



SOPHIA: The European Network for the Advancement of Doing Philosophy with Children

New to the field Award

Conference Slot, Bursary and Mentoring Opportunity
for Novice Facilitators of Philosophical Enquiry

The SOPHIA Network is keen to support educators at all stages of their career to explore the value of philosophical enquiry in their work with children, young people or other communities of learners.

Ahead of our Network Meeting in Cluj, Romania on 11th - 12th July 2020, we invite colleagues that are new to philosophical enquiry, to submit an application for our New-to-the-Field Award and join us in sharing their experiences with our diverse community.



New to the field Award

The award comprises a conference slot, bursary and mentoring opportunity and is available to applicants who may be undergraduate or postgraduate students, newly qualified teachers, early career academics, or any other junior professionals who are new to philosophical enquiry. i.e. those who have done some philosophy with children (or other communities of learners) during a period no greater than two years.

- The conference slot provides the award winner with an opportunity to share their work-in-progress with the aim of receiving supportive feedback to enhance their practice.
- The attendance bursary is intended to help those new to the field - who do not have access to institutional financial support - to participate in our community for the first time in the hope they may decide to join us long-term. The bursary - worth a total of €50 - includes membership of the SOPHIA Network for one year, entry to the 2020 Network Meeting and a grant of up to €500 towards the cost of travel and accommodation.

The post-conference mentoring provides up to a year of online support from an experienced member of the network, The mentoring will focus on helping the award winner to implement the advice they received during the Network Meeting and to further-develop their practice in this field..

How to Apply

Successful applicants will submit a 750-word proposal to the Network Meeting coordinator Steve Hoggins: steve@philosophy-foundation.org.

Their proposal will:

- Outline their interest in, and experience of, doing philosophy with children (or other communities of learners).
- Summarise one particular issue or incident that they wish to share with the group. E.g. a specific problem in their facilitation practice or a challenging context in which they have introduced philosophy.
- Describe the format their session will take. E.g. A short talk, a case study, an interactive activity, a film etc.
- Address this year's theme which is: 'The Future: Philosophy Bites Back'
- Confirm that they do not have access to alternative institutional financial support that would allow them to attend..

All applications will be blind reviewed by a panel of three Board Members. Feedback on unsuccessful applications will be provided upon request, except in the event that we have a very large number of applications.

The deadline for applications for the New-to-the-Field Award is **Tuesday 31st March 2020**.

Novice facilitators may wish to submit a regular proposal for the Network Meeting, but they should be aware that the deadline for these proposals remains Friday 28th February 2020