

Call for writers and literary translators:

Vil·la Joana Writing Residency.

2023 Programme: UNESCO Barcelona City of Literature

Barcelona was awarded City of Literature status by UNESCO in December 2015.

The UNESCO Cities of Literature programme works to make literature an engine of development and progress for cities. The exchange of innovative projects and good practices, as well as the collaboration between cities, are an opportunity to learn new ways of disseminating literature locally and to make Barcelona's cultural heritage known throughout the world. A main axis of the Barcelona City of Literature programme includes support to the book sector and to literary creation, and therefore to authors. This selection process seeks to identify and support literary projects related to the city of Barcelona.

1. Scope

The Barcelona City of Literature Programme is offering thirteen residency places for writers and literary translators to develop a project related to Barcelona at the Vil·la Joana Writing Residency over the course of three weeks.

This call is open to writers of any nationality and in all languages, to a fiction (poetry, narrative, theatre, etc) or non-fiction (essay, chronicle, etc) projects, as well as literary translators for projects in any of the genres mentioned. In all cases, the project must be related to the city of Barcelona, in a broad sense.

The selection will be made taking into account gender equity. We encourage generational plurality within the cohort, as well as the linguistic and gender diversity of the projects. Doctoral theses, research projects and projects leading to a degree cannot be considered for this process.

2. Application criteria

Authors of literary works in the genres of narrative, poetry, journalism, as well as literary translators, who have at least one published work under their name and have their corresponding ISBN, may apply.

Playwrights who have at least one play staged in any production form (stage reading, theatre production) in a professional theatre.

Translations and articles published in the press will not be considered to have met the published work requirement.

The selection process is open to those over 18.

3. Features of the residency programme.

The Vil·la Joana Residency program offers selected writers and translators accommodation and individual work space with internet connection, as well as a kitchen and common spaces shared with two other writers. It also has a laundry and cleaning service in the rooms and washing machine and dryer equipment.

In addition, the organization will arrange an agenda of activities and meetings, aiming to put residents in contact with the literary network of Barcelona, as well as with citizens interested in literature.

The programme does not include:

- Travel expenses and travel to the residence.
- Travel insurance.
- Maintenance (food, transport and other daily expenses).

The Writing Residency will last three weeks for each resident.

4. Dates and location

The residency will run from April 17 to September 30, split into three week shifts as detailed below:

- April 17-May 8
- May 8-May 29
- May 29-June 19
- June 19-July 10
- July 10- July 31
- July 31-August 21
- August 21-September 12
- September 12-September 29

Vil·la Joana Residency is located in Collserola natural park, in a natural setting 30 minutes by public transport from the centre of Barcelona. The space is shared with MUHBA Vil·la Joana, an old farmhouse and final residence of the poet Jacint Verdaguer. It has now been converted to a literary house-museum dedicated to the author.

5. Application

Interested writers and translators should complete the application form found in Annex 1 of this document. Please include the following documentation alongside the completed form:

- Photocopy of DNI/NIE/Passport
- Artistic biography of a maximum of 10 lines.
- Documentation certifying that the applicant has an original published work stating: Author, Title, Publisher, Year of publication and ISBN
- Motivation and description of the project that will be carried out during the residence of a maximum of 20 lines, justifying the link of the project with the city of Barcelona.
- The selection committee will prioritize those applications that also attach a letter of support from an office of City of Literature-UNESCO.

6. Submission deadlines

The deadline for submitting applications for the 2023 cycle is 15th February at 11:59pm (CET, Madrid).

Documents may be provided in Catalan, Spanish or English and should be sent in a single pdf file to residencialiteraria@bcn.cat. The file should be named Residencia Vil·la Joana + Name of the project. Please use the subject line "Application for Vil·la Joana 2023" in the email.

7. Selection criteria

Based on the applications, a selection will be made according to the following criteria:

- Professional background of applicants as detailed in the artistic biography. This includes the number of published works, as well as prizes and awards, or the link of the work(s) to the city of Barcelona.
- Project quality including aesthetic appeal, originality of the proposal or any other features which contribute to the proposal's literary merit.
- Project link to the city of Barcelona. Congruence of the proposal with the overall aims of the Barcelona City of Literature Office: dissemination of the city's literary heritage and narrative, poetic or essayistic construction of Barcelona's spaces. Projects which take the city of Barcelona as a narrative or poetic space or as an object of essayistic analysis will be favoured.

The selection process will take gender balance into account.

The jury seeks an overall cohort with the widest possible generational, national and linguistic diversity.

The technical office will assign one of the above-mentioned shifts for completion of the residency, taking into account applicant preference.

8. Selection process and notification of selected candidates

The selection will be made by members of the technical office of Barcelona Ciutat de la Literatura.

The office will notify selected applicants by email to the address specified in the application in the last week of February 2023.

9. Rights and duties of beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must respect the rules of operation of Residència Vil·la Joana and participate in the literary activities proposed by the organization.

10. Other aspects

The submission of the application will entail the acceptance of the conditions established therein as well as the consent to publish the name of the author if they are selected.

Award-winning authors will own the copyright of the project they develop.

Any unforeseen events will be resolved by the organization.

APPENDIX 1

APPLICATION FORM

Application to Vil·la Joana Writing Residency

Request to participate in the selection process of the Vil·la Joana Writing Residency

Applicant information

Name and surname: _____ DNI/NIE/PASSPORT: _____

Date of birth: _____

Place of birth: _____ Gender: _____

Contact information

-Telephone (with national prefix): _____

-E-mail: _____

-Postal address: _____

Project details

Title and summary of the project (maximum 200 characters):

Project area:

- Fiction: narrative
- Fiction: children's or youth
- Nonfiction: Essay
- Nonfiction: Chronicle
- poetry
- Translation
- Other (specify): _____

Indicate the language of the project:

Indicate the preferred period for carrying out the project (mark all the options in which you are available):

- April 17-May 8
- May 8-May 29
- May 29-June 19
- June 19-July 10
- July 10- July 31
- July 31-August 21
- August 21-September 12
- September 12-September 29
- indifferent

Date: _____

Signed: _____