

An AI of Our Own: Innovating AI to Include Diverse Ways of Knowing – Fundraising Coordinator JD

Project Background:

“An AI of Our Own: Innovating AI to Include Diverse Ways of Knowing” is a 3 year initiative designed by Living Arts International in an attempt to leverage the potential and exponential growth in AI technology to create adaptive and responsive systems wherein cultural heritage is preserved in a way that goes beyond traditional wikis, written datasets, and western methodologies of knowing and documenting. Rather than trying to fit the diverse heritage of the global south into a system which was not built for it, we propose to create “an AI of our own,” which leverages existing technological expertise and advancements of the global north but invites them to go beyond and envision a multi-cultural, diverse, and inclusive digital future.

AAOO launched in spring 2024 in attempt to explore innovative solutions to the stated issues, with the concept note developed in a collaborative workshop, drawing on research and conceptual work LAI has been conducting since 2021. Four main pillars of the project were identified: Connect, Nurture, Fund, and Co-create, which have guided activities thus far.

In summer 2024, LAI commissioned a research project to understand the current landscape of digital heritage and AI in Asia and Africa, culminating in a report (final publication expected mid-Feb). In November 2024, LAI assembled a diverse working group of 6 individuals from different countries, backgrounds, and expertise, including data rights, computer science, technological storytelling, culture management, and philosophy. The working group focused on the development of a manifesto, which aims to define the values and methodology of AAOO and guide the launch of a pilot case of the AI in Cambodia.

The pilot case is planned to be a proof-of-concept for the manifesto, after which the replicability and scalability of the project will be assessed and adjusted if necessary to keep AAOO growing. Additionally, AAOO aims to leverage the manifesto as a guiding policy document for advocacy and build the consortium of stakeholders that will drive the future of AAOO.

Purpose:

The Fundraising Coordinator’s role is to identify and apply for relevant funding opportunities for the pilot case, as well as the project’s broader goals (such as consortium building, advocacy, etc.) They should be able to think creatively and innovatively, searching through both cultural and tech oriented funding opportunities and preparing high quality submissions that match the call as well as maintaining the project’s integrity and ways of working.

Responsibilities:

The Fundraising Coordinator shall:

- Identify relevant funding opportunities for AAOO, with a focus on the pilot case commencing in August;
- Prepare high quality submissions that match the call and maintain the project’s integrity;
- Keep the Project Coordinator and Project Lead updated and work collaboratively to explore opportunities.

Required Skills and Competencies:

The ideal Fundraising Coordinator for this project will have:

- At least two years of grantwriting/fundraising experience in the field of arts and culture, with experience with tech related culture fundraising a significant advantage,
- A decent understanding of AI systems and the global discourse around bias, representation, and AI ethics,
- Excellent writing and communication skills,
- A demonstrated commitment to ethical standards,
- A creative and innovative outlook.

Candidates from the global south are preferred.

Dates and Compensation:

This is a remote position. There are no set hours for this work, however, applicants are expected to manage their time to be able to meet required deadlines and conduct ongoing research for new funding calls. The initial contract will be April 1-August 31, 2025, with a monthly salary of \$800-\$1000 based on experience.

How to Apply:

Candidates should email their cover letter and CV with the subject line **“AAOO Fundraising Coordinator”** to gillian@cambodianlivingarts.org and phloeun@cambodianlivingarts.org.

Candidates are encouraged to read the 2 concept note and Landscaping Research Report attached with the call.