Position Title: Research Manager  
Organization: The Public Theater  
Location: New York, NY (In person)  
Stipend: $66,000 in year one, $70,000 in year two, plus health insurance, $3,500 per year in professional development funding, and up to $5,000 for relocation costs  
Start Date: September 2023

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The Public Theater is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare and the classics, musicals, and contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. Founded in 1954, The Public continues the work of its visionary founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force and leading dialogue on some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for more than 60 years, today The Public engages audiences in a variety of venues—including our downtown home at Astor Place, which houses five theaters and Joe’s Pub and the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, home to Free Shakespeare in the Park. The Public’s work has grown exponentially over the years and now includes our major community engagement initiatives, Public Works, and The Hunts Point Children’s Shakespeare Ensemble (HPCSE). Collectively, these programs work to holistically break down the barriers that prevent the people of New York City from engaging with the arts.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Reporting to the Director of Strategic Research & Planning and working with a broad range of dynamic teams across the institution, the Research Manager will help to craft and administer mixed method evaluation frameworks for each of The Public’s community engagement programs—Public Works and HPCSE. These programs both originated from the same desire to understand the ways arts organizations alienate communities and restrict audiences, and to design programs that re-envision our work to ensure we are reaching the broadest possible audience. To assess the efficacy and impact of these programs, the Research Manager will develop a methodology for qualitative data collection designed in collaboration with the community stakeholders and partners that are integral to the programs. In tandem with this work, the Research Manager will support The Public’s holistic Cultural Transformation goals by engaging with a broad range of internal and external stakeholders to track and evaluate our progress toward our diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives.

Research methodology will include participant observation, focus groups, and interviews with staff, community partners, and participants, as well as quantitative analysis based on survey research and secondary data sets. Research should be participatory-based and center the lived experience of our program participants – uplifting their needs as the primary driver of our programming. The Research Manager will also work with our Institutional Partnerships team to conduct a literature review on best practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion and belonging, in order to create a revised grant reporting process that better supports external evaluation of our programming by funding partners, as well as internal evaluation of our programs for future planning. The Research Manager will also be provided with the opportunity present the final reports derived from their research to the arts and culture/philanthropy fields at conferences and professional gathering spaces.

This position is only available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program. You may not contact the host institution to inquire about this position.
This fellowship would prepare candidates for a broad range of careers in the cultural research sector. These include program evaluation roles at private and corporate philanthropies; government agencies; and arts consultancy groups. Work undertaken in this fellowship would also prepare the candidate for a career in institutional fundraising, which requires cultivating skills in research, data synthesis, writing, and narrative crafting. The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

**Responsibilities and Tasks:**

- Co-design, lead, and conduct research to assess the efficacy and impact of The Public’s community partnership programs and Cultural Transformation work.
- Model and promote inclusive and equitable research practices that center and empower community participation.
- Create a reporting strategy that synthesizes research findings and communicates/presents those findings to internal stakeholders.
- In consultation with supervisor, make recommendations on refining internal practices to ensure our community partnership programs are achieving their intended goals.
- Work with The Public’s Institutional Partnerships team to create written reports on an annual basis that provide a detailed accounting of the impact of Public Works and HPCSE, to be disseminated to the vast network of philanthropies that support The Public’s programming.
- Work in consultation with supervisor and The Public’s Cultural Transformation Committee to create a research dashboard designed to publicly track clearly defined equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging goals.
- Create quarterly reports on The Public’s progress toward meeting our Cultural Transformation goals to be disseminated internally at every level of the organization, including the Board of Trustees.

**Qualifications:**

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- Exceptional communication and writing skills.
- A commitment to bringing anti-oppressive and equitable practices into research spaces.
- Strong ability to work collaboratively and effectively with colleagues and external stakeholders.
- Excellent analysis skills, and capacity to translate quantitative learnings into qualitative strategy.

**Preferred:**

- Mixed methodology background and/or experience conducting community-based research.

**APPLICATIONS**

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: [https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships](https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships)
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9:00pm EDT, March 15, 2023.

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