Research Assistant, Afrosonic Innovation Lab

The Research Assistant, Afrosonic Innovation Lab, works closely with the Lab's Director and Project Manager to deliver elements of the Sonic Street Technologies in Canada project. In this role we require the successful candidate to conduct grey literature reviews, prepare materials for U of T Ethics Committee review, interview questions, and to play a role in recruiting survey participants. The Research Assistant will also be required to manage and respond to project related email and prepare website materials.

Sonic Street Technologies (SST) is a European Research Council (ERC) funded research project (2021 – 2025) examining the role and value of bottom up, subaltern and Global South uses of recorded music technologies. Jamaican sound systems, Brazilian aparelhagem, Mexican sonideros and Colombian picos provide good examples. The project aims to map the distribution and history of these SST worldwide; to investigate the social, economic and cultural conditions from which they are born; and to achieve a deeper understanding of the nature of technology itself and its uses for social and economic progress. SST adopts a practice-as-research methodology as a respect for the knowledge embodied in current sound system and similar street cultures and to help build capacities for their autonomous development.

Minimum qualifications/requirements

- Academic and/or work experience related to the field of sociology, or as defined by the supervisor/lead researcher.
- Experience with specialized software or datasets, as required by the supervisor
- Satisfactory academic progress, as defined by the supervisor

While a research assistant is expected to contribute in many ways to the research project, other responsibilities may include the following:

- Attend project meetings and other partnership meetings as necessary
- Prepare progress reports
- Contribute to the preparation other articles, reports, and presentations
- The timely preparation of all HR documents and bi-weekly timesheets

Other duties and responsibilities may be assigned by individual researchers. Quarterly work requirements and schedules must be discussed with the Supervisor to ensure that the work priorities can be accomplished in the 150 work hours scheduled. Interested applicants should email their updated resume and cover letter to Safia Siad, Project Manager, Afrosonic Innovation Lab at safia.siad@utoronto.ca on or before April 7th 2023.