



## **Meath County Council Library Service Writer in Residence scheme 2020**

Meath County Council invites applications for a Writer in Residence, under the Creative Ireland Meath programme. The residency runs for the period June 2020 to December 2020 and will be managed by Meath County Council Library Service.

The residency is open to published writers working in any genre of fiction or poetry who have significant experience in delivering high quality writing experiences for children, young people and adults.

### **The Residency is designed to :**

- enable creative writers to develop their work from home
- fund a week long residential stay at the Tyrone Guthrie Artists' Retreat in Annaghmakerrig, Co Monaghan
- provide the public with an opportunity to meet, and develop creative reading and writing skills, with a practicing writer

This is a part-time residency which will require flexible working hours, allowing time for the writer's own work during the Summer months. Engagement and interaction with both the general public and, more specifically, with groups attached to Meath County Council Library Service will take place during the Autumn and Winter months with expected contact hours to be in the region of 50 hours.

### **The successful writer will :**

- Deliver creative writing workshops to participants
- Help, encourage and provide support to participants in telling their stories and/or through a mentoring programme
- Engage with children, young people and adults through the library branch network, with schools, and with existing book clubs and writing groups
- Make use of social media to report on and publicise their residency
- Acknowledge Meath County Council and Creative Ireland in any publication resulting from their residency
- Write a short evaluation report on their experience of the residency

### **Key events include:**

- Cruinniú na nÓg June 2020
- Children's Book Festival October 2020
- Family Time at Your Library (early) December 2020
- An interview which will subsequently be published as a podcast

A planning session designed to enhance the project planning process will take place at a mutually agreed date. In advance of the residency the following will be agreed:

- Goals, roles and responsibilities and agreed criteria for the Writer in Residence via a signed Memorandum of Agreement
- Mutually agreed programme of work that is flexible and responsive
- Administrative support from Meath County Council Library Service
- A timetable that balances time for the writer's own work and other residency commitments as agreed.

### **Fee**

A fee of €6,000 is available for the successful applicant. This amount is fully inclusive of the writer's fee – inclusive of all travel and expenses incurred (including VAT & Insurance).

The payment schedule will be: ⅓ on commencement, ⅓ halfway through, ⅓ on completion.

### **Criteria for Selection**

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of proposal (25/100)
- Suitability of the proposal (25/100)
- Quality of published work (25/100)
- Experience developing and successfully delivering programmes, workshops, and readings (25/100)

### **Selection Procedure**

The Creative Ireland Meath team plays a role in the selection of the resident writer. From the applications received, a shortlist of writers may be invited to attend interview.

### **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 Meath County Council. The successful candidate will be required to undergo Garda Vetting.

### **Freedom of Information**

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Meath 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.

### **Evaluation**

The successful applicants will be required to conduct an evaluation on completion of the residency and present a brief report within an agreed timeframe. There is no requirement that there is any exhibition or showcase event at the end of the residency.

## **Terms and conditions of contract**

1. The successful candidate will be considered as self-employed for the purposes of the contract and will not be an employee of Meath County Council. The total fee, including travel and expenses and VAT, is €6,000 and the residency will span a 7-month period from June to December. The payment schedule will be one-third on commencement, one-third mid-way through, and one-third on completion of the residency and receipt of an evaluation report.
2. The successful candidate must register with Meath County Council as a supplier and complete the relevant documentation.
3. Payment to the successful candidate will be on production of invoices.

## **How to apply**

### **Please include**

- A cover letter with your personal details
- A proposal outlining ideas and approaches around engagement and interaction with schools, other children's groups and book clubs/public groups. This should include ideas about work with schools; children's groups which may include Travellers, Direct Provision, Special Needs; and in public libraries.
- An outline of why you wish to undertake the residency and how you might be best suited to the role (maximum 2 pages).
- An updated C.V. (max. two A4 pages) including publications with ISBNs and details of teaching experience/events facilitation.

Closing date for receipt of applications is **May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**

Informal enquiries about the post and applications should be emailed to Maedhbh Rogan-McGann at [mrogan@meathcoco.ie](mailto:mrogan@meathcoco.ie) ensuring to put **Writer in Residence** in the subject line.

### **Summary of key dates**

- Friday April 17<sup>th</sup> 2020: call for submissions.
- Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2020: closing date for receipt of submissions at 5 p.m.
- The residency will begin in early June 2020 and last until the middle of December 2020.

*The Meath County Council Writer in Residence is supported by The Creative Ireland Meath Programme, an all-of-Government five-year initiative, from 2017 to 2022, which places creativity at the centre of public policy. Further information on The Creative Ireland Programme from [creative.ireland.ie](http://creative.ireland.ie) and [ireland.ie](http://ireland.ie)*