

# SCHOOL OF COMMONS

## Call for Contributions

BAND OF BURNOUTS JOURNAL  
Experimental Print Publication



The School of Commons is calling for contributions to 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 documents the experiences of those affected by it.

### Contributions:

The following types of new, ongoing, or previously published works are welcome:

- **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: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

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## Modes of Contribution (cont'd):

### 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: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

This date is to let us know if you would like to take part in any of these collaborative exchanges.

## How to Apply:

Submissions\* and expressions of interest in collaboration can be sent to:

[apply@schoolofcommons.org](mailto: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.

\*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.

## 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, workplaces, institutions, social or common environments.
- Artists, writers and researchers working with the topic of burnout.

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## Who is this Call for? (cont'd):

- Workers within healthcare or burnout-related facilities.
- Explorations and experiences of forms of burnout not conditional to the term 'occupational syndrome,' such as parental burnout, immigrant burnout, unemployment burnout, activist burnout, and caregiver burnout.
- Explorations of and contemplations on recovery from burnout.

## Background & Motivation

The School of Commons research lab *Band of Burnouts* formed to gather greater understanding of the experiences of the phenomenon of the burnout – collectively and through listening to individual stories. In the course of our research, we detect that there are a huge array of details, manifestations, causes, consequences, and general encounters that are missing from both popular discourses and discussions, and those within the natural sciences.



You are invited to join our Band of Burnouts. We like music and we like the word 'band' as both a noun and a verb since as a noun it can mean a group of people who share a common interest or feature, something that serves to join or hold things together, or a force that unites and ties. And as a transitive verb it means to gather together, to bind, and intransitively it means to unite for a common purpose, to form a group to achieve a mutual objective.

Our band *responds* to the increasing amount of occurrences of burnout, and with it, an increasing amount of questions – What is it? How is it happening? To who, and why? Where we are going is to make the invisible visible, the unaccounted accounted for. Away from stigma and suspicion, both this *Band* and this experimental print publication aims to listen, learn, and gather experiences, stories, and overlooked details of burnout to make an artefact of our embodied accounts.

To learn more about our lab, visit [here](#) and check out our '*Ways and Workings.*' Sign up for our [newsletter](#) to receive future updates and news on the project.

For further information and questions please contact: [apply@schoolofcommons.org](mailto:apply@schoolofcommons.org).

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Summary:

## Call for Contributions



A JOURNAL ABOUT BURNOUT  
Experimental Print Publication

### Key Dates for Contributions:

- Submissions of work\*: 27<sup>th</sup> 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.*

- Expression of interest in collaborative exchange: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021

*This date is to let us know if you would like to take part in any of the aforementioned forms of collaborative exchange.*

Send to:

[apply@schoolofcommons.org](mailto:apply@schoolofcommons.org)

Band of Burnouts was initiated by [Jess Henderson](#). Jess is a transdisciplinary writer, researcher, and artist from New Zealand. She is the author of [Offline Matters](#) (Amsterdam: BIS Publishers, 2020) and founder of [No Fun Magazine](#).