

Writers in Residence in Libraries Mini-Grant

Program Overview

The Writers in Residence program promotes writing in communities by connecting local, professional authors to serve as Writers in Residence at public libraries.

Writers in Residence spend time at the library during their residency composing new works and providing education for community members. The Arizona State Library's Writer in Residence Mini-Grant program provides funds for stipends and marketing for two (2) writer's residencies, each for a three-month period.

Applying libraries will select two authors, one for a residency from February-April and a second for May-July. Recipient libraries will receive a grant \$4,800 for writers' stipends, which is set at \$800 per month.

Important Dates	
Grant Application Due	November 13, 2020
First Residency	February 1, 2021 - April 30, 2021
Second Residency	May 3, 2021 - July 31, 2021
Final Report Due	August 27, 2021

Applications for the Grant program are due at **11:59 PM, November 13, 2020.**

Recipients of the grant will be responsible for evaluating the program according to IMLS guidelines and will be required to submit a final report for the program by August 27, 2021.

Structure of the Program in a Typical Year

The Arizona State Library's Writer in Residence Mini-Grant program provides funds for stipends and marketing for two (2) writer's residencies, each for a three-month period. Applying libraries will select two authors, one for a residency from February-April and a second for May-July. Recipient libraries will receive a grant \$4,800 for writers' stipends, which is set at \$800 per month.

During each residency, the library provides a designated space for the resident to work and research during their time there, such as a study or meeting room. Residents are asked to spend 16 hours per week in the library. Included in these 16 hours are consultation hours and public programming time. During consultation hours, patrons can book a 30 minute individual appointment with the Writer in Residence to discuss their writing. Public programming can take the form of workshops, readings, write-ins, or other writing activities that are open to the public and designed for groups, and can be determined by the applying library and author. Writers in Residence are required to provide 4 consultation hours per week, and 2 public programs per month (hours flexible). The remainder of the 16 hours is the writer's, to be spent on their own work.

Structure of the Program During the Pandemic

If your library cannot provide a designated space for the resident or public programming, the writer may still receive a stipend for providing virtual programs and consultation. Your application may reflect a hybrid approach to the project that starts with virtual activities then switches to in-person programs when feasible. The writer is still required to provide consultation and public programs, either in-person, virtually or in combination. Please specify in your application the number of hours that will be dedicated to those activities each week.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be an Arizona public or tribal library that meets the eligibility requirements to receive LSTA funds. Please see the 2021 grant guidelines on <https://azlibrary.gov/libdev/funding/lsta>.

Applicants must provide letters of support from two authors agreeing to participate in the library residency with the time and teaching requirements at the pay rate listed above.

Applicants must complete the online application by **11:59 PM on November 13, 2020.**

A Certification of Application must be sent in by mail and **postmarked by November 13, 2020.**

Review Criteria

Applications for the Writer in Residence Mini-Grant will be reviewed based on the writing and teaching experience writers selected, the library's capacity to execute the program, and overall community impact.

Strong Applications will include:

- Writers with a strong publishing track record, demonstrated teaching experience, and the ability to work with patrons of diverse skill levels and backgrounds.
- A library with sufficient space to host a writer for an extended period and previous experience hosting writing programs, author visits, or other creative programming events.
- Programming design that is innovative, promotes writing, supports connection between writers in the community, and meets the needs or aspirations of the target audience.

Further Information

Got questions? Check out this [informational webinar](#). A former Library Development staff member and two previous Writers in Residence discuss how the program has run in the past, how to approach authors about being a Writer in Residence, how to set your program up for success, and answer your questions.

For questions not covered here or in the webinar, contact Jaime Ball at jball@azlibrary.gov or 602-542-6266.

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