



Research Consultant

Nest is a New York City based 501(c)3 nonprofit committed to furthering global workforce inclusivity, gender equity, and cultural preservation through responsible development of the global craft sector. Nest is reimagining the future of work and advocating for the interests of overlooked artisan and maker entrepreneurs and small businesses to advance gender equity and deepen economic inclusion for women and vulnerable populations in the United States and around the world. Through a comprehensive suite of programs, Nest supports over 1,500 micro and small businesses as they develop their operations to access meaningful market opportunities and achieve long-term success.

We are seeking a contract Research Consultant to support the publication of the 2021 State of the Handworker Economy Report (SHE Report), which will be focused on the US Maker Economy. The Research Consultant will collaborate with key Nest staff as well as select brand partners who will contribute data and insights toward this report, working creatively with staff to ensure key partner datasets are managed according to best data management and privacy practices. This position will report to the Senior Director of Artisan & Maker Business Development.

Specific roles and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Synthesize all existing **research** and data on the US maker economy using available public and private datasets (sample sources may include the US Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, local government datasets, contributing partner datasets, and Nest Makers United Landscape survey)
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative **analysis** to identify themes, gaps, and reveal opportunities that can be represented in Nest's State of the Handworker Economy Report
- In partnership with key Nest staff, **co-author** the 2021 State of the Handworker Economy Report

Research

- Broker relationships with stakeholders who collect and/or publish local, regional, and national datasets, where appropriate; design the strategy for engaging these stakeholders and manage all outreach
- Manage the execution of a national consumer survey in partnership with GLG Social Impact to identify consumer interest in purchasing local and/or handcrafted products
- Conduct additional research to identify general trends regarding the prioritization and general availability of resources for maker entrepreneurs; this could include desk research, phone interviews, and safe in-person visits with national, regional, or local stakeholders (e.g., local city economic development offices)
- Synthesize research findings on best practices of local government prioritizing racial and economic inclusion of maker entrepreneurs in city objectives
- Lead the concepting, planning, and execution of safe, small roundtable discussions with stakeholders and makers based on the reports and materials prepared after Nest's initial landscape mapping in select cities across the country for additional context and personal voice

Data Analysis

- Collect, organize, and analyze a comprehensive set of data sources to further explore the key themes of the SHE Report
- Support the cleaning of relevant Nest datasets and Makers United impact data through Nest's designated data management and data visualization tools
- Synthesize and analyze trends observed across sections on both a national and geographic level
- Conduct analytical comparisons to public/census data
- Conduct subgroup and variable analysis

Report Creation

- In partnership with key Nest staff, co-author the 2021 State of the Handworker Economy Report ●
- Maintain an accurate list of prospective report recipients, featured participants, and datasets ●
- Obtain proper permission and attribution for all quotes and photos incorporated into the report

Experience & Qualifications

- Minimum of a Bachelor's Degree required
- At least 5 years of overall professional experience
- Strong analytical background with a proven track-record of synthesizing complex datasets and experience leading both quantitative and qualitative analysis and reporting
- Technology savvy with skills in Excel and data management; familiarity with Stata or other data analytics and visualization tools a plus
- A successful track record in setting priorities; keen analytic, organization and problem-solving skills which support and enable sound decision making
- Excellent written communication and relationship building skills with an ability to prioritize, negotiate, and work with a variety of internal and external stakeholders
- A multi-tasker with the ability to wear many hats in a fast-paced environment
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and dedication to the mission of Nest

Instructions for Applying

This is a paid part time 5-month consultancy set to commence on May 1, 2021. Applicants should note we expect a higher concentration of hours of work expected in the first three months. A resume is not required for this position. Instead, please email lindsey@buildanest.org with your interest in applying for the position and we will send instructions for completing your application. The subject line should include your name and the position title.