

**Request for Applications Announcement
2014 International Writing Program at the University of Iowa**

Public Opportunity Type: 2014 International Writing Program at the University of Iowa
Assistance Type: Grant/ Educational & Cultural Exchange
Applicant Type: Individual

Issuance Date: March 21, 2014

Deadline for Receipt of Questions: April 18, 2014; 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

Eligibility Category: The IWP provides a unique inter-cultural experience for established writers who have achieved literary distinction in their own countries, as well as for rising stars who have demonstrated literary talent, broad appeal and/or an interest in contributing to the creative writing culture in their home countries.

Tentative Program Start Date: August 23, 2014
Tentative Program End Date: November 11, 2014

Closing Date and Time for
Submission of Applications: May 16, 2014; 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

Expected Number of
Applications to be Nominated: Two (2)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Embassy, Kingston is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Cultural Affairs Division is partnering with the University of Iowa to bring established and emerging foreign writers to the United States to participate in the 2014 International Writing Program (IWP). The ten-week residency will tentatively run August 23 to November 11, 2014.

The IWP is specifically designed to host established and emerging creative writers who have published at least one book (or whose work has appeared in significant publications over the past two years), and possess sufficient proficiency in English to benefit from an extended U.S. program. ECA funding will cover the costs of the international writers' participation in cultural exchange activities in the fields of writing, translation, and collaboration with artists from other disciplines.

U.S. Embassy, Kingston invites eligible individuals interested in submitting an application to read this Request for Application (RFA) thoroughly to understand the type of grant program and the application submission requirements.

For further information, please contact:

Name: Kimberly-Joe Munroe

Post: U.S. Embassy, Kingston

E-mail: kingstonexchanges@state.gov

Telephone: 702-6488

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Embassy, Kingston is seeking applications from established non-U.S. citizen writers, to participate in the 2014 International Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

PAS intends to nominate individuals to the program for an award subject to the selection process of the Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State. PAS also reserves the right to nominate any or none of the applications submitted and will determine the resulting nominations for the award. While U.S. Embassy, Kingston nominates individuals to the program, it is the ECA that makes the final decision on participants.

To be eligible for nomination, the applicant must submit all required information in its application through kingstonexchanges@state.gov, including the requirements found in any attachments to this www.grants.gov opportunity. This RFA consists of this cover letter plus the following Sections:

1. Section I – Program Description
2. Section II – Eligibility Information
3. Section III – Application and Submission Instructions
4. Section IV – Agency Contacts

Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this RFA. Applicants will need to have available or download Adobe program to their computers in order to view and save the Adobe forms properly. It is the responsibility of the recipient of this RFA document to ensure that it has been received in its entirety. U.S. Embassy, Kingston bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes associated with electronic submissions.

Any questions concerning this RFA should be submitted in writing to the Public Affairs Section via email at kingstonexchanges@state.gov. The deadline for submission of questions for this RFA is April 18, 2014, 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time. Responses to questions will be made available to all potential applicants via email.

Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government, nor does it commit the U.S. government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. In addition, final award of any resultant grant agreement cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal U.S. Embassy, Kingston procedures. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for nomination and award. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Degnan

Public Affairs Officer

SECTION I – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Cultural Affairs Division is pleased to partner with the University of Iowa to bring established and emerging foreign writers to the United States to participate in the 2014 International Writing Program (IWP). The IWP is specifically designed to host established and emerging creative writers who have published at least one book (or whose work has appeared in significant publications over the past two years), and possess sufficient proficiency in English to benefit from an extended U.S. program. ECA funding will cover the costs of the international writers' participation in cultural exchange activities in the fields of writing, translation, and collaboration with artists from other disciplines.

One of the program's core objectives is to bring together a wide range of international and U.S. writers to examine current trends in literature while supporting the development of democratic principles such as freedom of expression, human rights, and women's empowerment. ECA expects that a first-hand experience of American society and culture will enhance this professional enrichment program for international participants. The international writers will spend 10 weeks in residence at the University of Iowa in Iowa City presenting their work to local audiences, working with student translators, and participating in classes and workshops. The program will help these participants bring their countries' literary works to a wider audience and learn more about American literature. The 2014 program will also feature increased opportunities for writers to participate in optional collaborative projects with artists from other disciplines including music, theater, and dance. In keeping with ECA's goal of providing broad exposure to the United States, the residency will also include field trips to attend literary events across the country. Participants will travel for at least 10 days within the United States to meet with local writers and collaborate with artists in other fields. Further details about the program are available on the IWP website <http://iwp.uiowa.edu/>

[END OF SECTION I]

SECTION II – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

The IWP provides a unique inter-cultural experience for established writers who have achieved literary distinction in their own countries, as well as for rising stars who have demonstrated literary talent, broad appeal and/or an interest in contributing to the creative writing culture in their home countries. Poets, fiction writers, dramatists, and screenwriters are eligible for nomination.

Writers whose publications and careers focus on literary translation and non-fiction (feature journalism, cultural commentary, biography, and memoirs) will be judged primarily by their work in one of the creative genres. Candidates should have at least one published volume of work, or works that have appeared in significant publications over a period of at least two years. All nominees must be fluent in English, comfortable with cross-cultural dynamics, and interested in close interaction with other artists from a variety of diverse cultures.

Please note that in order for writers to benefit fully from this residency, they will need to have the flexibility in their schedules to spend 10 weeks in the United States. Due to housing limitations and the intense nature of this residency, family members are not allowed to accompany the writers during the residency.

SECTION III – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

TECHNICAL FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

For all application documents, please ensure:

- A) All pages are numbered, including writing samples, bio data forms, and any other attachments;
- B) All documents are formatted to 8 ½ x 11 paper, and
- C) All Microsoft Word documents are single-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, with a minimum of 1-inch margins.
- D) All applications must be emailed to kingstonexchanges@state.gov by Friday, May 16, 2014; 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

Complete applications must include the following for proposal submissions:

- 1. Curriculum vitae (C.V.),
- 2. 10-15 page writing sample in English or English translation
- 3. Completed bio-data form
- 4. Copy of the picture page of passport
- 5. One page narrative about your writing career

[END OF SECTION II & III]

SECTION IV – AGENCY CONTACTS

Any prospective applicant desiring an explanation or interpretation of this RFA must request it in writing by the deadline for questions specified in the cover letter to allow a reply to reach all prospective applicants before the submission of their applications. Any information given to a prospective applicant concerning this RFA will be furnished promptly to all other prospective applicants as an amendment of this RFA, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective applicants.

Any questions or comments concerning this RFA must be submitted in writing by email to Kimberly-Joe Munroe (kingstonexchanges@state.gov) by the deadline for questions indicated at the top of this RFA's cover letter.

[END OF SECTION IV]