

Heart of the Nation

Participant Brief

8 November 2022



Overview

Do you work for the NHS (or previously did) and love to sing? The Migration Museum is looking for up to 8 people to take part in an exciting project that highlights the extraordinary role that people with migrant heritage have played in shaping and sustaining the NHS – and caring for us throughout our lives.

In 2020, at the height of the Covid pandemic, we launched our [digital Heart of the Nation exhibition](#). Building on this, we will produce an unforgettable and moving digital installation in 2023 that brings together singing and visual storytelling. The installation will feature a filmed performance that will tour across the country to mark the 75th anniversary of the NHS.

The project will ask audiences: Who cares for us? And do we care enough.

The Brief

We're looking for up to 8 NHS workers who are first- or second-generation migrants to participate in this project as singers and performers. We welcome people who currently work or have previously worked in the NHS in a varied range of roles (nurses, porters, cleaners, cooks, doctors, administrators, etc.)

Led by a musical director, the singers will help develop and learn an ensemble music piece inspired by their stories and experiences. This piece will be recorded in a studio session and filmed to create a video art piece for the *Heart of the Nation* installation.

Selected participants must be available to take part in a series of workshops between January-April 2023. These include:

- 1 workshop to meet each other and share stories and experiences of caring that will inform the lyrics of a new music piece
- 4 workshop sessions to learn ensemble music (3 hours per session)
- 2 studio sessions to rehearse and record the ensemble piece (4 hours person session)
- 1 day film shoot to record the performance (8-10 hours)

Some of the initial workshops could be held over zoom to accommodate schedules, but the rehearsal and studio sessions and filming will take place in person in a central London location.

Participants will receive a fee to cover their time and travel expenses.

The *Heart of the Nation* exhibition will launch in July 2023 (locations TBC but may include London, Leeds and Birmingham).

If you are interested in this opportunity, please email Aditi Anand at aditi@migrationmuseum.org by 19 December 2022. We would appreciate if you could send us a 60 second video introducing yourself and your vocal range (i.e. alto, soprano, first soprano) with a singing sample. Please let us know whether you have done some studio recording before (no prior recording experience required).



About the Migration Museum

We are a critically acclaimed museum exploring the movement of people to and from the UK, currently based in a [busy shopping centre in](#) the heart of Lewisham where we reach nearly 80,000 people year.

As an organisation we know how to get people talking about migration in constructive ways – online, you might have seen our [Euros campaign imagining the England starting line up without migration](#) which had an organic reach of over 4m on Twitter or visited our critically acclaimed exhibition [Heart of the Nation: Migration and the Making of the NHS](#).

We're a small organisation that punches well above its weight and our end goal is to create a permanent Migration Museum here in the UK. A moving, inspiring institution to reflect the central role that migration has always played in our national story.

We want to see a society that owns and feels connected to our shared migration story as an essential part of British history; and provide a space away from the polarising noise of the media and politics, where we can come together to reflect, explore and have more reasoned conversations about migration.

We are a registered charity funded by a number of grant-giving bodies including Arts Council England, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Oak Foundation among others.