



**Memphis
Library
Foundation**



Opportunity Description

Innovator-in-Residence - Memphis Public Libraries

Overview:

The Memphis Library Foundation seeks experienced and innovative professionals to become Innovators-In-Residence (IIR) at the Cossitt and Raleigh Branch locations of the Memphis Public Libraries. Six new Innovator positions are available. The initial term of engagement is one year, with the option of renewal for an additional year.

About the Innovator-In-Residence Program:

The IIR Program engages creative professionals (i.e. Innovators) to base part or all of their work in a public library where they receive free workspace, an annual stipend, and access to equipment and other resources. In exchange, Innovators deliver public programs that inspire, teach, and connect members of the Memphis community to networks, with the goal of launching new career paths for program participants. Innovators are established entrepreneurs with a passion for sharing their craft and empowering others to see their talents and interests as a career opportunity. Innovators integrate digital skills (e.g. online marketing, content creation, a website, use of online resources, etc.) into their work, regardless of whether their specific craft is digital in nature.

Specific Crafts/Skills Sought:

- Photography/Videography (Raleigh Library)
- Culinary Arts/Cooking (Raleigh Library)
- Digital Media/Content Creation (Cossitt Library)
- Event Design, Planning, & Coordination (Cossitt Library)

Entrepreneurs with any other creative skills will also be considered for positions at the Cossitt Library!

An Innovator Possesses the Following Key Qualities:

Expertise and Experience: A recognized leader in their skill or craft with a proven track record of monetizing it.

Entrepreneurial Mindset: Experience in leveraging their skills as a career, and a passion for sharing their experience to empower others.

Digital Literacy: Ability to integrate digital skills into their work and teach these skills to others, regardless of whether their craft is digital in nature.

Community Engagement: A strong desire to make a meaningful impact in the community and inspire aspiring entrepreneurs.

Collaboration and Communication: Ability to work effectively with library staff and patrons, and to promote the library and its programs (including participation in fundraising/sponsorship efforts to support their work in the library).

Adaptability: Willingness to collaborate with others for program development, implementation, and evaluation, and to follow library rules and processes.

Benefits:

- Workspace and staff support at the Cossitt or Raleigh Branch Library (dependent on the Innovator's specific craft)
- \$10,000 annual stipend
- Funding for equipment, program supplies, and services to be used for the Innovator's work and for the delivery of public programs (all equipment remains the property of the Memphis Public Libraries but is prioritized for the Innovator's use during their residency)
- Public promotion/recognition of the Innovator's work through internal and external public relations efforts
- Opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the community

Requirements:

- Recognized leader in your skill or craft with at least six years of experience
- Proven experience in monetizing your skill and leveraging it as a career
- Ability to integrate digital skills into your work with library customers
- Commitment to following library rules and processes
- Signed Memorandum of Understanding describing the terms of your engagement

Join us in transforming the Memphis community through innovation and entrepreneurship!

To Apply:

Submit your resume or portfolio, a list of your greatest accomplishments in the past two years, and a representative sample of your ideas for public programming to:

Christine Weinreich, Executive Director, Memphis Library Foundation
christine@memphislibraryfoundation.org

(Please write "Innovator Position" in the subject line of your email.)