

# **Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council**

## **Arts Office**

### **Call for Writer in Residence**

**September 2020 to June 2021**

**Closing Date: 10<sup>th</sup> of August at 12 noon**

#### **Introduction**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council invites applications for a writer in residence for the period September 2020 to June 2021. This writer in residence is managed by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office.

The residency is open to fiction writers. 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 those with an interest in writing themselves.

The writer in residence will have limited access to a shared room on the top floor of the Lexlcon. S/he will also have access to the meeting rooms in dlr Lexlcon and where available to the studio space in dlr Lexlcon.

Applicants must live in, work in, be originally from or have studied a relevant discipline in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

#### **Budget information**

The fee for the residency is €12,000. A separate limited budget of no more than €3,000 for events will be managed by the dlr Arts Office.

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.

#### **Residency objectives**

To create opportunities for the writer to:

- Develop her/his own work

- Engage with other writers within dlr
- Provide opportunities for the public to engage with fiction writing and fiction writers

### **Writer's brief**

Writers must include in their application an outline of the project/s that they would work towards over the course of the residency. This should include both the development of their own work and also ideas about their engagement with other writers and the public. In the past, writers in residence have engaged with book clubs, writers groups, leisure centre users, hospital patients and others. They have organised workshops, created newsletters and engaged in one to one public interviews with other writers. An innovative and original public engagement strand is desirable and new approaches and responses are welcomed. It is important to be cognisant of the current situation around the holding of events and applicants may want to consider options for online activities or activities that can ensure social distancing.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council organises the annual 'Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival' and it is envisaged that there may be potential links with the writer in residence during the proposed Festival in 2021. There will be a separate budget for events associated with this which will be managed by the Arts Office or the Festival team.

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 engagement aspect.

### **Selection process**

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

- A typed curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages), this should make the applicant's connection to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown clear;
- Examples of previous work (limit of 3 examples of no more than 10 pages each);
- 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 engagement with other writers and the public during the residency.

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the writer's name.

**Closing date: 12 noon on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2020. No late applications will be accepted.**

### **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)
- Ability and experience in public engagement (25/100)

**The details of the writer in residence programme will be agreed in consultation with the appointed writer. The programme will be supervised by the Assistant Arts Officer. In advance of the residency the following will be agreed:**

- Clear goals, roles and responsibilities and agreed criteria for the writer in residence and the Arts Office;
- An agreed programme of work that is flexible and responsive;
- The administrative support that will be provided by the Arts Office;
- A timetable that balances time for the writer's own work and time for interaction with various publics;
- Ongoing review and evaluation; regular meetings.

It should be noted that this is a part-time residency, which will require flexibility around contact hours.

### **Summary of key dates**

July 2020 : call for submissions

10th August at 12 noon: closing date for receipt of submissions

The residency will begin in mid September 2020 and conclude in mid June 2021.

### **Background Information :**

dlr Lexlcon Library, Dún Laoghaire

In autumn 2014 Lexlcon, the new Central Library & Cultural Centre opened to the public. This iconic public building is a crucial part of a programme of regeneration in Dún Laoghaire. It includes a major commitment to provide public facilities and represents the single biggest investment by the Council in a civic amenity. Lexlcon is a key component in the delivery of the cultural programme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and its environs. It is a vibrant centre of learning and creativity for all those

who live, work in and visit the county. It accommodates general reading rooms with a rich collection of some 80,000 books.

The library includes a public 'living room' floor overlooking a park; this floor accommodates informal access to a taster collection, the Internet, newspapers and magazines. In addition there are extensive resources for the local community and a dedicated suite for young people. The Municipal Gallery and Project Room are also on this level also.

The main lending library includes a state of the art children's library and caters for the varied needs and interests of all children. It plays a pivotal role of support for the Primary and Post Primary Schools in the County. The top floor in the building will be dedicated to Local Studies, recording the history and heritage of the county. It also acts as a repository for the county's extensive local history collection. The room for the writer-in-residence is on this level.

A multi-purpose performance space adjacent to the café on the ground floor seats 120 people.

### Arts Office

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council supports the development of the arts at a local level and aspires to provide opportunities for all who live in, work in and visit the County to engage with the arts as creators, participants and spectators.

Since the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office was established in 1994, the County Council has developed a high quality programme including exhibitions, learning and participation initiatives, festivals, public art projects and artists' residencies.

The goals of the Arts Development Plan 2016 -2022 are:

Goal 1: Public – Engage and Inspire

Goal 2: Artists – Time and Space

Goal 3: Partners - Enrich and Strengthen

### **Support from Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Arts Office 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 Assistant Arts Officer 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.

### **Payments**

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.

### **Applications should be submitted to:**

Carolyn Brown

Email: [cbrown@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:cbrown@dlrcoco.ie)

Or

Arts Office

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

County Hall

Marine Road

Dún Laoghaire

Co. Dublin.

**Closing date: 12 noon on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

#### **Queries**

Please refer any queries to Carolyn Brown, Assistant Arts Officer

E:cbrown@dlrcoco.ie or Phone: (01) 236 2760.

*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 and managed by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.**

