

SAFE GROUND

Calling all women poets/writers: Joelle Taylor in partnership with Safe Ground

The Night Alphabet: A mentoring opportunity

Joelle Taylor, leading spoken word artist and performance coach, is working with Safe Ground to offer a unique opportunity to a woman with demonstrable interest in writing short stories or poetry, and who would like to develop their work further in a new project.

Award-winning poet Joelle Taylor is looking for a new voice to mentor in their writing, and in learning how to lead creative writing workshops. The successful applicant will observe Joelle Taylor as she facilitates masterclasses, attend creative writing mentoring meetings, write a series of short stories, publish work online, make a short film of one of her own short stories, and be introduced to a network of artists and producers across the UK scene.

In order to apply you must be a woman with experience of the criminal justice system (including a previous prison or community sentence), arrest, caution or contact with criminal justice services. You will be at a stage in your writing career where you feel able to commit to working with constructive criticism and developing work for publication. You will also be interested in learning how to facilitate others' writing.

What You Get:

- Mentoring in developing your creative writing
- Career development as a writer and workshop facilitator
- Training in workshop facilitation and planning creative writing courses.
- One of your short stories will be made in to a 5 minute film of broadcast quality
- Opportunity to read/ perform at events
- Opportunity to publish online
- Introduction to a network of UK poets and writers
- Liaison with a producer who will help you develop your own project with Safe Ground, and help with grant applications
- A one off £250 stipend to help with expenses

To Apply, please email info@joelletaylor.co.uk with

- A sample of your writing (poetry or short story)
- A cover letter explaining why you want this role, what you might hope to get from it, if you can commit fully to the project, and what you might like to do with the role (write a book, go on stage, develop workshop plans, etc)
- Closing date: **April 30th 5pm**
- Applicants may be invited along to an informal interview at Safe Ground offices in Vauxhall on **May 4th**

Joelle Taylor Biography

www.joelletaylor.co.uk

Joelle Taylor is an award-winning poet, playwright and author. She has performed her poetry nationally and internationally and is the host of Out-Spoken, London's premier poetry and music club. Her second collection *The Woman Who Was Not There* (Burning Eye) was named as one of the UK's top ten recommended collections in the Morning Star, and was described by Benjamin Zephaniah as 'Fearless. Poetry with purpose'. She featured in a BBC documentary about the role of poetry in post-Brexit Britain *We Belong Here*, alongside Lemn Sissay and Sabrina Mahfouz, and recently appeared on *Educating the East End* and *The One Show*. She is a Subject for Study on the OCR English syllabus, and has featured on Tedx Talks and Outsider Lectures. She was recently awarded a Southbank Centre Change Maker prize, awarded annually in recognition of life changing work, as well as a Fellowship of the Royal Society of the Arts, and was longlisted for the 2017 Jerwood Compton Poetry Fellowship. She was commissioned by the BBC to write a broadcast piece for the Hull City of Culture celebrations, with a new collaborative poem broadcast on BBC Radio 4 *The Verb*. She recently featured in *Powerlines*, a radio documentary for BBC Radio 3 about the role of the poet as social activist. Her third collection *Songs My Enemy Taught Me* is currently touring internationally.

A bit about Safe Ground

www.safeground.org.uk

Safe Ground is a national arts organisation delivering high quality services and interventions to people in prison and community settings. Our work focuses on relationships, parenting and identity and uses group work and drama techniques for participants to experience alternative perspectives, develop empathy and self-awareness alongside skills and competencies.

Since 2003 our flagship family relationship and parenting programmes, Family Man and Fathers Inside have been delivered in over 50 adult male prisons and Young Offender Institutions across England and Wales, producing between them, over 5000 graduates achieving almost 12,000 qualifications. Designed 'by prisoners, for prisoners', the programmes' drama based methodology is integral to opening up a strategic pathway for learners who traditionally struggle in a classroom setting.