

**COVE  
PARK**



**Comhairle nan  
Leabhraichean**  
The Gaelic Books Council

## **YOUNG GAELIC WRITER RESIDENCY**

A Collaboration Between

Cove Park / Pàirc na Camais and

Comhairle nan Leabhraichean / The Gaelic Books Council

**Residency Dates: Monday 4 September - Sunday 17 September 2023**

**Deadline for Applications: Monday 26 June 2023 (by noon)**



Photography by Alan Dimmick

### **PROGRAMME INFORMATION & APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

#### **Opportunity Overview**

Now in its second year, the Young Gaelic Writer Residency is a fully funded residency for Gaelic writers aged between 18 and 30. This two-week residency will take place from Monday 4 September to Sunday 17 September 2023, and the resident will receive a fee, a travel and research allowance, and one-to-one bespoke mentoring with an established Gaelic writer. The deadline for applications is Monday 26 June 2023 (by noon).

#### **Introduction**

Cove Park is an international residency located on an outstanding 50-acre rural site on Scotland's west coast, just one hour north of Glasgow. Over its 23-year history Cove Park has hosted approximately 4,000 local, national, and international artists, creative practitioners, writers, and researchers, working in all art forms and at every career stage.

We support artists and collaborative groups by offering the time and support required for research, experimentation, the production of new work, and peer-to-peer exchange. Cove Park creates a stimulating context in which new ideas can be developed, tested, and shared. Our aim is to play a vital and dynamic role in our nation's cultural life, making possible innovative creative work, facilitating cultural exchange, and enriching the lives of the communities we serve.



Photography by Alex Marrs



Photography by Alan Dimmick

Overlooking Loch Long on Argyll's Rosneath peninsula, Cove Park's site was formerly a conservation park. It comprises partially managed woodland, ponds, and fields for grazing sheep and Highland cows. The facilities include nine shipping containers - recycled and converted into private accommodation and studios - and two oak-framed buildings ideal for those working in collaboration or families. The Jacobs Building opened in 2016 and is an award-winning, purpose-built communal space, providing workspace, rooms for public events, a library, open-plan kitchen and dining area, and offices, plus two adjacent units of accommodation and studios.

Please see <http://www.covepark.org/> for further information on our current programme, images of Cove Park's site and facilities. Our [FAQ](#) page answers general questions on Cove Park's residencies and access.



Photography by Tracey Bloxham/Inside Story Photography



Photography by Tracey Bloxham/Inside Story Photography

Comhairle nan Leabhraichean / The Gaelic Books Council is the lead organisation in Scotland supporting Gaelic writers and publishers through a programme of grants and writer development opportunities. Established in 1968, the organisation is now a limited company and a registered charity and receives regular funding from Creative Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. From its base in Glasgow, Comhairle nan Leabhraichean runs a bookshop that supplies Gaelic books to customers worldwide, organises author events and children's reading sessions, and works in partnership with other organisations on a range of initiatives to encourage people to enjoy Gaelic literature. Please visit <https://www.gaelicbooks.org/> for further information.

## Young Gaelic Writer Residency

This residency is funded by Comhairle nan Leabhraichean and developed in collaboration with Cove Park.

### Key Points

- The residency at Cove Park will take place from Monday 4 September - Sunday 17 September 2023.
- The Writer will receive a total residency fee of £900 (£450 per week), plus a travel allowance of up to £300 and a research allowance of up to £200.
- The Writer will be allocated four sessions of one-to-one mentoring with an established Gaelic writer. The fees for this are covered by the project.
- The residency will include one event at Cove Park during the second week, the form and scope of which will be agreed upon by the Writer, Cove Park and Comhairle nan Leabhraichean.
- The residencies are designed to support the development of new work, research, and experimentation.
- Cove Park's team will support research and practical requirements leading up to and during the residency.

### What Cove Park Provides

- Individual private accommodation/workspace on site at Cove Park.
- Workspace and meeting space within the communal Jacobs Building, which also houses a library, a large rehearsal room with a wooden floor, open-plan kitchen and dining area, and laundry facilities.
- Unlimited access to the 50-acre site.

### Who Can Apply, How to Apply, Shortlisting and Appointment Process

To be eligible to apply you must be a Gaelic writer based in Scotland between the ages of 18 and 30.

**Applications can be submitted via the online [Application Form](#).**

The Application Form must include:

- Your name and contact details.
- A statement in Gaelic (no more than 500 words) briefly describing your current work and the reasons for your interest in this residency and mentoring opportunity.
- Your CV, including the names and contact details of two professional referees, from a teacher, tutor, or employer, for example (please note we will only contact your referees if your application is shortlisted for interview).
- A list of the samples of work provided.

Please upload the following documentation or accompanying material within the Application Form:

- Prose, no more than 500 words (no more than 2 pages). Poetry, up to 4 poems (no more than 4 pages). You may submit some English prose or poems as an example of your work, but please ensure that at least 50% of your accompanying material is written in Gaelic.

We can accept submissions in audio or video formats if this is preferable to a written application. If you consider yourself to have a disability, please tell us if there are any reasonable adjustments to the application process that would be of assistance to you. If you would like to discuss this, or need help making your application, please contact Cove Park's Programmes & Communications Producer [Alex Marrs](#) directly.

**Selection for interview will be based on the following criteria:**

- The quality of your ideas and work.
- Your need for an extended period of research and development, and your reasons for applying to this programme.
- Your interest in working within a community of artists.

**Deadline for applications: Monday 26 June 2023 (by noon)**

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as it is received. This acknowledgement will include a link to our anonymous Equality, Diversity & Inclusion monitoring form for completion and we would be grateful for your time with this. If you do not receive this acknowledgement, please contact Cove Park directly to confirm receipt of your application.

The applications will be short-listed for interview jointly by Cove Park and Comhairle nan Leabhraichean. All applicants will be notified if their submission has been shortlisted for interview by Friday 30 June 2023. Interviews will take place via Zoom during the week of Monday 3 July 2023. The interview panel will include members of the Cove Park and Comhairle nan Leabhraicheanteams.

### **Cove Park Community Ethics**

Cove Park aims to provide a safe and positive environment for everyone, and to actively dismantle discrimination based on race, national or ethnic background, skin colour, citizenship status, hair texture and hairstyle, sex, sexual orientation, gender(s), gender expression, age, religion or belief, language, ability, neurodiversity, physical and mental health, socio-economic status, educational background, pregnancy or parental status, marriage or civil partnership status, immigration status, and cultural markings and/or tattoos due to religious rituals from pre-colonial cultural practices. As language, terms, and expressions inevitably evolve, Cove Park is committed to reviewing this statement regularly - and as often as it becomes appropriate - with our local, national and international communities.

## **Data Protection**

Please note, we will store applications electronically for one year. The data contained within your application will not be used for any purpose other than short-listing, running, and evaluating the programme. We will not share your details with any third parties without obtaining permission from you to do so.

We would prefer not to receive applications by post. However, if you would like to submit supplementary material, such as catalogues, with your application please post these to the address below. If you would like this material to be returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

### **Young Gaelic Writer Residency 2023**

**Cove Park, Peaton Hill, Cove, Argyll and Bute, Scotland, G84 0PE**

#### **For further information please contact:**

Alex Marrs, Programmes & Communications Producer

01436 850500

[alex@covepark.org](mailto:alex@covepark.org)

[www.covepark.org](http://www.covepark.org)