

10.5. Don Bank Studio – Selection of writer for 2022

AUTHOR: Amanda Hudson, Community Development Librarian

ENDORSED BY: Rebecca Aukim, Acting Director Community and Library Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

The selection of the Don Bank Studio Writer in Residence for 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Expressions of interest for the 2022 Writer in Residence at the Don Bank Studio have been processed and this report recommends one of the applicants.

The Writer in Residence for 2020/21 was The Mascara Literary Review who held a range of successful events despite the impact of Covid and the 2020 and 2021 lockdowns.

The events consisted of lunchtime readings with writers reading their poems and short stories. In March 2021 for Harmony Day, Stanton Library and The Mascara Literary Review celebrated multicultural literature with writers and poets. In December 2021 an event was held to say goodbye to the Mascara Review, the event consisted of a Q&A with the writers exploring their time at Don Bank Studio followed by readings produced during the residency.

The Don Bank Residency benefited the work of the writers from the Mascara Literary Review as shown by their list of achievements below:

- Debbie Lim's poem, Hummingbird Country was one of five poems shortlisted in the Peter Porter Poetry Prize run by the Australian Book Review.
- Debbie Lim wrote twenty-two new poems, eleven of these were published.
- David Ades drafted twenty-six poems of which seven were published in national and international literary journals.

This report is confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 for the reason listed below:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Don Bank Writer in Residence pay a peppercorn rent.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1.THAT** the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10 2 (a); personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).
- 2.THAT** this report be treated as confidential and remain confidential until Council determines otherwise.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

4. Our Social Vitality

4.2 North Sydney is creative and home to popular events

BACKGROUND

The Don Bank Writer in Residence program began in 2011, in the former caretaker's quarters which had become unsuitable for that purpose following the development at 100 Pacific Highway next door. Some writers over the years have had a connection with the visual and plastic arts while others have not, with playwrights, poets and crime writers all completing successful residencies.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

DETAIL

Don Bank Writer in Residence applications opened on 25th November 2021 and closed 28 January 2022.

The program was advertised on Stanton Library website, social media twitter & Instagram, The Arts Hub website and through posters in Stanton Library and on Council's community noticeboards.

This year the application process was online. Three applications were received.