

WHAT DO OUR NATION'S FORESTS MEAN TO YOU?

This is an exciting opportunity for two emerging writers to tell the story of our nation's forests. We're particularly interesting in hearing from under-represented groups, and welcome all forms of storytelling.

We can offer you:

- Unique access to our nation's forests
- Promotional support and a platform to share your work
- Development opportunities
- £2500

BACKGROUND

We are celebrating 100 years of forestry in 2019 with a cultural programme that looks back at our history, and ahead to the future.

Created after the First World War, the Forestry Commission is England's largest landowner, leading world-class research and actively managing over 250,000 hectares of forests for people and nature.

BECOMING A WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

The work you create will help us celebrate our centenary. Once selected, you will be invited to spend time in our forests to create work that inspires others to connect with trees and woodlands.

By observing foresters, ecologists and scientists, you will embark on a behind-the-scenes tour of the nation's forests, understanding the people who work there, and the wildlife that calls them home.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a current CV and pitch outlining your interest in the opportunity and how you might respond creatively to the nation's forests.

We will accept pitches in writing (max. 750 words), video (max. 3 minutes via YouTube or cloud platform link) or audio (max. 3 minutes via soundcloud).

Submit your application to centenary@forestryengland.uk with the subject header 'Writers in the forest' by midnight **14th January 2019**.

Whether poetry or prose, fiction or fact, we are interested in all forms of storytelling.

KEY DATES

14 January 2019
1 February 2019
7 February 2019
March – October 2019
November 2019

Deadline for entries by midnight
Shortlisted applicants informed
Shortlisted applicants interviewed
Research & development
Publication of work

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

An expert panel of judges will shortlist candidates for interview. Our judges are:

- Sharmaine Lovegrove – Publisher, Dialogue Books
- Jay Armstrong – Editor, Elementum Journal
- PK Khaira-Creswell – Director, Forestry Commission centenary programme

Find out more about our judges [here](#).

Applicants will be shortlisted on:

- The originality of their idea.
- Their interest in the project.
- Their response to the call-out's aims.

FAQs

Who is eligible?

If you are above the age of 18 and can prove you are a current resident of the UK, you are eligible to apply.

We are a collaborative, can we apply?

We shall accept applications from collaboratives. Where possible, please supply a single portfolio of work created by the collaborative.

How much time do I need to commit to the project?

Residency to production will take place between March and October 2019, with site visits planned intermittently. Successful applicants will be expected to commit a minimum of 14 days towards the research, development and production of their work. We will accommodate different working patterns within this time-frame where possible.

During this time, you will be interviewed or asked to provide blogs to document your progress.

How many forests will I visit?

Depending on the themes and interests shown by successful applicants, we will look to match writers to one or more of our forests. In doing so, we will be linking you with local teams to gain unique access to expertise, knowledge and the working of our forests through planned visits.

How will I pay for my travel to the forests I am visiting?

You will be designated a small travel budget, surplus to the £2500 you will receive on the submission of your work.

What support will I receive?

Both the national and local forest teams will support your period of research and development. We will also aim to match you with a mentor to support your process.

When and where will my work be published?

The work you create will be published at the end of 2019, coinciding with our centenary tree planting celebrations. Your work will gain promotional support through a national platform.

Where can I find out more?

You can get more information about the Forestry Commission centenary by visiting www.forestryengland.uk/100

APPLICATION TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. The closing time and date for entries is midnight 14 January 2019.
2. Only one application can be submitted from an individual.
3. If selected writers are unable to take up the opportunity for whatever reason the panel reselection will take place from the initial applications.
4. The panels appointed by the Forestry Commission will choose the two successful writers. The judges' decision on all matters relating to the competition is final and binding and no correspondence will be entered into.
5. Applications are open to UK residents, except employees of any party connected with the promotion.
6. Applicants must be aged 18 or over.
7. Applicants must be the sole author and owner of the copyright for all they submit, or they must have obtained permission from the copyright holder to submit the entries on their behalf. The writer retains the copyright to all their entries into the project.
8. Entry implies acceptance into these terms and conditions. The entry instructions form part of the terms and conditions. By entering, you accept being bound by the terms and conditions.
9. The Forestry Commission reserves the right to cancel, amend, withdraw, terminate or temporarily suspend this opportunity in the event of unforeseen circumstances outside its control, with no liability to any entrants or third parties but will use all reasonable endeavours to avoid applicants' disappointment.
10. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all the necessary permissions are obtained from people featured in their application.

SELECTED WRITERS TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. Selected applicants agree to participate in related publicity and to the use of their name and entry for the purposes of advertising, promotion and publicity of the project without additional compensation.
2. In being selected as a writer by the panel you grant the Forestry Commission a non-exclusive licence to reproduce, publish and communicate your entry to the public by exhibiting your entry through all media throughout the world. This includes, but is not limited to: the selection process; the residency; promotional, press and marketing materials associated with the Forestry Commission; and associated merchandising. The Forestry Commission is allowed to pass on any entry to online and print publications to be used either for editorial or promotion only in relation to the Forestry Commission and nation's public forests with full credit given to the writer. Other commercial opportunities, such as third-party licensing, may exist for writers to benefit from the use of any work created during the project. Where such a commercial benefit is likely to arise, permission will be sought by the Forestry Commission in advance.
3. As a selected writer you accept that your work may be exhibited by the Forestry Commission. The Forestry Commission reserves the right to reproduce any work for marketing and promotional purposes.
4. The Forestry Commission cannot accept liability for the misuse of entries and or failure of any third party to comply with the Forestry Commission's credit guidelines.
5. The Forestry Commission reserves the right to cancel this project at any stage.