

Wasafiri International Contemporary Writing

Role: Editor at Large

Tenure: 1 year

Payment: Voluntary

Reports to: Project Manager

Background

Co-published with Routledge, and an Arts Council England National Portfolio organisation, *Wasafiri* is both a quarterly magazine and a leading arts charity in the field of Black British, British Asian, and international contemporary literature. Based at Queen Mary, University of London, in London's East End, *Wasafiri* is renowned worldwide for its ground-breaking work creating a forum for writers from all communities and all backgrounds. Our magazine publishes essays, interviews, fiction, reviews, poetry, and criticism, by established as well as up-and-coming writers from around the world, including Chinua Achebe, Jay Bernard, Hélène Cixous, Kiran Desai, Bernardine Evaristo, Han Kang, Meiko Kawakami, James Kelman, Sara Saab, and Salman Rushdie. *Wasafiri.org* builds upon the print magazine by featuring aligned content that extends the quarterly's reach and concerns.

Role description

Wasafiri is expanding its editorial team by recruiting up to two Editors at Large from each of five countries: **New Zealand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Singapore**, to enhance our international reach and awareness and provide more opportunities to global voices. Editors at Large will work to expand and diversify the readership of the magazine by creating new relationships with their local writing communities. In so doing, they will play an instrumental role in developing the content and contributor base for *Wasafiri* magazine, broaden our editorial pool, and rejuvenate our editorial norms. Through networking with key individuals and organisations in their local writing fields, Editors at Large will publicise the magazine and attract local editors and writers who may wish to collaborate with *Wasafiri*. They will also be given some editorial duties, access to the workings of the magazine, and will participate in a feedback loop that welcomes and responds to their input and better enables *Wasafiri* to be a fully representative international platform.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Peer-review content for *Wasafiri* general issues (up to 2 times per year)
- Write summary of local literary developments for the website (1 per year)
- Suggest and connect potential local writers/reviewers to *Wasafiri*

- Proactively work to extend *Wasafiri*'s digital reach through personal networks
- Raise awareness of the magazine in local reading and writing spaces (eg publishing hubs, libraries, bookshops, writing organisations, literary festivals, educational institutions, etc.)
- Promote the Queen Mary *Wasafiri* New Writing Prize and Essay Prize
- Solicit general submissions for *Wasafiri* among local writers
- Organise local event with *Wasafiri*'s support (optional/encouraged)
- Curate features for the website (optional/encouraged)

Rewards

To reward each Editor's work, *Wasafiri* will:

- Provide the Editor at Large with a free a personal magazine subscription (print and digital)
- Offer free ad placement for any of the Editor's affiliated institutions/arts organisations (currently priced up to £525 for a full-page colour ad per issue)
- Promote the Editor's work and initiatives through our networks
- Offer the Editor at Large free entry to any *Wasafiri* event, in person or online
- Afford access to *Wasafiri*'s global network of writers, readers, publishers, and scholars
- List names and affiliation of Editors at Large on the website and in the print magazine
- Provide paid writing and event-organisation opportunities

Please apply with:

- A **2-3-page cover letter** explaining your motivation for applying and how your skills and experience fulfil the role's requirements
- A **CV** with the names of two recent professional referees, one of whom must be your most recent employer
- A formal writing sample (ie article/creative piece).

Please send your covering letter, CV and formal writing sample to Erum Dahar, Project Manager: e.dahar@qmul.ac.uk. Please also direct any queries regarding the position to the same address.

We encourage applications from eligible individuals from all backgrounds.

Closing date for applications: 5PM GMT, Thursday 11 February 2021

Interviews: Week commencing 22 February 2021

Ideal start date: Monday 8 March 2021

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Education	Undergraduate degree in relevant subject or equivalent experience	
Skills	Proofreading and editorial experience	
	Strong written and oral communication	
	Excellent networking skills	
	Basic IT skills including MS Office suite	
	Working knowledge of Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and other social-media platforms.	
	Excellent planning and organisation	
		Event organisation and management
Knowledge & Experience	Knowledge of local literary scene and developments	
		Knowledge of international contemporary writing and writers
		Established reputation as a writer/editor/academic, and/or affiliation with a writing group, publication, university, or arts organisation
Personal Attributes	Proven commitment to inclusivity	
	Ability to work under own initiative	
	Ability to work in a team	
	Passionate about <i>Wasafiri</i> 's vision of expanding the boundaries of mainstream literary culture	
		Strong interpersonal skills
		Flexible approach to work