

Call for Writer in Residence

Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council invites applications for a writer in residence for the period July 2019 to June 2020. This writer in residence is managed by dlr Libraries.

The residency is open to writers working in any genre (e.g. fiction, non-fiction, poetry, script-writing, etc). **The residency this year will focus on the theme of inclusivity and will have a particular emphasis on creativity for 6-12 year olds.**

The writer's work may draw inspiration from this theme in a variety of ways. The residency is envisaged as a part-time residency which will allow time for the writer's own work in addition to engagement and interaction with both the general public and, more specifically, with children, their families and potentially a range of schools in the County.

We are pleased to announce that the writer in residence will have access, at agreed times, to a room on the top floor of dlr LexIcon. It is a requirement of the residency that the writer spend at least 10 hours a week working in dlr LexIcon.

Budget information

The fee for the residency is €15,000. This amount is to be fully inclusive of fee and expenses. A separate limited budget for events will be managed by dlr Libraries.

This is a part-time residency and will require flexibility around contact hours. The Writer in Residence will be paid via the payroll system. They will not become employees of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and are treated as employees solely for taxation purposes. Standard deductions will apply. Full budget information will be discussed with successful applicant prior to commencement of residency.

Residency objectives

To create opportunities for the writer to:

- Develop her/his own work
- Encourage the imagination of young readers and writers, and in so doing, draw attention to the importance of authors and the essential role they perform in nurturing creativity in children.
- Provide opportunities for other writers who wish to write for children.
- Promote the awareness of dlr Libraries and its resources, by establishing a dynamic link between libraries and the community.

Writer's brief

Applicants are asked to approach the residency thematically and to include in their application an outline of the project/s that they would work towards over the course of the residency. This should include ideas around public engagement, inclusivity, including children with Autism/additional needs and intergenerational aspects of the residency. In the past, writers in residence have engaged with book clubs, writers groups, musicians, illustrators and leisure centre users and have organised workshops and engaged in one-to-one discussions with writers in the area. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council organises the annual Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival and it is envisaged that there could be potential links with the writer in residence during the Festival in March 2020.

dlr Libraries are open to new approaches and responses around the public engagement aspect for this residency. There will be a separate budget for events associated with this which will be managed by the Library Service.

It is envisaged that approximately 50% of the time on this residency should be focused on the writer's own work while approximately 50% will be allocated to the public engagement aspect.

In advance of the residency the following will be agreed:

- A programme of work that is flexible and responsive to all stakeholders.
- Clear roles and responsibilities for the writer in residence.
- A structure for the ongoing support of the writer in residence.
- A timetable that balances time for the writer's own work and time for public engagement.
- Ongoing review and evaluation; regular meetings.

Selection process

Applicants should submit a proposal together with details of previous work to date as follows:

- A typed curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages);
- Examples of previous work;
- Publications, programmes or published articles, such as reviews;
- Typed proposal outlining artistic ideas and approaches (no more than three typed pages); this should include an outline of the benefits of the residency to her/his stage of development as a writer and ideas in relation to public engagement during the residency.

Please note: Applicants must submit 3 copies of CV and proposal.

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the applicant's name. Please note that email applications will not be accepted.

Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 8 May 2019

Criteria for selection

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of proposal (25/100)
- Quality of previous work (25/100)
- Suitability of the proposal to the context (25/100)
- Facilitation ability and relevant experience (25/100)

Interviews

Applicants will be short-listed on the basis of their submissions and short-listed applicants may be called for interview during the week beginning 20th May 2019

Summary of key dates

3 April 2019: call for submissions.

8 May 2019: closing date for receipt of submissions at 12.00 noon.

Week of 20 May: interviews for short-listed applicants.

The residency will begin in July 2019 and last until the end of June 2020

Support from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

d/r Libraries will act as the liaison support between the writer, the local authority and local communities throughout the residency. It will also provide a limited amount of administrative support where required. The Senior Librarian will be responsible for administering contracts and payments to the writer.

Child Protection

In accordance with the national Child Protection Guidelines *Children First*, the selected candidate will be required to follow child protection procedures as specified by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo Garda Vetting.

Insurance

The writer in residence agrees to keep the Council fully indemnified against all claims howsoever arising and howsoever caused in respect of any damage, loss or injury of any kind or nature, whether arising directly or indirectly from the provision of the residency and to provide evidence of Public Liability insurance which indemnifies Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council with a limit of indemnity of €6.5 million.

It is the responsibility of the writer in residence to ensure that other person(s) not employed by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, but employed by the writer in residence to assist them with the residency have adequate Public Liability (€6.5 million) and Employer's Liability (€13 million) cover which indemnify both Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the writer.

Freedom of Information

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

Applications should be submitted to:

Susan Lynch, Senior Librarian
dlr Libraries HQ, dlr LexIcon
Haigh Terrace, Moran Park
Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin
A96 H283

Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 8 May 2019

Queries: Please refer any queries to Library Culture: libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie or
Phone: (01) 236 2700

Please note that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right not to appoint if none of the applications received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.

The Writer in Residence is funded by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.