

COVE PARK

Creative Residencies for Carers 2024

Residency Dates: Monday 18 March - Saturday 23 March 2024

Deadline for Applications: Monday 4 December 2023



RESIDENCY INFORMATION & APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Residency Overview

Creative Residencies for Carers is a new Cove Park programme offering short, five-night residencies for unpaid adult carers living in Scotland. Five residency places are available and the residencies will all take place at Cove Park from Monday 18 March to Saturday 23 March 2024.

This programme is supported by the Short Breaks Fund operated by Shared Care Scotland. It aligns with the aims, objectives, and requirements of this Fund by offering carers respite and supported time to focus upon their own wellbeing.

Based in Argyll on Scotland's west coast (just over one hour from Glasgow), Cove Park is an international residency for artists working in all art forms and at every career stage. Inkeeping with Cove Park's wider programme, Creative Residencies for Carers will focus upon creativity and the benefits of creative activity for wellbeing and personal development.

Those taking part will have the opportunity to meet and share experiences with other carers and artists, and participate in informal group workshops and events. The programme also offers unstructured time during which the residents can develop their own work and creative projects, read, experiment in the studio, and explore Cove Park's outstanding 50-acre rural site overlooking Loch Long. The programme aims to help carers to reconnect with creative activity and pursue their own artistic and cultural interests.

Who Can Apply for the Residencies

The residencies are aimed at unpaid adult carers based in Scotland who may be working, or have worked, as artists and creative practitioners, but aren't now able to develop their own creative practice, careers, or interests due to their caring commitments. Those who have worked in the wider cultural or arts education sector are also eligible to apply. We are also happy to receive applications from those who have not had a formal training in the arts, but have participated in creative activity regularly, or organised creative activity for others, perhaps within community organisations and groups.

You are also welcome to apply if you are working part-time and juggling paid work with unpaid caring, or you are a parent carer (an adult providing care to a child for whom they have parental responsibility with additional support needs due to a longterm illness, disability, or neurodivergence).

In addition, former carers - those that used to provide unpaid care for a family member, friend, or neighbour and no longer do so because of a bereavement or because the person being cared for has moved into a care home - are eligible to apply.

Your practice, experience, or interests may include, but are not limited to, visual arts, theatre, dance and choreography, music, composition, poetry, creative writing, songwriting, craft, design, architecture, cultural heritage, arts education.

If you have any questions concerning your eligibility to apply, please contact Cove Park's Programmes & Communication Producer Alex Marrs (contact details given on the last page).



Introduction to Cove Park

Established as a charity in 1999, Cove Park is a residency based in Argyll on the west coast of Scotland. Cove Park hosts national and international artists, cultural producers and researchers working in all disciplines and at every career stage. We provide the facilities, support, and care required for the development of new ideas and projects, for collaborative work, and interdisciplinary practice. Residents stay on site in private accommodation and have access to private studios, communal work and meeting space, a library, and Cove Park's 50-acre rural site. We can host up to 12 individual residents at any one time.

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

Summary of Key Information

- This is a five-night residency which will begin on Monday 18 March 2024. The final full day of the residency will be Friday 23 March 2024. Residents are welcome to stay on site until noon on Saturday 24 March 2024.
- This programme is for unpaid carers aged 18 years and over, who look after a friend or family member. As this is a residential opportunity, it is appropriate for those who are not the sole carer and have support in place to care for the friend or family member for the duration of this residency.
- Former unpaid carers may also apply.
- One facilitated group workshop and one trip (to a local National Trust for Scotland organisation, garden, or cultural venue) will be organised in response to the interests and specialisms of the residents.
- Although Cove Park's residencies are self-catering, two group dinners will be provided by Cove Park.
- No public presentation is required as part of this residency. This opportunity is designed to be stress free and without the pressures of a deadline or the requirement to complete or present a final work.

What Cove Park Provides

- Individual private accommodation (with private shower room and mini kitchen) on site at Cove Park.*
- Workspace and meeting space within Cove Park's communal Jacobs Building, an award-winning space which also houses a library, workspace, open-plan kitchen and dining area, a communal larder, and laundry facilities.
- Private studios for those with studio-based practices.
- Wi-fi in the Jacobs Building and in all units of accommodation and studios.
- Unlimited access to the 50-acre site.
- One free artist-led facilitated workshop and two group dinners.
- Free travel and ticket entry as part of the trip.
- A stipend payable to each resident of £450 (to cover expenses, including travel to and from Cove Park. Accommodation, workspace, workshops, and the trip (including travel and entry ticket) is provided free of charge.

** Please note, in this first pilot residency for carers, Cove Park can only accommodate the carer themselves, and not the person/s being cared for, a collaborator, partner, or the carer's family.*



How to Apply and How the Residencies will be Awarded

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

We are happy to supply hard copies of this document and to receive applications in hard copy if preferred. Applications can be posted to the address at the bottom of this document.

We can accept applications in audio or video formats if this is preferable to a written application. If you 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 directly.

The Application Form should include:

- Your full name and contact details.
- Confirmation that you are an unpaid carer.
- A brief statement (no more than 500 words) describing your creative work and the reasons for your interest in this residency.

In addition, you may submit examples of your creative work. This could include:

- Up to 6 images
- Film or video work submitted on a showreel (maximum duration 5 minutes) uploaded to Youtube or Vimeo (please include the link in the application letter).
- Audio work (maximum duration 5 minutes) should be uploaded to Soundcloud, with the link provided in the application letter.
- Prose, no more than 1000 words (no more than 4 pages)
- Stage play or film script (no more than 1000 words)
- Poetry, up to 4 poems (no more than 4 pages)

This opportunity is open to those who may have been unable to work for some time due to their caring commitments, and to those who are just establishing or reconnecting with a creative practice or career, and therefore we are not asking for a full CV or expecting more than a small sample of your creative work.

The applications will be shortlisted by team members at Cove Park and advisors to our programme. Those shortlisted will be invited to an informal interview on Zoom with two member of Cove Park's team, and the opportunity to discuss your application and interest in this residency.

The shortlisting process and invitations to interview will be based upon:

- Your commitment to your creative work and your need for a residency for this kind.
- Your interest in working within a community of artists and your understanding of the benefits you will gain from this.
- We will prioritise applicants who have not accessed this kind of opportunity before.

Deadline for applications: Monday 4 December 2023 (by 6pm)

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 by representatives from Cove Park with support from programme advisors.

All applicants will be notified if their submission has been shortlisted for an informal interview by Wednesday 10 January 2024.

Informal interviews will take place via Zoom during the week of Monday 15 January 2024. The interview panel will include representatives from Cove Park's team and Programme Advisors.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Cove Park strives for our residencies, programmes and resources to be open, inclusive and welcoming to all. We continue to assess how we work towards achieving greater equality and representation within all levels of our organisation and across all programmes.

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, size, 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 also 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.

Personal Data

Please note, Cove Park 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 can supply hard copies of the application form upon request and can receive written applications and supplementary material by post to the address below. If you would like this material to be returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Alex Marrs

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

For further information please contact:

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