PUBLIC HUMANITIES INITIATIVE IN DOCTORAL EDUCATION
2024-2025 FELLOWSHIPS

JOB TITLE: Archivist and Research Coordinator
ORGANIZATION: Black Gotham Experience (BGX)
LOCATION: 192 Front Street, New York, NY 10038

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Kamau Studios LLC is a visual storytelling laboratory based in Dumbo, Brooklyn created by Artist / Historian, Kamau Ware. We are a creative community of storytellers experimenting with narrative devices in visual storytelling called storystyle™. Our flagship storytelling project is Black Gotham Experience™ (BGX), based in the Seaport District in Manhattan. BGX establishes space to revisit untold and suppressed stories through a practice that invites people to walk, talk, and reimagine the past to expand public consciousness. We remember together.

ABOUT THE BGX COLLECTION

The BGX Collection is Black Gotham Experience’s organizational archive, a holding place for materials produced by the studio as well as documentation of the production process. The collection is the central hub of the BGX Universe, a repository for the produced artifacts that populate the studio’s various visual storytelling projects. Additionally, the collection is a living archive of the studio itself, housing the background materials used to produce artifacts as well as documentation of the studio's activities.

The centerpieces of the BGX Collection are Black Gotham Experience artifacts, visual representations of historical figures created through the signature storystyle. As an archive for research materials, tour scripts, and documentation of the studio’s operations, the BGX Collection serves as a vital resource for Black Gotham's day-to-day operations as well as an important documentary record of the studio’s activity. The BGX Collection is, in effect, a meta-archive: a historical record of efforts to rewrite the historical record of the African Diaspora.
POSITION DESCRIPTION

Black Gotham Experience is seeking a part-time Archivist and Research Coordinator. The ideal candidate will be an experienced researcher, a great writer, and highly organized. We are looking for someone who is passionate about culture, community, and is able to work independently, comfortable giving and taking direction, and thrive in a team-centered environment. The ideal candidates will be an ambassador for the organization and a participant in the global effort to excavate and celebrate African diasporic history. Because BGX is part of a larger Studio operation with proprietary information, all positions require the signing of an NDA. The Studio employs a hybrid model, working from the studio, gallery, and remotely.

This position reports directly to the Creative Executive Officer or Operations Manager.

MAIN TASKS

- Proactively cultivate relationships with our team, network, clients, and members
- Maintain and prepare weekly reports on research
- Take the lead role in the creation, maintenance and stewardship of BGX digital and analog collections
- Select records for inclusion in the BGX Collection
- Collaborate with programming and publishing teams for access the BGX Collection and pursue opportunities to highlight BGX archiving methods in both programs and publishing
- Explore and implement systems for the preservation and archival management of the BGX Collection
- Serve as the point person and brand ambassador for the BGX collection, namely all internal teams, partnerships, and investors
- Support the research and backgrounding process necessary to produce core BGX programs and special projects
- Support the creative team in creating thought-provoking researched content published on our channels
- Take the lead on staying informed on current events that intersect with the historic content of BGX programs and special projects

QUALIFICATIONS

- Proficient in archival research
- Self-starter with an affinity for detail-oriented organization systems
- Strong written, and verbal communication, and research skills
- A keen interest in current events
- A curiosity for how society works on a meta-level.
• Strong reading comprehension skills paired with an ability to synthesize and summarize complex information
• Comfort in nerdiness
• Confidence in their superpowers
• Appreciation for convergences
• An art and/or history background or a strong appreciation for both art and history