

Challenge and Change

Brief for a partner to support storytelling and learning

Background

History illuminates the capacity and courage of young people to drive change, but for too long their ideas have been restricted or constrained. Power is often held by adult-led initiatives that end up speaking on their behalf or controlling or leading their ideas. The Challenge and Change fund exists to change that and move power and resources to young people.

We have just awarded funding to the second cohort of 26 young lived experience leaders. This is in the form of grants of up to £10,000, being made to individuals, collectives, and movements, tackling a wide range of social issues to challenge social injustice.

We are now seeking a brilliant communicator who can build strong relationships with these partners being funded through Challenge and Change, to support them to share their stories of social change with the wider world.

Purpose

We want to work alongside a storyteller for three main reasons:

- To support Challenge and Change partners to reflect on their own journeys and what they are learning as they go
- To help partners communicate their achievements and learning to the wider world to create a platform and build momentum in support of their work
- To provide an additional touchpoint for the Blaggrave team with partners to stay in touch on their work and progress, forming an important part of our light-touch monitoring activity.

Questions to address

The storyteller should use the following questions to structure their conversations with Challenge and Change partners:

- What are they doing to create social change?

- How are they using/integrating their lived experiences in their work?
- What does success look like for them? (How do they define this and what circumstances lead to it)?
- What are they learning?
- What do they want to be different about their experiences of leading social change?
- How are they finding the overall Challenge and Change programme?

The audience

There are three main audiences for this work:

- Young people themselves: supporting them to learn, celebrate and improve.
- Blagrave and other interested funders: helping us learn about partners' progress and how we can best support young lived experienced leaders of social change in the future.
- Young people and others interested or involved in related social change work: helping share achievements and build momentum.

Being mindful of the overlaps and differences of these audiences' interests will be a key part of the storyteller's role, and they should think through how they will meet and manage different needs at different times, and the challenges in doing so.

By way of example, we want this work to be a space for those funded through Challenge and Change to be able to share both where they wish they'd done things differently, and how they've worked through the challenges and learning associated with this as well as where they've had success and opportunities to learn. The storyteller should be able to create a safe and confidential space for these conversations, and work with Challenge and Change partners to decide what is shared with Blagrave, what is shared publicly and what needs to remain confidential.

Access to people and information

The Blagrave team will support you to build relationships with all the young people funded through Challenge and Change. Ideally, the storyteller should be able to attend an in-person gathering of our whole Youth Led Change network on 19th November 2022 in London. Partners will know that they are expected to check in with the storyteller once every couple of months to update on their journeys, along with Blagrave's Youth Led Change Lead. Each Challenge and Changer will be expected to

have an in-depth conversation of up to two hours with the storyteller at least once over the course of the programme.

Output

We are interested in your ideas on which products and outputs would be most useful given the audiences and purposes set out above, for the budget provided below. We are most interested in methods that are creative, support curiosity and reflection, and will be impactful for young people and social change 'professionals' alike. We would be interested in short videos, audio recordings/podcasts, artistic representations and/or written outputs capturing this work but are very open to suggestions.

What we are looking for

We are seeking an individual to act as our storytelling partner, who is:

- A people-person: can quickly build rapport and mutual understanding with Challenge and Change funded partners
- Confident and with the right skills and experience to work independently
- Has common ground with Challenge and Change partners in terms of their age, life experience and approach to social change (as set out in the [call-out for Challenge and Change](#))
- Is equally comfortable working alongside Blaggrave, other funders of Challenge and Change and other interested audiences to communicate what is coming out of the programme

And is:

- Experienced in identifying and drawing out relevant information from a lot of data, using that to build an honest, concise narrative
- Skilled in the production of one or a range of media methods to appropriately communicate partners' social change journeys
- Respectful of and will seek to honor different people's voices

Timelines

- Deadline for proposals: 28/10/2022
- Conversations with applicants: Week of 07/11/2022
- Learning partner decided by week of 14/11/2022
- First round of meetings Dec 2022-Feb 2023
- Second round of meetings June 2023-August 2023
- Outputs delivered by end of October 2023.

The initial contract will be for 12 months.

Budget

Up to £30,000 is available for this project.

This will need to cover:

- Meeting the current Challenge and Change cohort at the youth led change event on November 19th 2022.
- Visits to meet with each Challenge and Change partner in person once by August 2023
- As much online contact either side of meeting as you think is necessary to build relationships and understand stories
- Time taken to compile /write up stories and present and circulate them in a way that is meaningful and will reach the audiences above
- Travel
- Equipment use/hire.

Please state in your proposal how much you would require for this work and a topline overview of how your budget would break down.

Safeguarding

The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check. They will also be expected to comply with Blaggrave's safeguarding policy and processes at all times.

Next steps

Please contact Rochell Rowe (rochell.rowe@blagravetrust.org) with your proposal by 5 pm on 28/10/2022. We would like to see an overview of how you would approach the work, your skills and experience, and details of two referees in whichever of the following formats suits you best:

- A written proposal in no more than 1000 words
- A video recording of no more than 5 minutes in length
- An audio recording of no more than 5 minutes in length

Regardless of the format, you should cover:

- Your approach to this work and how you would structure it, including budgeting for different elements
- Your reflections on the questions above and whether/how you would tackle them
- Your experience and knowledge of social change and youth leadership within this
- Your recommendations for how we structure and release this work to ensure maximum usefulness to the audiences mentioned above
- Examples of your track record of carrying out work of this nature (can be submitted as links or attachments).

We are likely to follow up with additional questions and a virtual or face-to-face conversation to discuss your proposal further.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have before submitting your overview. Please contact Rochell at the above address to set up a call.