

INSPIRE Writer in Residence initiative

2022–23 Program Guidelines

The INSPIRE Writer in Residence initiative has been in place since 2019 and is running for a third year across 2022–23. INSPIRE is an exciting opportunity for Western Australian writers to undertake a residency in one of six National Trust properties in the Perth metropolitan area.

About the National Trust of Western Australia

The National Trust of Western Australia works to raise knowledge, awareness, understanding and commitment to Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage. The National Trust achieves this through the conservation and interpretation of heritage places it manages on behalf of the community and government of Western Australia, through education and learning programs, and through community consultation and engagement.

The National Trust was established in Western Australia in 1959 by a group of concerned citizens who identified the need to promote heritage conservation. This group grew rapidly and included some of the most prominent citizens in the state. Some five years later an Act of Parliament was passed in the State Parliament which formally established the National Trust as an independent community-based organisation.

Our mission is to connect communities to the value of Western Australia's diverse natural and cultural heritage. Our vision is to be recognised as leaders in engaging communities with the value of Western Australia's heritage to ensure its protection for future generations.

Learn more about the National Trust: nationaltrust.org.au/wa

About the INSPIRE Writer in Residence initiative

The National Trust of Western Australia is partnering with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to respond to Recommendation 9 of their Writing Sector Review: Establish writing in residence opportunities in National Trust properties.

Through this initiative the National Trust aims to conserve and share the stories of our places, through activation of its heritage assets through storytelling, engagement, participation, and interpretation (assets being places, collections, cultural stories).

INSPIRE is open and responsive to writers' needs, inclusive of emerging and established writers, and recognises the breadth of storytelling and writing genres Western Australia is known for.

The benefits of the residencies centre on opportunities for research, creative and professional development, encouraging excellence in writing and nurturing connections with potential publishers.

Each residency is intended to inspire the writer through the locations, heritage and surroundings; a unique immersion in rich cultural, historical memories, stories and artefacts of each heritage site, to act as a springboard for creative responses. It is not expected that the writer will develop literal interpretation or concepts of the historical legacy of the sites and families that lived there.

The National Trust is interested in writers adding to the understanding of the sites and/or Western Australia's heritage more generally, through a contemporary lens, the sociological impacts of the place on the surrounding population, on industry development, on the way people's lives changed,

and the lessons that have far reaching impacts on today's Western Australia. Most importantly, the National Trust is interested in engaging ideas, values and stories that open the public's eyes to who we are today, as West Australians.

The residencies will be up to 3 weeks (15 days) in length and a stipend of \$5,000 will be paid to each writer for this period. The National Trust will negotiate how the writer wishes to undertake the 15 days, whether in a full-time three-week block or divided on a part-time basis across a longer timeframe.

The timing of the residency is also negotiable and pending availability, whether the writer is available at different times of the day, or wishes to experience the residencies' location at night. Please note, only one of the heritage sites offered in this initiative provides live-in accommodation, subject to availability (Curtin Family Home in Cottesloe).

We ask that the writer engage with the public and/or community of interest to consult, research, present or demonstrate the explorations and research findings at some point during their residency period. The Australian Heritage Festival, held across April and May each year, is an excellent time to undertake this engagement although other opportunities may also arise.

National Trust places

Peninsula Farm at Wu-rut Woorat, Maylands

nationaltrust.org.au/peninsula-farm

Located on the banks of the Swan River off Johnson Road, Maylands, Peninsula Farm at Wu-rut Woorat is the site of one of the first farms in the colony and one of the earliest residences still standing in the metropolitan area. Peninsula Farm offers a unique opportunity to explore the first years of European settlement in Western Australia. Constructed by Joseph Hardey with his wife Ann in 1839, it was the third house he had built at this location, a property originally granted to him in 1830. Over the years the house was added to, expanded outwards and upwards. At the same time, the farm became smaller and smaller.

Peninsula Farm remained in the Hardey family until 1913. Joseph Hardey and his son Richard, who took over management of the property in the late 1860s, were highly influential in the religious, business and political activities of the colony. Peninsula Farm, however, tells more than just their stories. It also tells of their wives and daughters, the women and servants who ran the house and the workers who ran the farm. It tells of farming, and how families and the young colony sustained themselves. And it tells the stories of dispossession and dislocation of the Whadjuk Noongar people, as the Swan River Colony grew and more of their land was carved up for new owners.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space, Wi-Fi and basic kitchen facilities. There is a standard toilet available but no disability access toilet on site. Overnight accommodation is not available. Access to cycle paths but limited public transport. On-site café opening November 2022.

Woodbridge at Mandoon, Woodbridge

nationaltrust.org.au/woodbridge

Woodbridge sits on the banks of the Derbal Yerrigan (Swan River), one of the most culturally significant places in Whadjuk Noongar Country. It has sustained the Whadjuk people for tens of thousands of years and is known as Mandoon, or Munda's Country.

Captain James Stirling took up land here in 1829. He named his property 'Woodbridge' as it reminded him of the area around the home of his wife's family in Surrey, England. Stirling had a small cottage built but spent little time there. At the end of his term as Governor in 1839, Stirling left the colony and leased the property to various tenants.

Charles Harper married Fanny de Burgh in 1879 and the following year took up a lease at Woodbridge. In 1883 land was purchased and the Harpers began the construction of a large family home. Two years later, Charles, Fanny, their three sons and one daughter moved into the completed house. Over the following decade three more boys and three girls were born. The family was supported by live in staff and others who came in for specific tasks.

Woodbridge supported extensive orchards of apples, pears, peaches and table grapes and there was a commercial nursery mainly stocking fruit trees and vines. Charles worked on the development of various wheat varieties, pioneered the use of artesian water for agricultural purposes, developed an inexpensive fencing system and improved pastures through the use of clover and superphosphate. Additionally, he served as a parliamentarian, was part owner of The West Australian newspaper and started The Western Mail.

In 1895 Charles established a school in the house for his children and those of neighbours. A small single storied school building was erected in 1900. It was purchased a decade later by the Church of England and went on to become what is now Guildford Grammar School. For twenty years from 1921 the house operated as Woodbridge House School. During World War II it was used as the Old Women's Home before its conversion in 1964 to an annexe for Governor Stirling Senior High School. Woodbridge was vested in the National Trust in 1968.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space, Wi-Fi, basic kitchen facilities and toilet access. The writer's space is upstairs, without lift facilities. Overnight accommodation is not available. There is a café on site and it is close to public transport and cycle paths.

No 1 Pump Station at Minderinje, Mundaring

nationaltrust.org.au/no-1-pump-station

No 1 Pump Station sits at the foot of Mundaring Weir, which dams the Helena River, 39 kms east of Perth. The river was a traditional east-west travel route for corroborees in what is now called the suburb of Guildford. The damming of the river has changed the cultural landscape of the area dramatically and forever.

No 1 Pump Station was the first of eight steam pump stations constructed as part of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, designed by CY O'Connor to transfer water over a distance of 560 km from the Perth hills to the WA Goldfields to bring precious water to this notoriously dry part of the state.

In sweltering heat on 22 January 1903, Lady Margaret Forrest, wife of Sir John Forrest, started the engines at No 1 Pump Station to open the scheme. Sir John Forrest, then a Federal politician, had obtained a loan and parliamentary approval to build the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme under his premiership of WA. While there was considerable derision from some about the scheme from many in politics, he remained a supporter of the vision.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space and basic kitchen facilities. There is a standard toilet available, but no disability access toilet available on site. Overnight accommodation is not available. There is no access to public transport, requires own car.

ANZAC Cottage at Whadjuk, Mount Hawthorn

nationaltrust.org.au/anzac-cottage-perth

ANZAC Cottage was the earliest First World War memorial to be built in Western Australia, and was initiated by the Mount Hawthorn Progress Association in December 1915, to honour those who fought in the Gallipoli campaign.

Made possible by donations of money and building materials from the community, and generous commitment of skills by tradesmen and labourers, ANZAC Cottage was constructed in one day: Saturday 12 February 1916.

ANZAC Cottage was deemed to be a 'practical memorial', and served as a place of commemoration for those who lost their lives at Gallipoli. It was also a home for a returned wounded soldier and his family. Private John Porter was the first returned soldier to live in Mount Hawthorn, a member of the famous 11th Battalion C Company which took part in the historic landing at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Private Porter and his family lived in ANZAC Cottage until the 1960s and descendants still maintain a close connection with the cottage.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space and basic kitchen facilities. There is a standard toilet available with no disability access toilet available on site. Overnight accommodation is not available. There is easy access to public transport from ANZAC Cottage.

East Perth Cemeteries at Martellup, East Perth

nationaltrust.org.au/east-perth-cemeteries

East Perth Cemeteries sits on Whadjuk Noongar Country in an area known as Martellup, on a sandy hill overlooking Western Australia's capital city.

In 1829 this was the site of the first colonial burial ground in Perth when a general cemetery was established. This was followed by six more of different denominations, plus one for felons, until the closure of the eight cemeteries in 1899. More than 10,000 people who died in colonial Perth are buried here, from the wealthy and prominent to the poor and unknown.

In the middle of the Church of England Cemetery stands a simple Gothic church, designed by colonial architect Richard Roach Jewell. Despite a period of neglect, St Bartholomew's is still a consecrated church and is used for church services, weddings, and other religious events.

Since the closure of the Cemeteries, the majority of the grave headstones and markers have been lost through decay, neglect, vandalism, and well-intentioned 'cleanups'. The remaining 800, now cared for by the National Trust, offer a unique opportunity to tell and explore stories of bravery, tragedy, illness and accident, of success, suffering and loved ones lost.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space with limited disability access, Wi-Fi and limited kitchen facilities (running water only at toilet block). There is a universal access toilet on site. Overnight accommodation is not available. It is close to public transport and walking distance from East Perth and the CBD.

Curtin Family Home at Whadjuk, Cottesloe

nationaltrust.org.au/curtin-family-home

John Curtin, wartime Prime Minister of Australia, and his wife Elsie built this house in 1923. Over the next seventy-five years, four generations of the Curtin family lived here.

The house underwent major conservation and interpretation works in 2010 including restoration of the garden. Inside you will find fascinating information on the day to day lives of John, Elsie, their children and even their dog, Kip! If you want to know more, read the Curtin Family Home booklet or let 'Elsie' tell her story through an audio tour of the house.

This National Trust project provided an exciting opportunity to focus on what is an often neglected part of John Curtin – the importance of his home life. The unassuming nature of the Jarrad Street House reflects the nature of the man and his family and helps explain his political convictions and directions for the nation during the Second World War.

The property has been in the care of the National Trust since 2002 and is one of only four former prime ministers' homes that are in public ownership.

Onsite facilities

Residency includes access to a writing space, Wi-Fi, kitchen facilities and toilet access. Overnight accommodation is available subject to availability: two bedrooms, (one double bed and two singles), one standard bathroom. Length of stay is negotiable (2–3 weeks), with the costs of rent and services covered by the INSPIRE initiative. Access is fair but non-wheelchair toilet and bathroom. Curtin Family Home is close to public transport and walking distance to the Cottesloe township.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Eligibility

INSPIRE residencies are open to established and emerging Western Australian writers of non-fiction, history, creative fiction, novels, short stories, poetry, graphic illustrators and digital creators (such as podcasts or blogs).

Collaborating writers, or small groups may apply, however, must share one stipend per residency. We encourage writers from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to apply, including but not exclusive to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writers.

Writers with disability are also encouraged to apply. Each heritage residency has historical physical limitations, however the National Trust will endeavour to meet your access needs.

Writers must be over 18 years of age.

Definitions

- **Western Australian:** Someone who was born in Western Australia (and may be living outside the state) or has lived or been a resident of Western Australia for more than 12 months.
- **Emerging Writer Status:** At least one but no more than 2 full length literary works published, OR have a substantial body of minor published work and be progressed on a first major work for publication. For children's and young adult writers, graphic illustrators: published 3–5 literary works under 20,000 words, 1–2 literary works over 20,000 words, 3–5 picture books. Self-published writing and digital publication should demonstrate readership and review.

- **Established Writer Status:** 3 or more full-length works published or performed (fiction and literary non-fiction of 30,000 words min, poetry collections of 36 pages min). For children's and young adult writers, graphic illustrators: published 6 or more literary works under 20,000 words, 3 or more literary works over 20,000 words, 6 or more picture books. Self-published writing and digital publication should demonstrate readership and review.

Selection Criteria

Writers will be selected for the residencies by a selection panel of highly regarded writing sector representatives. A pool of selectors will be appointed at the outset of the Inspire program, and a group will be convened for each selection process acknowledging any conflicts of interest that the submissions may raise.

The selection panel will assess the submissions based on the following criteria and weightings:

- **Merit:** the quality of the writing – including but not limited to the craft demonstrated in story, character development, innovation in form (30 per cent);
- **Impact:** the potential impact the residency will have on the applicant's writing practice and career (20 per cent);
- **Significance:** conceptual research response to the heritage site, the potential of the opportunity to develop new contemporary Western Australian stories and literary outcomes (30 per cent);
- **Suitability:** The applicant's availability and commitment to fulfilling the residency and the community engagement outcomes (20 per cent).

Stipend, inclusions and exclusions and length of residency

Most writers in residence opportunities are not paid opportunities. A writer's stipend is rare across Australia, and writers mostly pay for the residential time to retreat to a quiet space in which to research and write, and sometimes to connect with other writers, publishers and creatives.

The National Trust of Western Australia, through consultation with the sector, respects the profession of writing and values writer's skills and time. We acknowledge the costs involved in taking time away from paid employment, or for additional costs associated with devoting time to a residency.

INSPIRE will provide a modest stipend of \$5,000 to assist writers undertake and commit to this residency, for up to a 3-week, 15-day period (full-time or part-time is open for negotiation to suit writer's needs).

This amount also includes a fee for public presentation and/or community engagement activities at the conclusion of the residency. (Costs associated with the Curtin Family House residency will not be deducted from the \$5,000 stipend).

In addition, writers will have access to the National Trust's archives for research. National Trust volunteers are also a good research resource.

The INSPIRE Writer in residence initiative will build links to publishers such as Fremantle Press, writers centres, and professional development. The National Trust's insurance will cover writers whilst onsite. Costs for any necessary police clearances / working with children checks that may need to be provided can also be covered.

The INSPIRE program does not provide for travel costs or food and the writer must provide their own laptop and phone.

Application and support material

Application to INSPIRE: Writer in Residence is through the National Trust of Western Australia website: nationaltrust.org.au/initiatives/inspire.

Applications may be made by the writer, or collaborating writers directly, or by nomination from a publisher, academic, supervisor etc.

Applicants are asked to provide the following support material:

- Merit: Examples of work: maximum 10,000 words;
- Writer's statement in response to the criteria:
 - Impact: One A4 page on impact to writer's career;
 - Significance: One A4 page outlining the conceptual response/ research interest connected to the heritage site/s chosen;
 - Suitability: Indication of 2 prioritised National Trust places for residency; potential dates and timeframes for the residency to be undertaken, indication of willingness to complete the community engagement aspects, including provision or willingness to provide a police clearance and/or Working with Children Check where relevant.

Closing dates and timelines

Applications for residencies in 2022–23 will close at **midnight WST Monday 12 September 2022**.

Applications will only be accepted electronically.

Applicants will be notified in early October 2022 of the outcome of their application.

Upon notification, successful writers will be invited to a familiarisation briefing with the National Trust to introduce writers to the archive systems and research capabilities, program expectations, and an on-site induction will be necessary to introduce the place, meet volunteers and staff, familiarise with security, local and emergency contacts, evacuation procedures etc.

The five residencies will take place between October 2022 and April 2023.

At completion writers will be required to complete an evaluation and provide information for media and promotion of their residency outcomes. We anticipate community engagement activities will take place during the Australian Heritage Festival running April to May 2023.

For further information please contact Ricky Arnold, Writer in Residence Program Coordinator, by email: writers@ntwa.com.au

The National Trust of Western Australia

Mission

To connect communities to the value of Western Australia's diverse natural and cultural heritage

Vision

To be recognised as leaders in engaging communities with the value of Western Australia's heritage to ensure its protection for future generations

Impact and value proposition

The Western Australian community values and conserves its natural, Aboriginal and historic heritage for the well-being of current and future generations

In partnership with the community and government the National Trust promotes awareness and understanding, encourages participation, actively champions protection, and leverages the economic and social value of Western Australia's heritage.

Values

Excellence
Collaboration
Innovation
Courage
Integrity
Respect

Beneficiaries

The National Trust carries out its activities for the benefit of all Western Australians.

Goals

1. National Trust will be recognised as a major voice in heritage
2. Look after our places, collections and natural landscapes to give them a sustainable future
3. Evolve compelling and immersive heritage experiences
4. Grow support
5. An inclusive, welcoming and sustainable organisation

Acknowledgement of Country

The National Trust of Western Australia acknowledges its properties are situated on Aboriginal land across the state.

The National Trust recognises Aboriginal people remain the cultural and spiritual custodians of their land and continue to practise their values, languages, beliefs and knowledge.

The National Trust is committed to working with Aboriginal people to ensure these practices are recognised and included in the conservation and interpretation of its properties and Aboriginal people are consulted and involved in the development of National Trust projects and programs.

Writing Sector Review Final Recommendations

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Writing Sector Review was conducted in 2017. It examined the challenges, strengths, opportunities, potential strategies and future directions for the writing sector in Western Australia.

See the final recommendations: dlgsc.wa.gov.au/department/publications/publication/writing-sector-review-final-recommendations-2017