

24 August, 2021

Twelve weeks writing in Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is seeking established writers for a unique Tasmanian residency.

Applications are open for the second Hedberg Writer in Residence program, with the prize open to all established fiction or non-fiction writers resident in Australia.

The residency is offered by the College of Arts, Law and Education and the School of Humanities at the University of Tasmania, with support from the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund.

The Hedberg Writer-in-Residence Program began in January 2021 with the inaugural winner being Tasmanian author Robbie Arnott.

"I was consistently impressed with the facilities and capabilities of the University, and I was touched by the friendliness, consideration and thoroughness of the University's staff throughout the three months of my residency. As a result, I achieved everything I set out to: to (hopefully) assist other writers and students, to immerse myself in literary life on campus, and to finish my book," Arnott said.

Dr Robert Clarke, the coordinator of the program and Senior Lecturer in English in the School of Humanities, said the program enabled established writers to develop and share major new work and reach new audiences.

"The inaugural residency was wonderfully successful. Not only did our resident writer have an opportunity to complete the manuscript of his next novel, but Robbie Arnott was incredibly generous in skills, advice, and experience to our creative writing students, as well as to emerging Tasmanian authors and the broader Tasmanian creative community," Dr Clarke said.

The successful applicant receives \$30,000 and is able to devote three months to writing in a quiet but stimulating environment on one of the University of Tasmania campuses. The program aims, through workshops and mentoring sessions conducted by the successful applicant, to give young and upcoming writing students skills and experience that will have a practical and lasting impact. Events connected to the residency will take place in the north and south of the State.

Dr Clarke said it was hoped the residency would contribute to the expansion of the University's popular and successful creative writing program.

The Tasmanian public will also be invited to events with the writer. "We get a great deal of satisfaction from being able to support our local literary culture in this way," Dr Clarke said.

Applications are open until 5pm on November 8, 2021, with the residency being undertaken in the first half of 2022. Eligible writers will need to have had one substantial work published by a recognised publishing house.

For more information and to apply for the program [visit our website](#) or contact [Dr Robert Clarke](#).

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