SNAP JUDGMENT STUDIOS
FREELANCE STORY SCOUT - AFRICA

Snap Judgment, an Oakland, California-based award-winning radio show and podcast (heard on over 500 public radio stations across the US, aired on the CBC, and downloaded over two million times every month) is seeking a Story Scout.

This Story Scout will be working on an exciting new show hosted by Oscar winning-actress Lupita Nyong'o in partnership with Warner Music Group and Interval Presents.

This show will feature first-person stories navigating what it means to belong from the perspective of Africans, especially those who have lived abroad. We're looking to go beyond the narrative of the model, hard-working, successful immigrant. We want to dive into the unexpected, messy, joyous, hilarious, moving humanity of real people finding their way in new worlds of every kind.

Specifically, we are searching for a Story Scout who has lived in, has extensive contacts in, and/or has deep cultural knowledge of:

- African immigrant communities anywhere in the world
- African communities on the continent

The Story Scout is in charge of finding and pitching original stories for the show following the guidelines above. The Story Scout reports directly to the Supervising Producer and the Executive Producers. This is a remote, contract position. The Story Scout can be located anywhere in the world. There are no minimum hours set for this position, though the Story Scout will be expected to pitch stories every two weeks.

The Story Scout will receive a monthly retainer ($1500) as well as bonuses for successful pitches ($300 per story) which make it into an episode. In addition, depending on experience, interest, and availability, the Story Scout may also have the chance to produce individual stories, for which they will be paid separately (at $140 per minute).

The contract is expected to last through December 2022.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:
- Finding pitches for the show that are viable and match the voice, personality, and content parameters of the show.
- Initial research and due diligence on story viability. Synthesis of the pitch in a way that identifies stakes, characters, story elements. Candidates should be compelling writers.
- Identification of good pitch resources for the show that will prove fruitful for future seasons.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Familiarity with pitching for audio production. Understanding of the factors that make an audio story different from a print piece or a story presented via another form of media.
- Use personal and professional networks to find word-of-mouth stories.
- Strong writing and research skills. Ability to track down unique first-person stories, from Reddit to self-published memoirs, to the far reaches of YouTube and elsewhere. Ability to grow a pitch from a kernel of an idea and draft a compelling story.
- Ability to identify characters, stakes, and other story elements.
- Commitment to fair and respectful storytelling.
- Ability to act as a professional agent of the company, in approaching people for story details and developing their comfort with the idea of being show subjects.
- A good attitude and a willingness to work closely with teammates.
- One or more years of related work experience.

PREFERRED SKILLS:
- Ability to work well under pressure, within the framework of tight deadlines.
- Clear communication skills with the ability to be effective across the diverse team and a broad range of stakeholders.
- We really like radio and podcast people, but will happily consider applicants from outside of audio with strong narrative backgrounds. Filmmakers, journalists, editors, and anyone with a highly tuned sense of story is strongly urged to apply.

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter to jobs@snapjudgment.org by 9:00 pm PST on May 15, 2022. Please note in the subject line: "FREELANCE STORY SCOUT"

Snap Judgment is an Equal Opportunity Employer actively seeking diversity in the workplace. We encourage people of color, people with disabilities, veterans, women, and gender-non-conforming candidates to apply.