projects, just experience of working for social justice within your museum. All perspectives are welcome, but especially from female, LGBTQIA+, POC, disabled, and working class practitioners.

Interviews will take place at the participant’s convenience between March and June 2022, with working hours, evening, and weekend times available. Interviews will likely take place online via a secure video call, but I am flexible to meeting in-person if required. They will likely take 1-2 hours, as well as a short preparatory conversation beforehand, but timing and scheduling are also flexible to participant availability. Comfort, accessibility, and agency for participants will be top priority, with ethical procedures and monitoring in place. Interviews will include creative activities, flexible to the participant. All participant data will be held confidentially and all interviews will be anonymised.

If you would be interested in taking part, please email me on hmtb3@leicester.ac.uk, I will be happy to send the full project information and answer any questions.

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