**Eloise Unerman**

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**Profile**

Based in South Yorkshire, I write poetry and short stories. I’m a passionate, dedicated individual always eager to take on new challenges and develop new skills. I am exploring game development through narrative design and pixel art and have worked on a variety of projects with different teams of other aspiring game developers.

**Work**

2018 – 2019 Barnsley Apprentice Poet

* Preparing for the role of Poet Laureate by making connections with local art organisations and co-ordinating with colleagues to plan future events.
* Working with previous Poet Laureate Ian McMillan to learn from his experiences in the role and as a writer in general.

2019 – Present Barnsley Poet Laureate

* Writing a series of commissioned pieces for Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council working with Barnsley’s museums and the heritage surrounding them.
* One these was a poem written for the Dearne Valley Landscape Partnership delving into the River Dearne’s rich history, especially in relation to the local coal-mining industry.
* Other examples of this include a poem to mark the opening of The Lightbox in Barnsley, and a text-based game with an interactive branching narrative for the Festival of Archaeology in 2020.
* Exploring new creative opportunities, such as leading workshops, and using these to further develop myself as a writer.
* Encouraging other writers, especially younger writers, through events such as an Arts Award Celebration for primary school pupils. I delivered a speech at this event to demonstrate to the children there that a career in the arts is possible.

2018 – 2018 Young Poet in Residence at Ledbury Poetry Festival

* Performing in the festival’s opening event alongside well-established writers who had travelled from all over the country and, in some cases, internationally.
* Speaking publicly at the competition winners’ event about my journey as a writer so far, as well as reading a commissioned poem about Ledbury itself.

2019 – 2019 Artist in Residence at Puddler’s Fair in Elsecar, Barnsley

* Writing a commissioned poem focusing on the heritage of Wentworth and Elsecar, which I used to create a display that those attending the event could interact with.
* I am a member of the Writing Squad, which is an organization that helps writers to establish themselves as individual artists, collectives and start up companies through rigorous long term support.
* I previously co-lead a poetry project relating to UK native wild plants and flowers that involved planning and delivering accessible and engaging workshops to groups of young writers then putting together an anthology of their work, which I proofread. This anthology had a limited print run and is no longer available for purchase but information about it can be found on Hive South Yorkshire’s blog at <http://www.hivesouthyorkshire.com/readlisten/wildpoetry.html>
* I am currently developing my skills as a workshop leader through work with local community groups and schools. For example, I recently led a workshop with a local youth group to produce creative writing to feature in a park in that area.
* I have participated in the Dearne Community Arts Festival three times. Part of this involved leading workshops for festival visitors, or recording readings of my own work to upload when the festival was held online during the pandemic.

**Prizes**

2017 Cuckoo Young Writers Award (Northern Writers’ Awards)

 1st Prize in Hear My Voice Poetry Competition (Young People’s Category)

 1st Prize in Ledbury Poetry Competition (Young People’s Category)

 Commendation in Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award

 Shortlisted for New Poets Prize 2016/2017

2018 Shortlisted for New Poets Prize 2017/2018

**Publication**

2015 Everyday Hymn (Writing Yorkshire)

2017 Anthology of Young Poets (Paper Swans Press)

 Cuckoo Press Issue 6 in NARC Magazine

 Wild Poetry (Hive South Yorkshire)

 Introduction X (The Poetry Business)

2018 Foyle Young Poets of the Year Online Anthology (The Poetry Society)

 PUSH Magazine (The Writing Squad)

 Halfway Smile (Hive South Yorkshire)

2019 Pennine Platform Magazine (Issue 85)

2020 Hear My Voice 2020 (Barnsley Museums & Heritage Trust)

 The Poeming Pigeon (Issue 9)

2021 Persephone’s Daughters (Issue 7)

 Our Futures Now (Barnsley Museums & Heritage Trust – Upcoming)

**Performances**

I am a confident performer and have performed at a number of open mics as well as award ceremonies related to some of the above-mentioned achievements, including a segment during the opening of the Ledbury Poetry Festival. Other examples of my performances include:

2017 BBC Radio Sheffield

South Yorkshire Poetry Festival at Grimm & Co.

Motley Muse at University of Huddersfield

Sheffield Verse Matters (5-minute block, 7th September)

2019 Love Diversity (Sheffield Stand Up To Racism)

 Barnsley Spoken Voices 2 CD

**Additional Information**

* I am able to work and travel flexibly in order to meet the needs of this position.

**Education and Qualifications**

2016 - 2018 Thomas Rotherham College

 A Levels (3 As)

2016 – 2016 Kings First Aid

 Emergency First Aid at Work

2011 – 2016 Saint Pius X Catholic High School

 13 GCSEs (7 A\*s, 4 As, 2 Bs)
 ECDL (Distinction\*)

2015 – 2015 Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

 Basic Life Support for Adults and Paediatrics

**Other Interests**

* I have had training in both ballet and modern dance, both of which require hard work and commitment as well as the ability to listen to instructions, take constructive criticism and acknowledge your mistakes so that you can work to improve.

**References**

* Available on request.