

**JOB TITLE: Festival Curator for Traditional Storytelling / Family Storytelling**  
**DEADLINE TO APPLY: Friday, November 13th, 2022**

### **About Storytelling Toronto**

For over 40 years, Storytelling Toronto (The Storytellers School of Toronto) has supported, sustained, and celebrated the art of oral storytelling in its many forms: traditional tales that range from fairy tales to epics, as well as literary stories, historical and family stories, and true personal stories.

Since 1979, the annual Toronto International Storytelling Festival (TISF) has showcased a kaleidoscope of local, national, and international storytellers from diverse backgrounds and genres. TISF offers performances, workshops, and panels along with opportunities for learning, discussion, and genuine connection. TISF is committed to creating healthier and more socially just models of presentation by breaking down systemic participation barriers, uplifting voices historically not heard, and celebrating the transformative magic of storytelling.

In 2023, TISF acknowledges the impact that the pandemic still has on our lives and intends to mindfully and safely return to the stage while continuing to offer a virtual experience for our online community, with in-person and online events.

### **About the Role of Festival Curator:**

Storytelling Toronto is hiring Festival Curators, who will work closely with the Festival Producer. Having a team of Festival Curators with a range of experience and approaches to storytelling will foster greater inclusivity while honouring the foundations upon which Storytelling Toronto was built.

Festival Curators will develop programming for the Toronto International Storytelling Festival, working under the direction of the Festival Producer, along with a team of one or more other curators to foster and grow the Festival's vision, distinctive reputation, scope and scale, and to extend audience impact.

Festival Curators report to the Festival Producer and are responsible for the overall programming in their area(s) of expertise for the upcoming Festival, scheduled for May 5-14, 2023.

Festival Curators oversee the artists they have selected and collaborate with their fellow Curators and Festival staff (Communications Director, Administrators, Digital Producer, etc.) in delivering programming that reflects Storytelling Toronto's mandate of inclusivity, accessibility, engagement, and excellence.

### **Role and Responsibilities:**

We are looking for capable Curators who will contribute to the artistic presentation, excellence, and favourable implementation of the 2023 Toronto International Storytelling Festival.

This will include:

- Working under the direction of the Festival Producer to recruit, support, and promote artists for presentation at the Festival.
- Evaluating applications that are submitted through the call for submissions.
- Assisting with the logistics of Festival scheduling.
- Involvement in negotiating artists' contracts, ticket prices, and venue bookings.
- Involvement in liaising between the artists and the Festival team.
- Collaborating with artists and partnering storytelling producers to successfully integrate their programming within the Festival.
- Contributing to the development of policy and procedures for the effective and efficient administration of the Festival, in collaboration with the rest of the Festival team, as needed.
- Meeting objectives and deadlines set up for Festival staff.
- Being present at key events leading up to, and throughout, the Festival.
- Presenting a brief written report within 30 days of the end of the Festival.

We Are Looking for Candidates Who:

- Are skilled curators and knowledgeable about the storytelling community, **with a specific focus on traditional storytelling, or family storytelling.**
- Appreciate and recognize that oral storytelling exists in diverse forms.
- Prioritize inclusivity, equity, accessibility, and diversity.
- Communicate clearly and listen closely.
- Build strong relationships and work collaboratively in partnerships, internally and externally.
- Grasp the complexities inherent to a non-profit, membership-driven arts organization that is dependent on grantors.
- Advocate effectively for the Festival with relevant parties.

What We Offer:

Storytelling Toronto is committed to fostering a respectful, accessible, and equitable work environment that reflects the diversity of our community, our city, and our country. We strive to ensure that our recruitment and selection processes and employment practices are conducive to these goals.

This is a part-time contract position leading up to the Festival, and full time during the Festival. We offer flexible hours and a supportive work environment that encourages questions, conversation, and the giving and receiving of feedback.

The Festival features tales and tellers from an array of places, backgrounds, and experiences; Festival leadership positions should reflect the same. We seek Festival Curators who, through identity or experience, have relationships with a variety of communities, and welcome submissions from people of all races, all cultures, all abilities, and all gender expressions.

**Application process:**

Resume

Work information should include all relevant experience, whether paid or unpaid (i.e., volunteer; intern).

Educational background should include all relevant learning, whether from an accredited institution or organization, or through family/communal teaching and mentorship. Storytelling experience includes past and ongoing areas of interest and expertise, course work, workshops, providing and/or receiving mentorship, and participation in storytelling groups and festivals, whether as a teller, organizer, worker (paid or unpaid), or a listener.

Cover Letter

Tell us your story! We want to know how you came to storytelling and what you love about it. Tell us about your connection to traditional or family storytelling (whichever you are applying to), and about how you envision those storytelling genres to be represented at the 2023 TISF.

Please send all of the above, along with any questions you have, to [jobs@storytellingtoronto.org](mailto:jobs@storytellingtoronto.org).

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