**Cysur y Sêr**

**Storyteller Call-Out**

Adverse Camber is seeking 8 Wales-based Welsh-language and/or bilingual storytellers to take part in a training, research and heritage engagement project exploring stories of the Night Sky.

**About The Project:**

Humans have always told stories about the Night Sky, to help remember and make sense of constellation patterns. These stories help to orient us in relation to geography, time, the seasons and our cultural beliefs. Stories are one of the most reliable ways humans have found to pass on knowledge between generations.

There is a lot of shared heritage in how stories are told between different cultures although there are also some differences. The language in which we tell stories affects the meaning we make from them.

This project explores the heritage of constellation stories in Wales – drawing on Welsh myths and experiences, as well as Greek myths through which many constellations are currently known.

**About the opportunity, and who we are looking for:**

Thanks to support from National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Colwinston Charitable Trust, the Darkley Foundation and Arts Council Wales, Adverse Camber is initiating this 9 month heritage engagement and research project, ahead of a national tour of a collaborative storytelling performance called **Stars and their Consolations.**

We are looking for 8 storytellers with the skills and experience to lead high quality storytelling activities and conduct heritage-based research in a range of community settings, during Wales Dark Skies week in February 2026.

Prior to delivering activities, each storyteller will receive an honorarium plus expenses to attend an intensive 3-day training course held at Tŷ Newydd in November 2025. The session will be led by Project Nos Dark Sky Officer Dani Robertson, leading Welsh Language storytellers Mair Tomos Ifans and Tamar Eluned Williams, plus arts, heritage and storytelling professionals. This session will be a rich skills and knowledge exchange, where we pool our collective current understanding of Welsh-specific myths and legends of the stars, document what we collectively know, what we want to learn/discover and plan research and engagement activities to expand our knowledge and reach, throughout the remainder of the project.

Between the training course and Wales Dark Skies week, we will commission each storyteller to create a Welsh-language audio recording of one of the myths relating to the stars, including Greek myths, which can be catalogued and uploaded as part of a project archive at the People’s Collection Wales. We want to make these stories accessible in languages of communities choosing. Our project will explore the connections and relationships between Welsh and Greek Myths, as well as uncover and document culturally-specific Welsh stories and knowledge which may still be in circulation.

Our overall goals are to:

* provide opportunities for more people, especially young people and mixed communities to hear, learn about, enjoy and retell stories of the Night Sky Constellations in the language of their choosing
* celebrate Wales’ unique cultural heritage, in relation to its Night Skies, including its protected Dark Skies (17.6% of the skies, the highest percentage of protected dark skies of any country in the world)
* support Welsh language and bilingual storytellers to incorporate stories of the Night Sky (from Welsh and Greek sources) into their ongoing repertoire and to pass on the storytelling skills which sustain them
* preserve these stories for future generations in Casgliad y Werin Cymru/People’s Collection Wales
* build excitement and interest in Adverse Camber’s March 2026 Wales-wide tour of Stars and their Consolations, a performance breathing new life into the stories of the Night Sky, including Orion, Seven Sisters, Pegasus and other Greek Myths

**Who are we looking for?**

We are seeking 8 Welsh language or bilingual storytellers who are interested in incorporating more stories of the night sky into their ongoing repertoire.

We are ringfencing 2 places for proactive emerging artists, who may still be building their performance and engagement practice, who are seeking to expand their work and connections.

We are primarily seeking storytellers who are confident in Cymraeg, but recruitment will be open to Welsh learners providing they are:

* committed to increasing the amount of Welsh they integrate into their work, and/or
* have particular areas of knowledge about constellations/star stories which could be useful to the community of interest around the project.

We acknowledge the need to work in intersectional ways, recognising multiple disadvantages experienced by particular groups and the complexities of identities and lived experience.

We warmly encourage applications from underheard voices and disadvantaged groups, including storytellers from Global Majority, LGBTQ, working class, disabled backgrounds and women, all of whom are underrepresented in the current storytelling performer/facilitator field.

Further Note on Language: Creative storytelling and discussion sessions at Tŷ Newydd will be delivered primarily in Welsh and ideally we are seeking confident Welsh speakers for the storyteller roles. Translation support will be available, to ensure access for less confident speakers. Delivery during Wales Dark Skies week will be ‘Welsh-led’ or bilingual, encouraging a joyful, celebratory use of Welsh amongst learners, new speakers, lapsed speakers or nervous speakers. The project will take a non-judgemental approach, open to a range of dialectical and bilingual use of Cymraeg both in facilitation and delivery.

Storytellers must be available for all the project dates, including a number of online meetings and have relevant Public Liability insurance and Enhanced Disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service, checked within 2 years (or be willing to apply for this at their own expense). Storytellers will be responsible for their own tax and national insurance payments, and will also need to arrange their own transport to-and-from venues (additional expenses up to a limit will be provided).

**Key Dates**

* Introductory meeting online – week of 6th October, 2025
* People’s Collection Online Training – week of 20th October (half day)
* Tŷ Newydd Residential – 4 - 6 November, 2025
* Follow up online session – week of 17th November, 2025
* Deadline for audio recording Welsh Myth – 19 December, 2025
* Deadline for Mini Research Residency Plan – 16 January, 2026
* Wales Dark Skies Week Delivery – 13 - 22 February, 2026
* Online Reflection/Evaluation – week of 2 March, 2026
* Final Project Reflection – week of 27 April, 2026

**Person Specification:**

* This project is exclusively open to Wales-based storytellers
* We are looking for storytellers with proven participation, engagement or performance storytelling expertise with people of all ages and backgrounds who have existing relationships within their communities they can build on
* We have ringfenced space for 2 emerging storytellers
* We are seeking confident Welsh-language storytellers, or storytellers who are committed to increasing the amount of Welsh in their storytelling
* If you have existing wide repertoire around star-related stories that you are happy to share with the group, we would like to hear from you
* We are looking for storytellers who want to incorporate more constellation stories into their ongoing repertoire following this project
* You must be able to initiate and self-organise 3 days of storytelling activities in your local community to reach a range of people and communities, including young people, heritage partners, schools, community spaces. We will provide you with support and access to venues where workshops can be held (which will include venues where the Stars and their Consolations tour is taking place)
* Effective communication with people from all social backgrounds
* A positive attitude
* An affinity for the mission, vision and work of Adverse Camber, and a passion to play a key role in this collaborative heritage project

The contracted artists will work on a freelance fixed-term basis between September 2025 and April 2026.

You will have their own Public Liability Insurance in place (minimum £5 million), as well as an Enhanced Disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service, checked within 2 years (or be willing to apply for one). You will be responsible for your own tax and national insurance payments, and will also need to arrange their own transport to-and-from venues (expenses will be provided)

**What we offer:**

£1,600 fee per artist, plus travel expenses (up to £150 per person)

* Accommodation and meals at Tŷ Newydd fully covered
* Training Materials and Trainer Fees at Tŷ Newydd fully covered
* Access to project team for support, networking and skill sharing throughout project

Breakdown:

* + 3 x days training honorarium £350 (Nov 2025)
	+ Welsh Language Audio Story (Greek Myth) commission £200 (Dec)
	+ 2 days planning and evaluation time £300 (Nov to April)
	+ 3 days project delivery time £750 (Wales Dark Skies Week Feb 26)

**How to apply:**

Adverse Camber is committed to access, therefore applications can be made through an online form found [**HERE**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYkojN9C65Xz_3Jsz9tNiS53yvS4XEjsH4WQNmM0WAq8bXBQ/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=117183342600599343001), applicants can alternatively submit by sending a video or audio file. If applying on a word document, your total application should be no more than 2 sides of A4. Please email this to naomi@adversecamber.org If applying as a video or audio file, please keep the total length to no more than 8 minutes and send via We Transfer to the above email address.

We are also holding two open Q&A sessions where we will share more information about the project and you can ask questions, ahead of the deadline (dates below).

**How will the decision be made?**

There will be a shortlisting process led by Adverse Camber with support from Dani Robertson. We will let people know if they are being interviewed by Weds 24 September.

We will offer feedback to any rejected application that requests it - it shall be provided within 30 days of the request being made. The successful candidate will be subject to a DBS check and fulfilment of project specifications re: insurance.

**Timeline:**

* Recruitment opens 21 July to 28 August, 2025
* Open online Q&A to find out more: Mon 28 July, Mon 18 August
* Deadline for applications: Thurs 28 August
* Interview Dates: Weds 3 September, Friday 5 September
* Open Forum Session: Mon 8 September
* Appointed Storytellers Notified: week of 15 September
* Introductory Online Session: week of 6th October

 Any Questions? Email: hello@adversecamber.org