



Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

Department of English & The Arts Council Writer in Residence 2024

The Role

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

The Arts Council and Maynooth University invite applications from mid-career and established writers for Writer in Residence for the calendar year 2024.

The Arts Council Writer in Residence programme was established to provide a stimulating environment for the resident writer, as well as to afford a degree of financial support to concentrate on their own practice. Additionally, the residency brings energy and dynamism to the university, and allows students and faculty to engage with a practicing writer for a concentrated period.

Principal Duties

The Writer in Residence will be engaged for the calendar year 2024 and will be situated in the Department of English in Maynooth University, with the opportunity to engage with the wider campus.

The residency will be divided into two parts:

1. From January to June 2024 the Writer in Residence will be supported to engage with students and staff. This programme of engagement will be designed by the resident writer, in consultation with the faculty of the university, and could include focused teaching, workshops, mentoring, public events or other activities which bring new energy to the creative writing programme.
2. The writer in residence will contribute 2-4 hours per week to the MA in Creative Writing and will hold additional office hours. Contact time with staff and students will be capped at 4 hours per week. The writer will not be expected to deliver core curriculum.
3. From July onwards, the writer will be supported to concentrate his or her own practice.



Eligible Candidates

The residency is open to **mid-career and established writers** working in prose fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, and children's fiction and poetry.

To be **eligible to apply**, applicants must:

- Be resident in the Republic of Ireland.
- Have a publishing track record in the areas of prose fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, graphic novels and/or children's fiction and poetry. Applications from writers who have not published in these areas will not be considered. Writers working exclusively as playwrights are not eligible for this residency.
- **Be mid-career or established writers.** For the purpose of the Arts Council residency programme, mid-career and established is defined by the Arts Council as writers and illustrators with a demonstrable publishing track record, having published at least one full collection, novel or picture book with an independent, recognised publisher.
- The residency is only open to writers who have not undertaken an Arts Council/university residency in 2023. This is to ensure that a range of artists can avail of these unique opportunities.
- In line with the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, the Arts Council is committed to ensuring that it takes positive policy measures to promote equality of opportunity for all those living in Ireland, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, civil or family status, religion, age, disability, race or membership of the Traveller Community. Furthermore, the Arts Council notes the ground of socioeconomic background as a further basis for which equality of opportunity must be guaranteed. The Arts Council therefore welcomes applications that are representative of the diversity of Irish society, including but not limited to any of the characteristics outlined above.

Making an Application

To make an application, writers should provide the following three documents:

1. A detailed proposal of 1-2 pages, which sets out how they would promise to engage with students, staff and the wider campus, and relevant experience to support this approach.
2. A one-page artist's statement, which describes how the residency could impact on the artist's practice.
3. A detailed CV, setting out artistic achievements and accomplishments. This should be no longer than 3 pages.

Assessment Process

Upon receipt of applications, the Arts Council and Maynooth University will determine the eligibility of applications.

Your application will be deemed ineligible, and will not go any further in the process, if any of the following is true:

1. You miss the application deadline.
2. You do not meet the eligibility requirements outlined above.



3. You do not submit the three required documents as outlined above.

Selection and Appointment

Following this, the Arts Council and Maynooth University will establish a selection committee, which will be made up of one representative from Maynooth University, one from the Arts Council and an external panellist with literary expertise. The selection committee will shortlist applicants based on the following criteria:

- artistic track record of applicant
- quality of idea/approach (referred to above), as outlined in the application, and the potential impact it could make on the relevant university department and university as a whole
- potential impact of residency on writer's own creative practice

A shortlist will be established (of no more than 4 writers).

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held in early December 2023
- Interviews will be held by video conference call
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board
- The panel will make the final decision based on the above criteria and decisions will be communicated in December 2023
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 1 January 2024.

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy comprises the Departments of Ancient Classics, English, History, Media, Music, Philosophy, and the Schools of Celtic Studies (Early Irish and Nua Ghaeilge) and the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (Chinese, French, German and Spanish). The role of the Faculty is to co-ordinate the academic activities of individual departments, to oversee the strategic development of departments and to support interdepartmental programmes. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines. The role of the Faculty is to co-ordinate the academic activities of individual departments, to oversee the strategic development of departments and to support interdepartmental programmes. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines, including the Arts and Humanities Institute.

The Department

Maynooth University Department of English has sixteen full-time staff members and offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses based on its internationally recognised research strengths in Anglophone and other literatures from the early modern period to the present day. The study of Anglophone literatures across the early modern and modern period has long been at the forefront of the mission of the Department. We aim to provide our students with an exciting and rewarding learning experience. Our internationally recognised lecturers are dedicated to allowing students to achieve their full potential as readers, writers, and critics, as well as citizens of a complex world. Our extensive suite of core and option modules in English and Anglophone literatures at the BA level are carefully designed to provide learners with the knowledges, competencies, and challenges of the discipline, as well as important transferable skills. At postgraduate level, the Department offers a taught MA programme,



“Literatures of Engagement”, dedicated to exploring literature’s place in the world, a taught MA programme in Creative Writing, as well as a structured PhD programme.

The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland’s only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 13,500 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University is now acknowledged to be one of the leading young universities in the world, and in 2022 ranked # 1 in Ireland in the latest Times Higher Education (THE) Best Young University Rankings. Maynooth University’s growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.

Maynooth’s unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University’s research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

Principles and Values

Maynooth University is committed to the following values:

- Scholarly rigour;
- Academic freedom;
- Integrity and ethical behaviour;
- Collegiality, transparency and trust;
- Equality, inclusiveness and social justice;
- Operational excellence, organisational flexibility and responsiveness;
- Dignity, respect and care for the individual.

Strategy 2018 - 2022

The University’s Strategic Plan 2018-22 builds from a position of confidence. Maynooth University is a University with ambition, vision and values, a clear identity and sense of purpose, a history of achievement, and a future of considerable promise. The Strategy builds on the University’s accomplishments and concentrates institutional energy and resources on further development of research and postgraduate education.



For more information please visit <http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/about-us/university-strategic-plan>

Data Protection Law

Maynooth University will process any personal data provided by you in connection with an application for this role in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Acts 2018.

If your application is successful and you accept an offer of employment at Maynooth University, then your personal data will continue to be processed in accordance with Maynooth University's Staff Data Privacy Notice.

Both the privacy notices and further information relating to data protection, including Maynooth University's other data protection policies and processes, can be viewed at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection>

Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University values the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seeks to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#). Additionally, as an [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) Institute, we are committed to advancing gender equality across the University.

We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals, in particular from people underrepresented in our workforce.

Terms and Conditions

The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.

Fee

The fee to the Writer in Residence is €30,000, with the Arts Council contributing €20,000 and the university €10,000. Maynooth University will provide the Writer in Residence with a dedicated space, where they can conduct their own creative practice, within the university. Maynooth University will also support the residency administratively.

The entire fee will be paid to the writer directly by the Arts Council. It will be paid in two instalments, with a final report by the writer at the conclusion of the residency.

Closing Date:

17:30hrs (local Irish time) on **Thursday 9th November 2023**.



Please note all applications must be made via our **Online Recruitment Portal** at the following link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies>

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer.

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University.

