

LITERATURE RESIDENCIES IN ASIA

www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/artsresidencies

Applications open 1 July and close Friday 4 September 2009.
For enquiries phone (03) 8344 3581 or email n.low@asialink.unimelb.edu.au

Asialink residencies are available in:

- **Arts Management**
- **Literature**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Visual Arts**

Asialink at The University of Melbourne invites applications from writers to spend an extended period working in an Asian country.

Up to ten residencies will be offered.

This program is an ongoing partnership with the Australia Council, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body, and is supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and various State and Territory arts funding bodies. This support extends the number and scope of residencies available.

Since the program's inception, Asialink has sent more than 500 residents to over 300 hosts in Asia. Residencies have taken place in 19 countries, including Bhutan, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong), East Timor, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Aim

The aim of this program is to broaden the experiences available to Australians in the Asian region, to develop projects related to the host country and to encourage on-going involvement between Australian and Asian writers and literary organisations. The residencies are a professional development opportunity for Australian arts practitioners and also act to foster bilateral relationships in the region.

Eligibility

Residencies are open to all writers who are Australian citizens or have Permanent Residency status and who are able to demonstrate a proven record of professional activity over at least three years. Residencies are open to writers of fiction, non-fiction (biography, history, travel writing, essays), children's books, poetry and plays. Illustrators of children's books are also eligible to apply. Residencies are not for academic research or study, and students enrolled in tertiary institutions are not eligible to apply. Former Asialink residents are eligible to reapply four years following their initial selection - eg a resident in 2006 or earlier can reapply this year for 2010.

Expectations

Asialink residencies are professional development opportunities rather than specific project grants. Project-based applications need to be embedded in a professional development framework. Each resident is offered a specific amount of funding and initial contacts in the host country. It is then up to the individual to make as much of the experience as possible and to plan and manage their own program. Key attributes are the ability to cope with sometimes unusual or difficult situations, and to work successfully in a challenging environment while maintaining good working relationships.

The resident's interest in the host country and an understanding of its customs and cultures are important. Researching the country of interest is essential and language skills are an advantage. It is recommended that successful applicants undertake language lessons prior to departure and in-country.

The resident will be expected to do their own work based on their application, undertake specific tasks or projects for the host organisation, network widely to ensure a long term impact from the residency, and to make a contribution to the host and community. This could include taking part in workshops and seminars, and giving talks on Australian writing and culture and their own work.

There is a different idea about working space in Asia - ie discrete space for an individual is not assumed and resources, such as computers, can be scarce. It is hoped that a working space of some sort be available but this is not guaranteed.

The resident is encouraged to generate and participate in publicity in the form of interviews and articles both overseas and in Australia. They may also be required to provide images or talk at forums to promote the program on their return.

Funding

A travel grant of up to \$12,000 is provided to each resident to assist with airfares, accommodation, living expenses, materials and production costs. While residencies are for three to four months, there is flexibility to undertake a shorter residency (minimum two months) with pro-rata funding. Please clarify why you prefer a shorter residency in your statement.

Once selected it is the resident's responsibility to maintain their own budget and contribute funds if necessary. An amount of up to \$2,000 or more may be required. Asialink's grant can only be used for expenses directly related to the residency and are not for expenditure incurred in the resident's absence - eg rent or mortgage repayments. The grant is not considered a salary or a fee. On completion of the residency, the resident must provide a report in the requested format, financial acquittal and return unexpended funding.

Timing

The timing of the residency is flexible but will need to be negotiated with the host organisation, bearing in mind semester times in the case of teaching institutions, and extremes of temperature. It is a funding requirement that the residency be undertaken in 2010. Residencies are not transferable from year to year so please do not apply if you think you might not be available. Be aware that some hosts have timing specifications - see attached host listing.

Personal Safety

Residents are responsible for their own safety and must obtain property and health insurance cover for the duration of the residency. We advise that residents consult the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website (www.smartraveller.gov.au) about conditions in their host country prior to departure and check official travel advisories throughout their stay. Residents should take all due precautions while overseas and consider returning home or delaying visits if necessary, based on official advice.

Collaborative Residencies

Asialink also invites collaborative residencies across or within art forms. Applicants can either submit a joint application to share one residency grant or submit individual applications, referencing the application of their collaborator. Collaborators submitting individual applications should be aware that only one may be selected, and therefore the residency should also be practicable as a solo experience. For collaborators submitting a single application, you should submit one joint application statement but individual CVs and support material. Applicants must discuss collaborative proposals with Asialink staff prior to application.

Accommodation

While organising accommodation is the responsibility of the resident, where possible assistance will be provided by the host organisation and Asialink staff. Family members can travel with the resident at their own expense as long as the expectations of the residency are fulfilled. However, please note that some hosts do not accommodate families.

Hosts

Applicants have two options with regard to selecting hosts:

1. Select from the hosts listed here. Asialink host organisations include university literature or Australian studies departments, philanthropic estates, publishers, arts and literature organisations and grassroots/community-based projects. Please note that although we provide web links to listed host organisations to help you make your choice, you should not contact these hosts directly until the selection process has been finalised.

Applications can be made for one or more hosts and there is space on the cover page for two preferences. If you apply for more than one host you may wish to give individual reasons for your preferences within your statement, but you need only send one application. Any special conditions or experience should be mentioned in your statement.

2. Propose a self-initiated host. Applicants need to make individual contact with these self-initiated hosts and we require a letter of support or invitation from the proposed host institution attached to their application. Applications are ineligible without this letter. A host briefing document is available for download on the Asialink website to assist with introducing the program to your host. Applicants should discuss self-initiated proposals with staff prior to application.

Literature Hosts offered by Asialink

(NOTE: you also have the option of proposing your own host)

CAMBODIA

Nou Hach Literary Association - Phnom Penh

Nou Hach Literary Association is a volunteer-run, grassroots hub for creative writers of all disciplines. The office, housed in the historic Buddhist Institute, provides a simple space for writers to meet, volunteer, learn new skills and work on their writing in a supportive and free-thinking environment. The Association is at the forefront of the fledgling independent literature scene in Cambodia and holds creative writing classes, produces the country's only literature journal, runs radio programmes and organises writing events, performances, seminars and workshops throughout the country. The Association welcomes writers and editors from Australia especially in March - July, when writing festivals and seminars are run and the journal goes into production.

www.nouhachjournal.net

CHINA

The Bookworm - Beijing, Chengdu, Suzhou

The Bookworm is a bookshop, library, bar, restaurant and events centre. The Bookworm offers one month residencies in each of their three China locations. Writers will be invited to give workshops and book talks in Beijing, Chengdu and Suzhou, and to meet local and international writers based in each city, whilst exploring three diverse regions of China. The Bookworm will provide accommodation and domestic air transport between their three locations. They particularly welcome writers whose work involves a specific focus on China, and who are willing to engage with various sectors of the community. Proposals for shorter residencies, or residency periods spent at one or two of The Bookworm locations for longer periods are also invited. www.chinabookworm.com

University of Macau - Macau

The English Department at the University of Macau has a residency for visiting authors and is able to provide office space, computer access and on-campus accommodation. Timing should ideally be during first semester from September – December, a period including the most favourable weather conditions. The writer-in-residence will be expected to give a lecture and / or reading at the University and will have the opportunity to work with a growing body of poetry translators and creative writing students. www.umac.mo

Peking University - Beijing

The Australian Studies Centre at Peking University is keen to host writers who will be able to discuss and give occasional talks on aspects of Australian literature and culture with students and staff. The Centre's staff can provide introductions to local writers and there may be some English teaching opportunities in either the spring or autumn semester which lasts 18-20 weeks. www.pku.edu.cn

INDIA

Himachal Pradesh University (HPU) - Shimla

HPU is located in Shimla, the former British Colonial summer capital, and this cool, quiet hill station is ideal for academic, intellectual and creative pursuits. The Centre for Australian Studies at HPU offers options in Australian literature from Masters to Doctoral level and would provide a resident with office space, computer access, assistance with accommodation, and networking with scholars, artists and writers within HPU, the nearby Indian Institute of Advanced Study, and further afield. The Centre would welcome some classes / lectures for students and research scholars, and could assist in organising lectures, interviews and workshops. Preferred residency period is between March and November.

www.hpuniv.nic.in

University of Madras - Chennai

The Department of English, University of Madras, has a strong Australian Studies program and has been hosting Australian writers and academics since 1999. The Department is happy to host writers and can help arrange professional and creative contacts, an excellent work space, and opportunities to present and discuss recent work. The Australian Studies course runs in the January to April semester and this is the preferred time for a residency. www.unom.ac.in

JAPAN

Aichi Shukutoku University - Nagoya

Aichi Shukutoku University's Graduate School of Global Culture and Communication is located in Nagoya in central Japan, one hour from Kyoto and Osaka and two hours from Tokyo. Studies at the interdisciplinary graduate school focus on creative writing, translation, film and literature, and global philanthropy, particularly NGO activities in Asia. The graduate school welcomes a writer willing to give readings to students and discuss their work in special lectures. Office space and computer access are available and, with notice, comfortable accommodation can be arranged. This residency will offer a place for research and writing, and interaction with the student body and community. www.aasa.ac.jp

KOREA

The Korea Literature Translation Institute (LTI Korea) - Seoul

LTI Korea promotes the understanding of Korean literature throughout the world, supports the translation and publication of Korean literature in foreign languages, and organises various forms of international exchange. LTI Korea would like to host Australian writers between June and November, and will provide diverse opportunities to meet Korean writers as well as international writers and publishers participating in other exchange programs. LTI Korea will offer a place for research as well as writing and a resident will be able to assist with translation of Korean literature to English (Korean language skills not required). The Institute will try their best to arrange accommodation in Seoul, but the resident may need to secure their own. www.klti.or.kr

PHILIPPINES

De La Salle University's Bienvenido Santos Writing Centre - Manila

Manila has a vibrant literary scene with a number of excellent writing centres including De La Salle University's Bienvenido Santos Writing Centre. The centre offers a wide range of activities and will involve the resident in workshops and readings as well as introductions to the broader literary community. www.dlsu.edu.ph/research/centers/bnscwc

VIETNAM

The Gioi - Hanoi

The Gioi (World) publishes a wide range of materials to introduce different aspects of Vietnam to foreign readers, including culture, history, economics and religion. Located in central Hanoi, The Gioi is an ideal place from which one can engage in and learn about local culture and history. Many of The Gioi's publications are translations from Vietnamese into English, which require high quality editing by native English-speaking writers. The Gioi would welcome some voluntary work assistance with their publications, and offers the chance to experience publishing in Vietnam. The Gioi will also provide personal working space, internet access, and the chance to establish local contacts.

www.thegioipublishers.com.vn

Application Details

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2009. Applications must be postmarked on or before this day. No late applications will be considered. No email or faxed applications will be accepted.

Criteria for selection:

- The quality of work as demonstrated by the sample provided
- The intended objectives and/or project for the residency
- Relevant professional experience
- The ability to carry out the residency and to fulfil the Expectations detailed on page 1
- Relevance of proposed host(s) to your objectives/project
- Potential to apply benefits of residency to Australia
- Previous experience in or commitment to working with Asia

Your application should include (in the following order):

- A cover page (1 page - see attached sheet)
- A short (1 page, point size 11, 550 word limit) statement on why you would find such a residency valuable and what you hope to achieve. Your application **MUST** address the selection criteria. Please note here if you have any other funding applications for this project currently pending or approved
- A CV (no more than 2 pages)
- Applicants who propose a self-initiated host must provide a letter of support from the host organisation. Support letter requirement: 1 page letter on letterhead, dated, to include a 500 word description of the host organisation, an agreement to host the applicant and an outline of the applicant's role and activities. Your host can fax you this letter if needed, however it must be submitted with your main application. No late support letters will be accepted
- Applicants who select Asialink hosts do **NOT** need a support letter
- Please note support material will not be returned

Support material (please label):

- Please submit a sample of work in the form of: a published short story; a chapter from a published work; a chapter from a work in progress; an act from a play or script; six published poems; and/or two published essays. Please limit the sample to a maximum of 15 A4 pages

Please note:

- Extra material (e.g. budget) is not required at this stage
- Because your application will be photocopied and sent to the members of the selection committee and relevant funding bodies, please use plain white A4 paper and do not bind or staple pages

Selection Process:

Applications will be assessed in November by the Asialink Literature Advisory Committee, which includes writers, publishers, editors, academics, industry personnel and a representative from the Australia Council. It is hoped that applicants will be advised on the final selection in December.

Enquiries should be directed to:

Nic Low (Wed - Fri)
Tel: (03) 8344 3581 Fax: (03) 9347 1768
n.low@asialink.unimelb.edu.au
www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/artsresidencies

Applications should be sent to:

Literature Residency Program
Asialink Centre
The University of Melbourne
VIC 3010

The Asialink Residency Program is supported by The Australia Council for the Arts, Arts Victoria, Arts Queensland, artsACT, WA Department of Culture and the Arts, Arts NT, Arts SA, Arts Tasmania, Arts NSW, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, through the Australia-Indonesia Institute, Australia-Japan Foundation, Australia-India Council, Australia-China Council, the Australia-Thailand Institute and the Australia-Malaysia Institute.



APPLICATION FORM

Program category (please select 1 only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts Management <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts		
Title/First Name			Surname
Address			
State			Postcode
Postal address <small>(if different to home address)</small>			
Phone			Mobile
Email			
Art practice/genre			
Length of residency	_____ weeks	Date of birth ___/___/___	Age _____ years
Asian language skills	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Language(s) _____ Proficiency _____	
Do you have Australian citizenship or Permanent Residency?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	NB: if NO you are ineligible to apply	
Host organisations in countries of interest <small>(in order of preference if applicable)</small>	1. Host	Country	
	2. Host	Country	
Type of support material			

How did you hear about Asialink's Arts Residency Program?

- Print advertisement
 E-bulletin / e-mail

- Web site
 Word of mouth

Office use only

