

2027 Creative Spaces Application - Don Bank Writer in Residence

Form Preview

Introduction and instructions

Use this application form to apply for the Don Bank Writer in Residence Program
Before filling out this form we recommend that you first:

[Read the overview of our Creative Spaces Program](#)

[Read through the guidelines and requirements for the Don Bank Museum residency.](#)

Further information

If you need more information, assistance or would like to discuss your ideas or application please contact the Stanton Library team library@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Privacy Statement & Acknowledgement

North Sydney Council is collecting your personal information for the purposes of processing an application. The supply of personal information is entirely voluntary. If you select not to provide or do not wish to provide your personal information, Council may not be able to process your application or act on or acknowledge your submission. North Sydney Council shall be regarded as the agency that holds your personal information and access to your personal information by interested parties, may be released in line with Council policies. You have a right to access your personal information held by Council. You also have a right to have your personal information corrected or amended by Council. Applications by members of the public to view Council's records which are not in the public arena are subject to the provisions of *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*, *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and *North Sydney Council's Privacy Management Plan*. I have read and understood the Privacy Statement.

By ticking the box below, I acknowledge New South Wales State Laws will accept this communication as containing my signature within the meaning of the Electronic Transactions (NSW) Act 2000.

☐ Yes

Writer in Residence Overview

Background

North Sydney Council offers writers a unique opportunity to pursue their inspiration in the tranquil and historic Don Bank Museum, a heritage building in a garden setting located in the heart of North Sydney CBD.

The aim of the program is to support writers at all stages of their career and enhance the cultural enrichment and vitality of the North Sydney community.

North Sydney Council invites writers to apply for this wonderful opportunity to complete a creative project in the Don Bank Writer's studio whilst contributing to the cultural life of the North Sydney community.

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What is Provided by Council?

Council will support writers in their creative pursuits by providing a low-cost working space in the historic Don Bank Museum.

Don Bank Museum is located in the heart of North Sydney's CBD. The heritage building is situated in a tranquil garden away from the hustle of North Sydney. Within the heritage house is a studio which is provided to the writer for the term of their residency.

Within in the studio the writer has access to a comfortable office setup with wifi, fully equipped kitchen and bathroom as well as outdoor space and access to a veranda with leafy garden views.

This term's residency program is delivered in partnership with [Writing NSW](#) and will provide the writer with:

- 10 hours of mentorship with a published writer facilitated by Writing NSW
- A one-hour industry meeting with an experienced publisher at the end of the residency, facilitated by Writing NSW
- A one-year membership with Writing NSW
- \$1000 worth of tuition at Writing NSW
- Opportunities to contribute to North Sydney's cultural life through the delivery of public programs
- Networking opportunities with the local writing community and Council's Arts and Events initiatives

Key Dates

The residency is offered as a twelve-month term.

Applications Open : Tue 6 Oct 2026 (10am)

Applications Close : Mon 9 Nov 2026 (10am)

Assessment Notification : Dec 2026

Residency Held : 1 Feb 2027 - 31 Jan 2028

Eligibility

Who can apply?

This program is open to individuals or groups from Metropolitan Sydney.

Writers at any stage of their career are welcome to apply.

Writers working in any mode or genre of storytelling will be considered. This includes writers of fiction, non-fiction, memoir, poetry, works for young readers, plays, screenplays and multimedia.

Application Process

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Applications must be submitted online via this form. No printed applications will be accepted. Applicants may submit a maximum of one entry.

All applicants are encouraged to read the guidelines thoroughly before applying.

What is Required by the Successful Applicant?

The successful applicant will be required to contribute to Stanton Library's schedule of public programs by delivering three workshops or activities that promote writing, conversation and creative engagement.

Some suggestions include:

- A public presentation of their work at the end of their residency.
- Writing or storytelling workshops and tutorials
- Author talks or readings at Stanton Library or a Council delivered cultural event.

The successful writer will be required to sign a lease agreement with Council for the duration of the residency and pay a \$500 bond to be returned upon completion.

Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant Name or Name of representative if applying as part of a collective *

First Name

Last Name

Applicant primary address

Address

Applicant primary phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant email address *

Must be an email address.

Applicant website

Must be a URL.

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Applicant social media handle

Do you or any of the group members identify with one or more of the diversity areas below?

- ☐ First Nations
- ☐ LGBTIQ+
- ☐ Culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- ☐ Person with a Disability and/or who is d/Deaf
- ☐ Neurodiverse
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Why does a residency in the North Sydney LGA appeal to you? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 150 words.

Must be no more than 150 words. If you don't already live, work or study in the LGA, what is it about North Sydney that appeals to you?

If you have any accessibility requirements or other additional needs, please let us know below.

Creative Practice & Residency Proposal

* indicates a required field

About Your Practice

1. Please provide a short 100 word biography. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Only include biographical detail relevant to your application.

2. At what stage of your career do you consider yourself to be? *

- ☐ Emerging
- ☐ Mid Career
- ☐ Established

Residency Focus

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One of the objectives of the Don Bank Museum Residency is to support writers in the area and provide learning opportunities for the local community.

3. Please provide a summary of your creative project and how a residency in the Don Bank Studio would benefit your writing practice. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

4. How do you propose to collaborate with the Stanton Library programs team in the delivery of related workshops, presentations or events. Briefly describe three options below. These can be altered or adjusted within the residency period. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Consider what activities align with your own practice and objectives for the residency, as well as opportunities for engaging new audiences. Please note a fully developed proposal is not required at this stage - only an indication of approach and capacity for delivery.

5. Do you have any confirmed opportunities or commitments coming up in the next 12 months? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Let us know about any planned trips, exhibitions, residencies, touring or major projects already planned

6. Please indicate how many hours/days per week you aim to utilise the studio. If you have planned regular studio days please indicate those here. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Residency Outcomes

In addition to any programs already proposed as part of the mutual agreement, there may be opportunities to participate in panel discussions with other participants in the Creative Spaces program.

Participation in these panel talks will not be compulsory but will be another opportunity for paid professional engagement.

7. If interested in being part of a curated panel talk, please outline 2-3 topics that are of interest to you, as they relate to your writing practice, areas of research/expertise or general interest.

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8. What would a successful residency look like for you? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Describe what you hope to achieve by the end of the residency, please include material outcomes (like a completed body of work, a published work or public event), skills developed or connections made.

The Selection Process

Council is committed to ensuring that the assessment of all applications is coordinated in a fair and transparent manner. The Selection Process will therefore be as follows:

1. An officer from the Arts, Library and Events team will assess and shortlist eligible applications.
2. Applications will be considered by a panel consisting of two members of the Arts, Library and Events team and an industry professional
3. A report from the panel with recommendations will be made for final endorsement.

Assessment criteria are outlined below.

Assessment Criteria

Council is interested in applications that illustrate how a residency might directly benefit the author's writing, as well as enriching the North Sydney community.

Each application will be assessed and scored by the assessment panel according to the below criteria:

Assessment Criteria

Score

%

Professional benefit:

Demonstrated benefit and impact of the residency for the applicant's professional development.

Score out of 10

25

Artistic merit:

Based on examples of previous work and proposed project.

Score out of 10

25

Capacity:

Achievability of the residency, ability to demonstrate planning, development and delivery of the project as links to an existing project or publisher.

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Score out of 10

25

Community benefit and alignment:

How the project will benefit the Community and suitability of programs proposed (audience, subject, method of delivery etc).

Score out of 10

25

Total

Score out of 40

100

Support material

* indicates a required field

About Support Material

Applicants are required to supply supporting material. Please read the following carefully.

Preparing your supporting documentation:

- All applicants will need to upload a copy of their artist CV in .pdf format.
- Your CV should relate to your creative practice, it should only contain content and achievements that are related to your creative career, not your work history unrelated to your creative practice.
- Ensure your CV is up to date and shows your recent achievements or activities.
- Please use plain fonts and formatting. Adding background images or colours makes your CV difficult to read on a screen.
- Maximum 3 pages.

Templates:

- [View the NAVA handy CV template and guidelines](#)

Support Material

Please attach writer CV in .pdf format *

Attach a file:

A minimum of 1 file and a maximum of 2 files may be attached.
PDF

Writing Examples

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Attach a file:

A minimum of 1 file and a maximum of 3 files may be attached.

A selection of published or unpublished work; minimum 20 pages of fiction or non-fiction (including theatre or film scripts), or 6 poems. Submitted work can include works in progress. PDF format required.

Sound/Video URLs

Max. 5 minutes of content in total. You may submit a showreel / compilation of a number of works, as long as it does not exceed 5min. If the URL is password protected, please ensure you provide the correct password.

Certification and Feedback

* indicates a required field

Certification

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application are true and correct, and I understand that if successful I will be required to accept the terms and conditions of the residency as outlined in the licence and participation agreement.

I agree *

☐ Yes

Name of authorised person *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Applicant Feedback

You are nearing the end of the application process. Before you review your application and click the **SUBMIT** button please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the online application process. *

☐ Very easy ☐ Easy ☐ Neutral ☐ Difficult ☐ Very difficult

How did you hear about this residency opportunity *

- ☐ Word of mouth / friend or colleague
- ☐ North Sydney Council Arts & Culture eNewsletter
- ☐ North Sydney Council Arts & Culture social media
- ☐ North Sydney Council eNewsletter
- ☐ North Sydney Council social media
- ☐ Stanton Library eNewsletter
- ☐ Stanton Library social media
- ☐ Writing NSW eNewsletter
- ☐ ArtsHub

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Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider. Is there a question we should have asked as part of this application? *