

# LAS September bulletin

## [Year of Stories Community Story Fund](#)

This £300,000 fund is an opportunity for organisations and groups working with communities across Scotland to put on events that tell the stories that are unique or important to them.

Awards of between £500 and £5,000 are available for new, creative events, activities and programming that respond to any of the five programme strands. **Deadline: Fri 1 Oct 2021** and applicants notified by Fri 12 Nov.

Round 2 funding will open in Jan 2022 with a deadline of Fri 18 Mar with applicants notified by Fri 29 Apr.

## [Year of Stories 2022 Toolkit](#)

VisitScotland's YS2022 marketing toolkit for industry launched last week and is packed with top tips, useful resources and FAQs. It's a great starting point for planning your Themed Year events and activities.

## MEMBER + SECTOR NEWS

### [Watch The Gaelic Literature Awards on Thu 16 Sep at 7pm](#)

The awards will be presented at an online event complete with music and special guests. It will be in Gaelic with subtitles in English.

### [Scots Language Awards 2021 - vote now!](#)

Vote for your favourite nominees in the Scots Language Awards highlighting the Scots Language in all its many forms. **Deadline: Sun 19 Sep**

### [New Scottish Nature Poem for COP26](#)

Join Makar Kathleen Jamie to create a collective Scottish Nature Poem addressing the [COP26](#) Climate Change summit. Anyone living in Scotland can submit a line in English, Scots or Gaelic. What do you take notice of & care about? **Submit your line with your name and postcode by Thu 30 Sep**

### ['Working Internationally' events](#)

Scottish Books International has launched a new series of free online events that bring together experienced authors and industry professionals to demystify some of the ways in which organisations, festivals, publishers, and writers can work internationally. You can now sign up for the first two events, happening in October.

*Wed 6 October, 5.30–6.30 pm, online, free*

**For book festivals and literary organisations**, featuring Sophie Moxon (Executive Director, Edinburgh International Book Festival), Alison Bowden (Director, Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust), and Ryan Van Winkle (author and producer) in conversation with Vikki Reilly.

**Details and tickets:** <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/publishingscotland/573877>

*Fri 15 October, 5–6 pm, online, free*

**For writers**, featuring Graeme Macrae Burnet (Case Study, His Bloody Project), Nadine Aisha Jassat (Let Me Tell You This), and Janne Moller (Black and White Publishing) in conversation with Peggy Hughes.

**Details and tickets:** <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/publishingscotland/573891>

### [Our Creative Voice](#)

Creative Scotland's new campaign launched on Wed 8 Sep with the aim of promoting the value that participation in arts and creativity has on all our lives. Get involved by [downloading their toolkit](#) and have a look at their [Get The Facts page](#). **Use the hashtag #OurCreativeVoice to tell them what you do to get creative, and why it's so important to you.**

### [Creative Scotland Fair Work Review - Survey](#)

Creative Scotland has commissioned Culture Radar to undertake a review of Fair Work, leadership, workforce and skills development across the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland. Have your say - contributions invited from artists, organisations and freelancers working across the sector no

matter your current awareness or experience of Fair Work. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FW-web>

**Deadline: 5.30pm on Fri 8 Oct**

### **[Hannah Lavery confirmed as next Edinburgh Makar](#)**

A [report](#) to the City of Edinburgh Council's Culture and Communities Committee Tuesday 14 September approved award-winning poet, playwright and performer Hannah Lavery as the next writer to be inaugurated as the sixth Edinburgh Makar. Hannah will take over the honorary role from Alan Spence later this year at a special reception hosted by the Lord Provost within the City Chambers.

### **[The Illustrated Freelancer's Guide launch & workshop](#)**

*Wed 6 Oct, 10am-12pm, free, online*

An easy to reference guide, written by [Heather Parry](#) and illustrated by [Maria Stoian](#), The Illustrated Freelancer's Guide uses a highly visual combination of comics and text to highlight key issues, model scenarios and educate creative workers about how to protect themselves with regards to payment, copyright and creative work in general. Join Heather and Maria at this launch event and workshop hosted by Creative Scotland. [Download the Guide](#)

### **[Push The Boat Out Program Launch](#)**

Edinburgh's International Poetry Festival launched their inaugural program on Wed 8 Sep, which runs from Fri 15 to Sun 17 October at Summerhall. Four key themes underpin the festival: social justice and representation; healing and recovery; climate crisis and ecopoetics; and virtual and other realities. Audiences can expect first-class performances from around 60 poets, emerging and established.

### **[Lighthouse launches Read Think Act author interview video series](#)**

Edinburgh's radical independent bookshop is focusing on connecting authors with audiences while discussing political and social activism, in addition to exploring new writing. The shop has launched the series to complement its existing "Read Think Act" articles and booklists, which delve into texts that inspire activism. The project has been spearheaded by author and bookseller Jessica Gaitán Johannesson.

### **[The Booker Prize 2021 shortlist](#)**

Anuk Arudpragasam, Damon Galgut, Patricia Lockwood, Nadifa Mohamed, Richard Powers and Maggie Shipstead have been shortlisted for this year's Booker Prize, in a selection dominated by PRH titles.

### **[Andrés Ordorica shortlisted for #MoPrize2021](#)**

Congratulations to Andrés Ordorica whose *The Places We Will Go* has been shortlisted for the Mo Siewcharran Prize 2021 with five others. The winner is announced this month.

### **[Cal Flynn longlisted for Baillie Gifford Prize 2021](#)**

The 13-strong longlist for the £50,000 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction, which celebrates the best in non-fiction writing, includes Scotland's own Cal Flynn with *Islands of Abandonment: Life in the Post-Human Landscape*. Congratulations!

### **[Ely Percy wins inaugural John Le Carré scholarship](#)**

Congratulations to Ely Percy who has won a place on the Curtis Brown Creative three-month Writing Your Novel course for their Crime novel-in-progress 'Kingstreet'

### **[Wigtown's £25k 'Book It and Spread the Word' appeal](#)**

Wigtown Book Festival (22 Sep to 4 Oct) has launched a £25,000 fundraising appeal to help secure its future following the financial challenges of Covid-19. Members of the public are encouraged to show their support by either booking a ticket, telling friends and family about the festival, buying a book from the online bookshop or donating to the fundraising campaign.

### **[Commission Opportunity: Higher Education resource pack celebrating diverse literary voices in the UK](#)**

National Centre for Writing seeks to commission a skilled individual to research and produce a digital resource pack targeted towards Higher Education institutions and practitioners, which will give them the confidence and sources to include a contemporary and diverse range of UK writers in their

teaching. Commission fee: £3,000, including all expenses, VAT and other deductibles. **Deadline: Mon 20 Sep**

## **CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES**

### **[Pindrop Press - submissions](#)**

Based between Scotland and France with a Glasgow HQ, Pindrop publishes contemporary poetry from the UK and beyond. They're open to submissions of full-length collections of at least 60 pages. No deadline given.

### **[Product Magazine - submissions](#)**

Looking for previously unpublished short stories, nonfiction, poetry, photography. Everyone welcome, especially new/early career writers and artists.

### **[Mentorship Scheme \(publishing\)](#)**

The Society of Young Publishers Scotland presents its free digital Mentorship Scheme for those looking to get INTO the publishing industry or AHEAD in their publishing careers.

**Deadline: midnight on Fri 17 Sep**

### **[Scotland's National Book Awards Shadow Panel](#)**

SYP Scotland is partnering again with the [Saltire Society](#) and looking for We're looking for a mix of students, young publishers and anyone involved in books to form four shadow judging panels for the 2021 Awards.

**Deadline: Fri 17 Sep**

### **[Lit in Colour: Creative Student Prize](#)**

This inaugural prize from Penguin Books UK is for young people (aged 14-18 across the UK & ROI) to explore their relationship with books and literature by responding creatively to the question: what place do books have in your world? Submissions are accepted in essay, short story, poem, video, illustration/artwork format. The winning student will receive a MacBook Air complete with a one-year Adobe Creative Suite subscription.

**Deadline: Fri 17 Sep**

### **[Breakthrough Mentoring Programme for disabled writers](#)**

Curtis Brown is offering five disabled writers nine months of mentoring from a published author, plus a tutorial with a literary agent.

**Deadline: Sun 19 Sep**

### **[2021 School Library Improvement Fund \(SLIF\)](#)**

SLIF supports creative and innovative projects within the school library sector and is administered by the Scottish Library and Information Council on behalf of the [Scottish Government](#). It's available to all state nurseries, primary schools, and secondary schools in Scotland with an established library.

**Deadline: noon on Mon 20 Sep**

### **[Chicken House 24hr submission window](#)**

Chicken House books is open for finished or unfinished novels for children aged 7 up to (and including) YA, for the chance to gain mentorship from a member of their editorial team.

**Submission window: 12:01am and 11:59pm (UK time) on 20 Sep 2021**

### **[Feedback needed from D/deaf or disabled writers, literature audience members or creative producers](#)**

CRIPtic Arts and Spread the Word are collaborating on Access to Literature research. If you're a D/deaf or disabled writer, literature audience member or creative producer, please share your experiences and thoughts to help them to build a more accessible literature sector.

**Deadline: 5pm on Tue 21 Sep**

### **[Gutter Magazine](#)**

Looking for poetry, prose and non-fiction essays for issue #25. Successful contributors paid £25 flat fee.

**Deadline: Fri 24 Sep**

### [Early Careers Programme at HarperCollins](#)

This 18-month programme is open to anyone interested in starting a career in publishing. Two places are available to gain exposure to departments including rotations in sales, editorial, marketing, production and communications. Applicants from underrepresented backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

**Deadline: 5pm on Mon 27 Sep**

### [The Traineeship 2022 at HarperCollins](#)

Now in its sixth year, this 12-month training contract from Janu 2022 is for two talented people from ethnic minority backgrounds underrepresented in HarperCollins and the wider industry. They will complete four rotations in key areas of the business to gain exposure to the industry while also receiving training and learning across different modules. A bursary equivalent of HC's entry level salary at £24,250\* per annum is paid.

**Deadline: 5pm on Mon 27 Sep**

### [50 Word Fiction Competition](#)

In this month's competition, Scottish Book Trust are looking for a story in Gaelic or English which features a key to win a range of literary goodies.

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 28 Sep**

### [Ignite Fellowship](#)

This free fellowship from Scottish Book Trust supports established writers who are embarking on or working through a significant project. Fellows receive a £2000 cash award, flexible programme to suit the writing project, tailored development and mentoring, marketing, promotion and press training. A specific award for a writer working in Gaelic is available thanks to a collaboration with the Gaelic Books Council. Applications are encouraged from writers working in Scots.

**Deadline: Wed 29 Sep**

### [PENning magazine](#)

Scottish PEN are looking for poems and prose for the 'Diary' issue of their biannual online journal.

**Deadline Thu 30 Sep**

### [Writing Happiness course](#)

This online creative writing workshop course, supported by Spread The Word, explores writing happiness for D/deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent writers, including those with long term mental health problems and chronic illnesses. Held on Zoom on Mondays in Nov.

**Deadline: 5pm on Thu 30 Sep**

### [Joffe Books Prize for Crime Fiction Writers of Colour](#)

Joffe Books with judges bestselling crime writer Dorothy Koomson and literary agent Susan Yearwood, is looking for unagented crime fiction writers of colour to turn their fantastic manuscripts into bestsellers. The winner will receive a two-book publishing contract with Joffe Books.

**Deadline: Thu 30 Sep**

### [Dolors Alberola Poetry Prize](#)

The international competition is looking for full-length manuscripts or a collection of poems written in any official language of the world. Submit online with a view to bilingual publication among other prizes.

**Deadline: Thu 30 Sep**

### [The César Egido Serrano Foundation Flash Fiction Contest](#)

A flash fiction contest open to stories in Spanish, English, Arabic or Hebrew.

**Deadline: Thu 30 Sep**

### [Middleground Magazine - call for entries](#)

Middleground is looking for art and writing submissions (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) by mixed-race creatives for their winter issue.

**Deadline: midnight on Fri 1 Oct**

### [Call for entries - BBC Audio Drama Awards](#)

Entries are now open for two BBC Audio Drama Awards for scriptwriting, run annually and administered by the Society of Authors. **The Imison Award** for the best original script by a writer new to audio drama. **The Tinniswood Award** for the best original script of the year. The winners will each receive £3,000. Scripts must have been broadcast or made available online in the UK between 1 Oct 2020 and 31 Oct 2021.

**Deadline: Sun 3 Oct**

### **The 2021 Nan Shepherd Prize opens**

This biennial prize for emerging nature writers from under-represented backgrounds is open for non-fiction proposals.

**Deadline: Wed 6 Oct**

### **Industry Lab: Writing for Children**

Scottish Book Trust is partnering with Scottish BAME Writers' Network on a new Industry Lab aimed at professional and emerging writers working on middle grade children's writing. The online lab will involve writing workshops in October, an online social session, and a pitching task and feedback session in November with industry professionals

**Deadline: noon on Fri 8 Oct**

## **ONLINE EVENTS**

### **News of the Dead: James Robertson**

*Wed 15 Sep, 2.00-3.00pm, online, free*

In this National Library of Scotland event, Robertson shares his author's perspective and discusses his new novel, and will do a reading of this much anticipated book. Robertson will be in conversation with Scotland's favourite doctor-and-author, Gavin Francis.

### **Scottish Black Writers Group with Ben Tagoe**

*Thu 16 Sept, 7.00-9.00pm, Zoom*

A peer support and social space facilitated by Glasgow-based author Dean Atta for Scottish Black writers and Black writers based in Scotland to meet and discuss with Black writers from across the UK and Ireland, with a guest speaker each month courtesy of Scottish PEN. Their partnership with the National Theatre of Scotland brings an exciting lineup of theatre writers from July to September.

### **Opening the Book: Rights**

*Tue 21 Sep, 5.30-6.00pm, free, online*

Join Hachette UK's series of free virtual events designed to demystify publishing and make the industry more transparent and accessible to under-represented groups. The panels will be chaired by Sharmaine Lovegrove, Publisher of Dialogue Books, and will feature three colleagues at Hachette UK sharing their first-hand experiences of entry level, mid-level and head of department roles.

### **George Mackay Brown Memorial Lecture 2021: James Robertson**

*Wed 22 Sep, 7.30pm on Zoom*

Please email [gmbfellows@gmail.com](mailto:gmbfellows@gmail.com) for the link to this event.

### **Guest Reader Series 2021: Online Workshop – Adapting from stage to screen with Mark Rosenblatt**

*Thu 23 Sep, 11am–12.30pm, £20*

Using a sample text to stimulate a wider conversation, his own experience as a writer, as well as referencing work by other filmmakers, Mark's practical workshop will offer some useful insights into the process. Hosted by Moniack Mhor.

### **International Translation Day: Out in the World**

*Tue 28 Sep, 7-8pm, free, but registration required, online (YouTube)*

Join Sebastián Gutiérrez, Nguyễn An Lý and Rabi Thapa for a fascinating discussion about the power of literary and theatre translation for exploring identity and equality. Tune in for a conversation that spans countries, politics and languages, from Argentina to Vietnam to Nepal. Hosted by National Centre for Writing.

### **Freedom for Varavara Rao**

*Wed 29 Sep, 7pm, online, free*

Join Scottish PEN, [PENIreland](#) and guests as they share poetry readings and updates on the case of renowned Indian poet, Varavara Rao.

### **[Moniack in a Month: Crime Writing with Karen Campbell](#)**

*Thu 30 Sep to Thu 4 Nov, 6.45-9pm, £275*

From concept to conclusion, you'll learn about the building blocks and tools you need to write your crime novel. On this course at Moniack Mhor, you'll look at developing plot, character, place and pace to make your story sing – plus you'll get an exclusive 'Cop Clinic' – an insider's guide into what makes the polis tick!

### **[ASLS Schools Conference 2021](#)**

*Sat 2 Oct, 10.40am - 3.00pm, free online*

Providing CPD for teachers of English at Secondary, for BGE, National 5, & Higher – covering drama, poetry, short stories, novels, & graphic novels, in English & Scots.

### **[Sandy NicDhòmhnaill Jones || An Seachdamh Tonn/The Seventh Wave](#)**

*Sat 2 Oct, The Print Room at Wigtown Book Festival, £8*

An Seachdamh Tonn is Sandy's second collection of Gaelic poetry and songs, published in June 2021 by Acair, who described it as a 'gem of a collection'. It comprises fifty new poems in a wide variety of poetic forms, and a dozen of them are set to music as new songs, and arranged by Sandy and several other composers. Join Wigtown for a sneak preview before the collection is formally launched at the Royal National Mòd in Inverness on Wed 13 Oct 2021.

### **[Celebrating 60 Years of Miss Jean Brodie](#)**

*Tue 5 Oct, 5-6pm, online, free*

The novel's title character, 'Miss Brodie', was inspired by author Muriel Spark's teacher, Christina Kay, at James Gillespie's School. Norma Allan, a former Gillespie student herself, will delve into the social history behind the myth, as she did in her recent book, 'Box Hats and Blue Stockings: the Golden Era of the Gillespie Girls'. Hosted by National Library of Scotland.

## **[BOOK FESTIVALS 2021](#)**

17-19 Sep: **[Bloody Scotland, Stirling](#)**

19-26 Sep: **[WayWORD Festival, Aberdeen \(online\)](#)**

22 Sep - 4 Oct: **[Wigtown Book Festival \(hybrid\)](#)**

23-27 Sep: **[St Duthac Book & Arts Festival, Easter Ross Peninsula](#)**

27 Sep - 1 Oct: **[Reading is Magic Fest](#)**

1- 3 Oct: **[Portobello Book Festival, Edinburgh](#)**

9 & 10 Oct : **[Bookmark Book Festival, Blairgowrie](#)**

14-17 Oct: **[Berwick Literary Festival](#)**

15-17 Oct: **[Push The Boat Out, Edinburgh's International Poetry Festival](#)**

29-31 Oct: **[Tobermory Book Festival](#)**

7-10 Nov: **[Borders Book Festival @ Abbotsford](#)**

11-14 Nov: **Radical Book Fair @ Lighthouse Books, Edinburgh**

12-14 Nov: **[A Write Highland Hoolie, Mallaig](#)**

**15-21 Nov: [Book Week Scotland](#)**

**For more, see [Find a Book Festival](#)**