



Open Culture Center

Barcelona, Spain

Communications and Development Intern

Organisation Overview

Based in Barcelona, we are an organisation that works towards providing educational and cultural immersion opportunities to the refugee and local community. We stem from international collaborations in Greece (our “sister” organisation) as well as local collaborations in Spain. We have a small team of various groups of people including international interns, volunteers, refugees and permanent members of staff. Most of our work done throughout the day is done within our office located in the El Born Neighborhood in the heart of Barcelona. We also conduct various intercultural events at the centre and around the city to promote solidarity and social inclusion within the local community. We carry out different language classes for both the local community, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in order to create an intercultural society and help refugees integrate into modern society.

Our goal is to define a working model based on solidarity, proximity and knowledge, which becomes a reference in the inclusion and active participation of refugees in today’s society. We tend to develop tools that would help us to promote cultural exchange and communication between host and third country nationals through education. The main values we focus on are team working, commitment and volunteering.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life and promote the social inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers through educational and community activities in transit areas. We seek to promote inclusive communities and the rights of refugees and asylum seekers through awareness and cultural exchange.

Social Issue Focus & Impact

There are a great deal of misconceptions and stigmas surrounding refugees and the refugee communities. Our organisation seeks to break those stigmas and focus on the protection of the dignity of human life. Through educational programmes and intercultural events, we seek to integrate and unify the refugee community into the local community in a smooth and easy manner. We want to teach the local community about the benefits and beauty that can come through the integration of refugees into the community and to change the preconceived thoughts and notions surrounding refugees and show that they have nothing but a positive impact on the local community.

There will be a variety of projects that students will be working on throughout their time here; all based around the goal of cultural immersion and social inclusion. Some of these projects include teaching English to minors and adults, searching and applying for grants/funding for the organisation, searching for partners and members of partner organisations, supporting management of different European projects, writing articles for the websites, social media and video documentation, providing mentorship to the refugees, supporting the organisation of OCC events and other events and workshops, etc. The community is involved in the Open Cultural Center through the various language classes that are provided and occasionally taught by refugee volunteers as well as through the intercultural events.

The student will advance this project by providing new and innovative ideas and perspectives, being open minded and willing to make a difference in the community, and bringing a good, positive energy to the organisation. Not only will they be making an impact on the local and refugee community, but this will be a life changing experience for them as well. The internship will have the opportunity to look into the lives of refugees and hopefully make a difference.



Position Description

This student would focus on social media and creating promotional materials such as photos, videos, tote-bags, stickers, t-shirts etc. for the organisation. This would include running the company Instagram page, writing articles for and updating the website, creating promotional videos and documenting events. The student would also use various graphic design skills and programmes to design promotional material, such as T-shirts, as well as researching companies that would print them.

OCC is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation that relies mainly on donations and grant findings. One of the student's main tasks will be to research and apply for various grants that they would find together with the professional staff. This includes applying for other grants that OCC has applied for before. The student will help to write applications for various grants and proposals and edit applications that are in progress. Another important task will be to organise various fundraising events that will both raise money and create an intercultural experience for the community. As well as this, the student would participate in the creation of online crowdfunding campaigns which help to implement new projects and carry out existing ones. The student will be able to develop their personal projects depending on their interests and ideas.

Student Profile

We ask only that the students have an open mind and a desire to work closely with the refugee community. There are no specific language or course requirements with students coming from the United States, but a background with international or social work is desirable.

Time Frame

Preferable start date would be in June, but there is no general requirement. We are flexible and ready to accept interns at any time from May to August.