

Manchester City of Literature

Call Out for English to Kurdish Translator

Manchester UNESCO City of Literature is delighted to announce a paid opportunity for a Kurdish (Sorani) translator to be part of a poetry translation project.

This British Council-funded project is jointly managed by Manchester and Slemani Cities of Literature and aims to translate historic and contemporary poems from English into Kurdish (Sorani) and vice versa. This call out is for a Manchester or UK-based translator to work on the English into Kurdish (Sorani) part of the project. You do not have to have previous paid experience of poetry translation; the main criteria for involvement is strong knowledge of English to Kurdish (Sorani) translation and a willingness to learn and an ability to work as part of a small team.

What does the programme involve?

The translation element of the project will begin in March 2021 and will conclude by July. The appointed translator will join a small English <> Kurdish translation team which will be supported by experienced translation professionals from Kashkul at the American University in Slemani. Mentoring and advice on poetry translation will be part of the project as required. All meetings will be held virtually.

The appointed translator will receive work from ten poets writing in English, no more than forty pages of A4 paper in total. There will be an agreed number of drafts to go through – two or three – and drafts of translation into Kurdish (Sorani) will be reviewed by members of the translation team at each stage.

Once finalised, the translated poems will feature in an e-anthology published on World Translation Day on 30 September 2021.

Payment for being involved

The appointed translator will receive a fee of between £1,000 and £1,500 depending on the scale of involvement to be agreed at the beginning of the translation work. This fee will be part of your taxable income and may affect any benefits you receive.

Who we are looking for:

- Someone who can demonstrate their skills in translating from English to Kurdish (Sorani). Ideally this would be in the form of published translations in anthologies, journals or on websites.
- Someone who is interested in literary translation whether poetry, novels, short stories or life stories.
- Someone who is willing to learn and is committed to developing their translation skills and practice.
- Someone who is willing to contribute to the translation team's discussions and learning as we navigate this new partnership.
- Someone who is ideally based in Manchester, the North of England or the Midlands but applications can be received from anyone based in England.



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You will need reliable access to broadband and a laptop or desktop computer to receive email, take part in online conference calls and to save the translations securely.

How to apply

Please send an application letter stating why you are interested in this opportunity and how you meet the points in the section Who We Are Looking For. Please also include an extract of a recent translation (maximum of 600 words) and a CV.

Please send your application letter, CV and extract to ivan.wadeson@manchester.gov.uk

Closing date: Friday 26 February 2021 at 5pm

www.manchestercityofliterature.com



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