



YOUNG GAELIC WRITER RESIDENCY

A Collaboration Between
Cove Park / Pàirc na Camais and
Comhairle nan Leabhraichean / The Gaelic Books Council

Residency Dates: Monday 27 October - Monday 10 November 2025

Deadline for Applications: Friday 25 July (5pm BST)



Photography by Alan Dimmick

PROGRAMME INFORMATION & APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Opportunity Overview

Now in its third edition, 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 27 October to Monday 10 November 2025, and the resident will receive a fee plus travel and research allowance. The deadline for applications is Friday 25 July by 5pm BST.

Introduction

Cove Park is an international residency based on an outstanding 50-acre rural site in Argyll on Scotland's west coast. Our programme of residencies, commissions, and collaborative projects respond to and promote the diversity of contemporary artistic practice. We support artists, creative practitioners, and researchers to develop and produce ambitious, innovative, and ground-breaking new work for audiences and participants across Scotland and beyond.

Cove Park's residencies are unique in the UK. From our launch in 2000, our programme was conceived for local, national, and international artists working individually and in collaboration in all art forms, and at every career stage. We remain the only residency in the UK to bring together at any one time, and consistently throughout the year, up to 14 individuals specialising in a wide range of disciplines. This means we can offer exceptional opportunities for interdisciplinary work and cultural exchange.



Photography by Alex Marrs



Photography by Tracey Bloxham

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 Ruth Clark



Photography by Tracey Bloxham

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 27 October to Monday 10 November 2025.
- The Writer will receive a total residency fee of £1,500 (£750 per week), plus a travel allowance of up to £300 and a research allowance of up to £200 paid directly by Comhairle nan Leabhraichean.
- 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 residency is 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.
- 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. Please let us know 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 Senior 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: Friday 25 July 2025 (5pm BST)

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as it is received. This acknowledgement will include a link to our anonymous Equalities, 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 8 August 2025. Interviews will take place via Zoom during the week of Monday 11 August 2025. The interview panel will include members of the Cove Park and Comhairle nan Leabhraicheanteams.

Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion

We want 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 age, disability, gender identity, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or parental status, race including skin colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Additionally, we aim to dismantle discrimination based on accent, educational background, gender expression, hair texture and hairstyle, immigration status, markings and/or tattoos connected to spiritual rituals from pre-colonial cultural practices, neurodiversity, physical and mental health, size, and socio-economic status or background. 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, 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 2025

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

For further information please contact:

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