

PARTICIPATION PERSONAS ACTIVITY

Instructions: Roll your 10-sided die three times to fill in each blank of your guiding narrative (Part 1): one roll for role, one for motivation, and one for challenge. Then, use this guiding narrative to build your persona (Part 2) - identifying their traits, skills, participation style, and secret tool or power.

Part 1. I am a _____[1]. I want to _____[2], but _____[3].

[1] Role	[2] Motivation	[3] Challenge
1. volunteer	1. share my knowledge	1. I struggle with digital tools
2. emerging artist	2. co-create something meaningful with others	2. I don't feel represented
3. corporate partner	3. support community initiatives	3. I'm unsure how to contribute
4. community elder	4. preserve cultural traditions	4. I face communication barriers
5. casual museum visitor	5. explore new ideas	5. I am afraid of failure
6. local organiser	6. connect with others	6. I'm unsure if my input will matter
7. policy advisor	7. make a positive impact	7. I need clearer outcomes
8. parent or caregiver	8. create enriching experiences	8. I don't have much free time
9. student intern	9. learn and grow	9. I don't feel heard
10. local activist	10. express myself freely	10. I feel culturally isolated

Part 2.

Persona Name:	
	Traits: <i>Core personality characteristics or defining attributes that shape how they approach participation (e.g. imaginative, meticulous, collaborative)</i>
	Skills: <i>Key abilities or areas of expertise they bring to their role (e.g. public speaking, storytelling, community organising, lived experience)</i>
	Participation Style: <i>The way they prefer to engage in participatory activities, including their approach to collaboration, contribution, and decision-making (e.g. hands-on, reflective, outspoken, supportive, observational).</i>
	Secret Tool or Power: <i>A unique tool, talent, or imagined ability that could help them participate more fully. This could be a dream tool, magical skill, or futuristic technology they wish they had.</i>

Tips for Teams

- Embrace difference. Use this as a chance to explore viewpoints or roles outside your own—what might participation feel like from their shoes?
- If a funny or powerful idea catches your group's attention, follow it! Sometimes the most unexpected personas lead to the best insights.
- Your persona doesn't need to be fully fleshed out or flawless. Focus on capturing a *story* or *perspective* that opens up discussion.
- There are no wrong answers. This is about exploring participation, not solving a problem. Every persona is valid and valuable.

Discussion/Reflection

- What's one thing you'll take away from this exercise into your own participatory practice?
- Which "secret tool / skill" would you most like to have at your organisation?
- What does your persona reveal about the kinds of support people need to participate meaningfully?

Further questions?

Please do not hesitate to raise your hand so that Gabrielle or Nadia can assist your group!