

Job Title: Historical Research Writer
Classification: Independent Contractor (Feb. 2025 - July 2025)
Compensation: Payment per assignment, not to exceed \$11,000

Job Summary:

The London Nelson Legacy Initiative (LNLI) seeks a skilled and detail-oriented writer to convert extensive research into accessible, compelling written materials. This independent contractor position will play a key part in creating a comprehensive narrative about Black pioneers in Santa Cruz, contributing to exhibits, publications, and digital archives. The ideal candidate has experience in analyzing raw historical data, storytelling, and a special focus on California history. We are open to students and writers at all career stages with relevant experience. This position can be fully remote but may require some on-site work in Santa Cruz.

About LNLI:

The London Nelson Legacy Initiative is a collaboration between a Black-led citizen group and the MAH to research and share the stories of Black pioneers in pre-1900s Santa Cruz County. [More Information.](#)

Responsibilities:

Narrative Development:

- Develop a cohesive historical narrative using the LNLI narrative log and research findings.
- Craft historically accurate, compelling context for exhibits and installations.

Exhibit Writing:

- Write text for wall displays and panels for the updated History Gallery at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History.
- Create content for the pop-up exhibit at the London Nelson Community Center.

Publications:

- Develop content for digital and print publications associated with LNLI projects.
- Write and edit materials for the HighJohn-Bey Archives to ensure accessibility for researchers and the public.

Community Engagement Materials:

- Create accessible storytelling materials for public events and workshops.
- Write concise and engaging summaries for public-facing digital content, such as the LNLI website and social media updates.

Collaborative Work:

- Work closely with the LNLI research team, including the Research Project Manager and co-researchers, to ensure content aligns with research findings.
- Adapt content based on team feedback and project goals.

Qualifications:

- Proven experience in historical writing, research-based storytelling, or exhibit content development.
- Strong skills in distilling complex research into accessible, engaging language.
- Familiarity with analyzing raw historical data, particularly related to California history, is highly preferred.
- Experience creating content for museums, archives, or academic publications is a plus.
- Ability to meet deadlines and adapt to evolving project needs.
- Open to students or writers with demonstrated skills and passion for history and storytelling.

Contract Assignment Details:

- Duration: February 2025 to July 2025.
- Compensation: Paid per assignment for a total not to exceed \$11,000
- Application Deadline: January 31, 2025
- Interviews: Conducted in February 2025.

Application Instructions:

Interested candidates should submit:

- A resume highlighting relevant experience.
- Writing samples showcasing historical or research-based storytelling.
- A personal statement explaining their interest in the role and approach to community-based historical projects.

Email relevant documents to hello@londonnelsonlegacy.org with the subject line: "Historical Research Writer"