



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2019 INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM FALL RESIDENCY

The Embassy of the United States of America to Mauritius and Seychelles is accepting applications for the 2019 Fall Residency with the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

The deadline to submit application is April 3, 2019

Program Overview:

The International Writing Program (IWP) is an internationally known annual forum at the University of Iowa, which brings together emerging literary figures from around the world for an 11-week writer-in-residency program. The IWP Fall Residency brings together globally recognized writers and up-and-coming literary creators in all genres for a multicultural exchange designed to help participants hone their writing skills, participate in group projects, teach, and collaborate on in-depth outreach events with U.S. communities, organizations, and businesses. The Residency supports U.S. foreign policy objectives to promote the freedom of expression and civil society development through individual mentoring, workshops, collaborations, and public presentations that foster respectful exchanges focused on a range of opinions, ideas, and approaches.

Participants in the IWP Fall Residency spend 11 weeks in Iowa City presenting their work to local audiences, working with students, and attending and teaching classes. The program enables participants to present their countries' literatures to U.S. audiences and to learn more about U.S. society and culture at the same time. Additionally, participants develop their professional skills, become familiar with the U.S. publishing industry, and experience U.S. volunteerism and its central role in American society. Further details about the program are available on the IWP website: <http://iwp.uiowa.edu/>.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) expects to fund up to 15 writers in fiscal year 2019, including international airfare, per diem, and other program costs. IWP and the corresponding regional bureau public diplomacy office, taking into account quality of writing, country prioritization, mission strategic objectives, and the justifications, will review nominations from the U.S. Embassy.



The University of Iowa plans to host the Residency from September 1 to November 17, 2019 (dates may still be subject to adjustments).

Participant Qualifications:

The IWP Fall Residency aims to bring together established writers who have achieved literary distinction in their own countries, while uplifting emerging literary figures of notable talent. Fiction and literary non-fiction writers, bloggers, film/television screenwriters, playwrights, and poets are all eligible for nomination. Except in extraordinary circumstances, candidates should have at least one prior published volume of work or professional script, or works that have appeared in significant publications or attracted significant audiences over a period of at least two years. Nominees must be fluent in English, comfortable with cross-cultural interactions, and prepared to engage with writers from diverse backgrounds. Participants must stay the full 11 weeks in the United States; there are no exceptions to this rule. Due to housing limitations and the intense nature of the program, family members are not allowed to accompany the writers during the Fall Residency.

Summary of Selection Process:

The deadline to submit an application to portlouisipas@gmail.com is April 3, 2019.

The U.S. Embassy may nominate up to three writers.

Candidates should submit the following information:

- 1) A literary-focused curriculum vitae (CV) and
- 2) A 10-15 page writing sample in English (or an English translation of a sample of the writer's works).

Foreign writers who contact IWP directly will be asked to contact their local U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section to pursue interest in the program.

Note: The Fall Residency is only one part of a broad range of ECA cultural diplomacy offerings for writers, which also include highly subscribed MOOCs, offered in conjunction with the University of Iowa's world-class writing curriculum. Other options include in-person and virtual creative writing programs; a professional development program for women writers, and training on effective methods for writing about social issues.