Publication on Burnout

School of Commons

The School of Commons is calling for contributions for an experimental print publication sharing experiences of burnout.

The publication is part of the research lab Band of Burnouts, which undertakes a transdisciplinary study of the burnout phenomenon and the experiences of those affected by it.
The following types of new, ongoing, or previously published works are welcome. Contributions can be:
- WRITTEN. Including personal essays, auto-theory, short or long anecdotes, fragmented writing, poetry, prose, interviews, transcribed conversations, diary or documentary style, reflective stories, or embodied writing – to name but a few. We are open to all!
- VISUAL. Including drawings, self-made memes, illustrations, comics and graphic novels, typographical interventions, etc., or
- AUDITORY. As an experimental print publication we welcome the creative integration of audio works. These could be songs, spoken word pieces, soundscapes, recorded conversations and interviews, collages of found material, etc.
We encourage work that is transdisciplinary, genre-defying, and intersectional.

MODES OF CONTRIBUTION

We welcome two modes of contribution of any of the aforementioned forms:

1. Submissions of work.
You may submit up to three works. Past publication experience not required.
Deadline: 27th June 2021
If you are interested in submitting a piece of finished work for the deadline and would like support in realising your idea, please get in touch.

2. Collaborative exchange.
For those who are keen to share their experience and/or create a contribution out of it, we offer the option to collaborate. This can be either by:
- Being paired with a fellow writer/artist/researcher who would also like to collaborate to create something together.
- Working with one of the lab's writers and researchers (all of whom have experience burnout) to help tell your story and share your experiences, or
- Expressing interest in being part of the design process of the print publication.
Deadline: 30th May (this date is to let us know if you would like to take part in any of these collaborative exchanges.)

WHO IS THIS CALL FOR?

This call is open to people from all fields, disciplines, backgrounds and futures. We understand burnout manifests in a diversity of experiences – whether medically recognised or not. Therefore, we are open and welcoming to all forms, degrees, stages, familiarities, and encounters of burnout, including but not limited to:
- Personal experiences of burnout (self-diagnosed, bio-medically diagnosed, recognition from non-Western traditions and practices, interventions-by or relations-to a workplace, etc.).
- Experiences and feelings of the immanence of burnout.
- Observations or bearing witness to experiences of burnout in loved ones, communities, work-places, institutions, social or common environments.
- Artists, writers and researchers working with the topic of burnout.
- Workers within healthcare or burnout-related facilities.
- Explorations and experiences of forms of burnout not conditional to the term 'occupational syn-drome,' such as parental burnout, immigrant burnout, unemployment burnout, activist burnout, and caregiver burnout.
- Explorations of and contemplations on recovery from burnout.

HOW TO APPLY

Submissions and expressions of interest in collaboration can be sent to: apply@schoolofcommons.org
Applications should include:
- Abstract (100 – 500 words)
- Full plain text document (.rtf, .doc, .html, or google doc are preferred)
- Artist's or Author's short bio
- Links to author's site or other published relevant works
- Any useful supporting images/media
- Images should be jpg, in the highest resolution possible.
- Audio files should be mp3 and can be sent via WeTransfer if necessary, in that case please send us the link.

Submissions and expressions of interest in collaboration are to be sent to: hello@schoolofcommons.org

SEE THE FULL CALL: https://tinyurl.com/schoolofcommons

Learn more about the Band of Burnouts research lab at:
https://www.schoolofcommons.org/labs/burnout

For any questions, get in touch with jess@schoolofcommons.org

Reference:
CFP: Publication on Burnout. In: ArtHist.net, May 24, 2021 (accessed Feb 23, 2026),
<https://arthist.net/archive/34172>.