

#SoAatHome Funding Week | Industry Insider – Grants and funding opportunities with the Society of Authors

Wednesday 21 May 2025



1

00:00:00,000--> 00:00:03,108

-So, welcome everyone
to today's event,

2

00:00:03,132--> 00:00:04,788

Industry Insider:

3

00:00:04,812--> 00:00:07,628

Grants and funding opportunities
with the Society of Authors.

4

00:00:08,343--> 00:00:09,668

My name is Robyn Law

5

00:00:09,692--> 00:00:12,508

and I am the Head of
Fundraising, Grants and Prizes

6

00:00:12,532--> 00:00:15,343

here at the Society of Authors.

7

00:00:15,343--> 00:00:17,028

I joined the SoA in 2018

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funding opportunities with the Society of Authors**
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8

00:00:17,052--> 00:00:19,308

and along with the

Prizes and Grants Team,

9

00:00:19,332--> 00:00:21,988

I administer prizes

for fiction, non-fiction,

10

00:00:22,012--> 00:00:24,343

poetry, and translation.

11

00:00:24,343--> 00:00:27,868

I also oversee the Contingency

Fund grants for authors in need,

12

00:00:27,892--> 00:00:32,343

the Authors' Foundation and K Blundell

Trust Grants for Works in Progress,

13

00:00:32,343--> 00:00:34,468

The Access Fund, the

Strachey Trust Grants,

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14

00:00:34,492--> 00:00:36,308

the P.D. James Fund,

15

00:00:36,332--> 00:00:39,343

and we'll be hearing

all about those today.

16

00:00:39,343--> 00:00:41,188

So this event is part of our

17

00:00:41,212--> 00:00:44,819

#SoAatHome Spring/Summer

2025 programme

18

00:00:44,843--> 00:00:46,868

and is the final part

of our Funding Week,

19

00:00:46,892--> 00:00:49,548

a series of online events which

have been running this week,

20

00:00:49,572--> 00:00:55,343

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focusing on funding

opportunities for authors in the UK.

21

00:00:55,343--> 00:00:57,228

This SoA at Home

event is free for all,

22

00:00:57,252--> 00:00:58,908

but if you can afford to,

23

00:00:58,932--> 00:01:01,788

please consider donating to the

Society of Authors Access Fund

24

00:01:01,812--> 00:01:04,788

which provides grants to

authors so that travel, subsistence,

25

00:01:04,812--> 00:01:06,908

childcare costs,

and access needs

26

00:01:06,932--> 00:01:08,908

aren't barriers to

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authors taking part

27

00:01:08,932--> 00:01:11,343

in events, residencies,
and retreats.

28

00:01:11,343--> 00:01:14,188

We suggest a
minimum donation of £5.

29

00:01:14,212--> 00:01:17,868

You can help the Society
of Authors Access Fund

30

00:01:17,892--> 00:01:19,748

by making a purchase
on our virtual bookstore

31

00:01:19,772--> 00:01:21,219

on Bookshop.org

32

00:01:21,243--> 00:01:22,628

where you can
find books by writers

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33

00:01:22,652--> 00:01:26,343

taking part in the SoA
at Home programme.

34

00:01:26,343--> 00:01:27,728

So this session
will last an hour,

35

00:01:27,752--> 00:01:31,343

including at least a
25-minute Q&A at the end.

36

00:01:31,343--> 00:01:33,428

Please do turn on the
closed captions option

37

00:01:33,452--> 00:01:37,343

if you would like live
subtitles during this event.

38

00:01:37,343--> 00:01:41,028

The recording of this event will be
available on the SoA's website for members,

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39

00:01:41,052--> 00:01:43,588

which can be accessed by

logging into the members area

40

00:01:43,612--> 00:01:45,771

and going to our resources page.

41

00:01:45,795--> 00:01:47,228

And for non-members,

42

00:01:47,252--> 00:01:51,343

the recording will be available

via the SoA's Vimeo channel.

43

00:01:51,343--> 00:01:53,308

If you have any questions,

44

00:01:53,332--> 00:01:55,308

please do post

them in the Q&A box.

45

00:01:55,332--> 00:01:57,508

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You can post them

anonymously if you prefer,

46

00:01:57,532--> 00:02:01,343

but do post your general
comments in the chat box.

47

00:02:01,343--> 00:02:04,628

I would now like to introduce you
to my co-host for today's session,

48

00:02:04,652--> 00:02:07,343

Aine Pullan.

49

00:02:07,343--> 00:02:09,188

-[Inaudible] Robyn. Hi everyone,

50

00:02:09,212--> 00:02:11,508

I'm Aine and I am the
Grants and Prizes Manager.

51

00:02:11,532--> 00:02:13,988

Along with Robyn and
our colleague Natalie,

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52

00:02:14,012--> 00:02:18,343

I help to administer all of the
SoA's grants, prizes, and awards.

53

00:02:18,343--> 00:02:20,428

I oversee the Contingency Fund,

54

00:02:20,452--> 00:02:22,788

Access Fund, and
Authors' Foundation,

55

00:02:22,812--> 00:02:24,788

along with our most
recent family member,

56

00:02:24,812--> 00:02:27,343

the Strachey Trust.

57

00:02:27,343--> 00:02:28,708

-Okay.

58

00:02:28,732--> 00:02:33,343

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funding opportunities with the Society of Authors**
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So, what's coming up...?

59

00:02:33,343--> 00:02:35,428

This afternoon, we'll
go through the event...

60

00:02:35,452--> 00:02:37,828

the grants on offer at the SoA,

61

00:02:37,852--> 00:02:39,308

how to apply for them,

62

00:02:39,332--> 00:02:41,743

and what the assessors are
looking for in the applications

63

00:02:41,767--> 00:02:44,343

by going through some of the
questions on our entry forms.

64

00:02:44,343--> 00:02:46,668

We'll outline the
timeline for grants,

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65

00:02:46,692--> 00:02:49,068

ways in which you can support
the funds should you wish to,

66

00:02:49,092--> 00:02:51,588

and finally, we will
take your questions.

67

00:02:57,343--> 00:03:00,388

So currently, the SoA has
5 main strands of funding,

68

00:03:00,412--> 00:03:03,628

all of which are designed to
support authors' varying needs.

69

00:03:03,652--> 00:03:04,948

They are...

70

00:03:04,972--> 00:03:08,343

The Authors' Foundation, K Blundell
Trust and Arthur Welton Award,

71

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00:03:08,343--> 00:03:11,508

the Contingency

Fund, the Access Fund,

72

00:03:11,532--> 00:03:12,908

the Strachey Trust Grants,

73

00:03:12,932--> 00:03:14,348

the P.D. James Fund,

74

00:03:14,372--> 00:03:17,948

and in total, they give out

over £500,000 annually.

75

00:03:20,343--> 00:03:24,548

So, first up, we have the Authors'

Foundation for Works in Progress.

76

00:03:24,572--> 00:03:27,268

It is our largest of our funds

77

00:03:27,292--> 00:03:30,343

and gives out over

£300,000 a year.

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78

00:03:30,343--> 00:03:33,668

But what can they fund and
who is eligible, I hear you ask?

79

00:03:33,692--> 00:03:35,548

I will go through this now.

80

00:03:35,572--> 00:03:37,148

Anything that doesn't
make sense for you

81

00:03:37,172--> 00:03:39,343

or you would like
more information on,

82

00:03:39,343--> 00:03:43,828

please do pop in the chat and we
will try to get to it in the Q&A section.

83

00:03:45,343--> 00:03:47,788

The funds can be used for
a number of different things

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84

00:03:47,812--> 00:03:50,068

related to your
works in progress

85

00:03:50,092--> 00:03:51,388

and these are...

86

00:03:51,412--> 00:03:53,908

Research trips and
travel for specific projects,

87

00:03:53,932--> 00:03:56,343

including flights,
accommodation,

88

00:03:56,343--> 00:03:58,548

food and other
expenses while away.

89

00:03:58,572--> 00:04:01,343

An accompanying carer
to travel with you if required.

90

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00:04:01,343--> 00:04:03,468

Basic living costs

while writing,

91

00:04:03,492--> 00:04:06,343

including carers

costs or child care

92

00:04:06,343--> 00:04:08,548

for basic living costs.

93

00:04:10,132--> 00:04:11,828

Excuse me.

94

00:04:11,852--> 00:04:13,628

I've lost the screen

for a minute there, fun

95

00:04:13,652--> 00:04:15,028

and the [inaudible]

of technology.

96

00:04:15,052--> 00:04:18,343

And time away from other

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paid work that you might have.

97

00:04:18,343--> 00:04:20,828

Grants cannot be used
for publication costs

98

00:04:20,852--> 00:04:23,108

such as hiring
proofreaders or editors,

99

00:04:23,132--> 00:04:24,868

permissions or indexing,

100

00:04:24,892--> 00:04:27,343

paying your publisher,
or buying copies

101

00:04:27,343--> 00:04:29,828

of your own book.

102

00:04:31,692--> 00:04:33,748

So, who's eligible?

103

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00:04:33,772--> 00:04:36,468

The Authors' Foundation is
designed to support projects

104

00:04:36,492--> 00:04:38,428

that have a strong
likelihood of publication

105

00:04:38,452--> 00:04:40,508

and these criteria are
designed to establish

106

00:04:40,532--> 00:04:42,343

the track record of applicants.

107

00:04:42,343--> 00:04:44,308

You are eligible if you
have been commissioned

108

00:04:44,332--> 00:04:46,588

by a commercial
British or Irish publisher

109

00:04:46,612--> 00:04:48,908

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to write-- to produce writings

110

00:04:48,932--> 00:04:51,068

or translate a

full-length work of fiction,

111

00:04:51,092--> 00:04:52,988

poetry, or non-fiction,

112

00:04:53,012--> 00:04:54,668

and are in need of funding

113

00:04:54,692--> 00:04:56,748

in addition to any

publisher's advance,

114

00:04:56,772--> 00:05:00,343

for important research, travel,

or other general expenditure.

115

00:05:00,343--> 00:05:01,948

You can also be eligible

116

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00:05:01,972--> 00:05:04,948

if you are without a contractual
commitment with a publisher,

117

00:05:04,972--> 00:05:07,428

but have at least one book
published commercially

118

00:05:07,452--> 00:05:09,343

by a British or Irish publisher

119

00:05:09,343--> 00:05:12,228

of which you are the
sole author or translator

120

00:05:12,252--> 00:05:13,908

and there is a strong likelihood

121

00:05:13,932--> 00:05:17,343

that your next book will be
published in Britain or Ireland.

122

00:05:17,343--> 00:05:18,788

In both cases,

123

00:05:18,812--> 00:05:21,308

you must have a
non-contributory contract,

124

00:05:21,332--> 00:05:24,148

either currently or for
a previous publication,

125

00:05:24,172--> 00:05:26,428

where you, the author,
did not pay funds

126

00:05:26,452--> 00:05:28,868

towards publication
of your work.

127

00:05:28,892--> 00:05:32,343

So that includes self-published
or hybrid publishing.

128

00:05:32,343--> 00:05:34,708

The Authors'
Foundation is a charity

129

00:05:34,732--> 00:05:38,028

with independent trustees who
keep these criteria under review.

130

00:05:38,052--> 00:05:40,788

You do not need to reside
in the UK to be eligible,

131

00:05:40,812--> 00:05:42,588

but you do need a UK publisher,

132

00:05:42,612--> 00:05:46,343

either now or previously.

133

00:05:46,343--> 00:05:50,388

Co-authorship, scriptwriters,
and translators are also eligible,

134

00:05:50,412--> 00:05:53,068

but all the authors
must meet the criteria.

135

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00:05:53,092--> 00:05:54,748

In the case of translators,

136

00:05:54,772--> 00:05:58,343

you must also demonstrate that you
have secured rights before applying.

137

00:05:58,343--> 00:06:01,308

There is a secondary part
of the Authors' Foundation,

138

00:06:01,332--> 00:06:02,628

which is the K Blundell,

139

00:06:02,652--> 00:06:04,388

and Robyn will tell you
more about that now.

140

00:06:06,343--> 00:06:07,948

-Thank you.

141

00:06:07,972--> 00:06:09,908

So, the K Blundell Trust...

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142

00:06:09,932--> 00:06:12,588

It's also a fund for
works in progress

143

00:06:12,612--> 00:06:15,788

and works in exactly the same
way as the Authors' Foundation

144

00:06:15,812--> 00:06:18,108

in that you must be
previously published

145

00:06:18,132--> 00:06:20,343

or currently under
contract in order to apply.

146

00:06:20,343--> 00:06:23,588

But it has a few
additional criteria stipulated

147

00:06:23,612--> 00:06:26,148

by Kathleen
Blundell in her will.

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148

00:06:27,343--> 00:06:29,188

Applicants to the

K Blundell Trust

149

00:06:29,212--> 00:06:31,788

must be British authors

under the age of 40

150

00:06:31,812--> 00:06:34,628

whose work, which can

be fiction or non-fiction,

151

00:06:34,652--> 00:06:37,343

aims to increase

social awareness.

152

00:06:37,343--> 00:06:39,308

When applying to

this specific fund,

153

00:06:39,332--> 00:06:41,548

this final point should be

addressed in your application

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154

00:06:41,572--> 00:06:44,343

as to why your project
fulfils this criteria.

155

00:06:44,343--> 00:06:47,268

We'll also ask for your
date and place of birth

156

00:06:47,292--> 00:06:49,343

to confirm your eligibility.

157

00:06:49,343--> 00:06:52,828

So this fund is significantly
smaller than the Authors Foundation

158

00:06:52,852--> 00:06:56,343

and it only gives
out £27,000 a year.

159

00:06:56,343--> 00:06:59,148

This might mean that you
apply for the K Blundell,

160

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00:06:59,172--> 00:07:00,728

but due to financial

constraints,

161

00:07:00,752--> 00:07:02,908

you receive a grant from

the much larger pot of money

162

00:07:02,932--> 00:07:04,428

via the Authors Foundation,

163

00:07:04,452--> 00:07:07,028

because everyone

who is eligible for the KB

164

00:07:07,052--> 00:07:08,548

is eligible for the AF,

165

00:07:08,572--> 00:07:10,619

but not the other way around.

166

00:07:10,643--> 00:07:13,148

There's just the one entry form

for both the Authors Foundation

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167

00:07:13,172--> 00:07:14,388

and the K Blundell Trust,

168

00:07:14,412--> 00:07:17,343

so you don't need to worry

about applying more than once.

169

00:07:17,343--> 00:07:19,148

The condition of

the K Blundell Trust

170

00:07:19,172--> 00:07:21,788

is that you send us a copy

of previously published work.

171

00:07:21,812--> 00:07:24,343

This can be physical or digital.

172

00:07:24,343--> 00:07:25,888

This is for the

assessors to reference

173

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00:07:25,912--> 00:07:30,148

and, as a result, the K Blundell
is not open to debut authors.

174

00:07:32,343--> 00:07:34,868

So, as you can probably
tell by the fact that we've got

175

00:07:34,892--> 00:07:36,908

a lot of individual
names in here,

176

00:07:36,932--> 00:07:39,428

donors have generously
given to the Authors Foundation

177

00:07:39,452--> 00:07:40,988

or left bequests in their will,

178

00:07:41,012--> 00:07:43,068

and so when applying to
the Authors Foundation,

179

00:07:43,092--> 00:07:46,343

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you might find that you
receive a special award.

180

00:07:46,343--> 00:07:48,268

These are not for a set amount,

181

00:07:48,292--> 00:07:50,668

but instead represent
areas of literature

182

00:07:50,692--> 00:07:52,708

that were closely
affiliated with the authors

183

00:07:52,732--> 00:07:54,908

or individuals
they're named after.

184

00:07:57,343--> 00:07:59,428

So, these are usually
awarded annually,

185

00:07:59,452--> 00:08:01,628

depending on the

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applications we receive,

186

00:08:01,652--> 00:08:04,268

and with the exception

of the Arthur Welton Grant,

187

00:08:04,292--> 00:08:07,468

which has a budget

of just over £10,000

188

00:08:07,492--> 00:08:10,343

and so may be given to

multiple poets each year.

189

00:08:10,343--> 00:08:13,528

If you think you're particularly

aligned with any of these awards,

190

00:08:13,552--> 00:08:15,428

you can mention this

on your application form,

191

00:08:15,452--> 00:08:17,343

but this is not essential.

192

00:08:17,343--> 00:08:19,188

So I'll just go through
a few of these.

193

00:08:19,212--> 00:08:20,988

I've mentioned the
Arthur Welton Awards.

194

00:08:21,012--> 00:08:22,628

These are generally
given to poets

195

00:08:22,652--> 00:08:25,548

and, as I said, they have a
budget of just over £10,000,

196

00:08:25,572--> 00:08:28,343

so we might give out more
than one of those in a given year.

197

00:08:28,343--> 00:08:30,468

The Great Britain Sasakawa Grant

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198

00:08:30,492--> 00:08:33,548

is for a work of
fiction or non-fiction

199

00:08:33,572--> 00:08:35,988

about any aspect of
Japanese cultural society,

200

00:08:36,012--> 00:08:38,343

set in a Japanese context.

201

00:08:38,343--> 00:08:41,828

Um, these will require
an additional entry form

202

00:08:41,852--> 00:08:44,588

as we pass these on to the Great
Britain Sasakawa Foundation,

203

00:08:44,612--> 00:08:48,343

but often this results in a
secondary grant from them.

204

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00:08:48,343--> 00:08:50,668

We've also got the
Antonia Fraser Grants.

205

00:08:50,692--> 00:08:53,788

We're very happy to say that
Lady Antonia Fraser is still with us,

206

00:08:53,812--> 00:08:56,188

but she was one of
the people instrumental

207

00:08:56,212--> 00:08:58,148

in the setting up of
the Authors Foundation.

208

00:08:58,172--> 00:09:02,343

And this award in her name is for
a biography of women or women.

209

00:09:02,343--> 00:09:05,308

We also have some regional ones,
for example John Brooks Award,

210

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00:09:05,332--> 00:09:09,343

which is given to writers based
in the West Country or Wales.

211

00:09:09,343--> 00:09:12,068

Finally, we have two
more genre awards,

212

00:09:12,092--> 00:09:15,388

the Taner Baybars Award for science
fiction, fantasy, and magical realism,

213

00:09:15,412--> 00:09:16,708

and the Eric Ambler Awards,

214

00:09:16,732--> 00:09:19,308

which are for a
spy novel or thriller.

215

00:09:22,343--> 00:09:24,628

-Thanks, Robyn. So
many benefactors.

216

00:09:24,652--> 00:09:29,068

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Our next grant available is our
Contingency Fund grant for authors in need.

217

00:09:29,092--> 00:09:32,228

We give roughly £100,000
per year for this fund.

218

00:09:32,252--> 00:09:35,308

It was titled the Emergency
Fund during the pandemic

219

00:09:35,332--> 00:09:38,628

and is designed to help
authors in immediate need.

220

00:09:39,343--> 00:09:43,548

There are some main criteria
our assessors will look at

221

00:09:43,572--> 00:09:45,343

once your application
has been sent.

222

00:09:45,343--> 00:09:49,108

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What we can fund is

make up lost income

223

00:09:49,132--> 00:09:51,428

if you find yourself

unable to work,

224

00:09:51,452--> 00:09:54,868

help cover a shortfall if

a project falls through,

225

00:09:54,892--> 00:09:57,228

ease the impact on

your writing career

226

00:09:57,252--> 00:09:59,188

for illness or a

domestic situation,

227

00:09:59,212--> 00:10:01,028

and help with one-off expenses

228

00:10:01,052--> 00:10:05,108

such as the cost of a new boiler or

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if your computer is on its last legs.

229

00:10:05,132--> 00:10:08,948

We may also advise you

apply for the Contingency Fund

230

00:10:08,972--> 00:10:10,628

when applying for

the Authors' Foundation

231

00:10:10,652--> 00:10:13,908

if we think you are eligible and you

can apply for both at the same time

232

00:10:13,932--> 00:10:15,343

as they are different funds.

233

00:10:15,343--> 00:10:19,228

The Contingency Fund cannot

support specific work projects.

234

00:10:19,252--> 00:10:22,428

So probably, for this, you'd need

to apply for the Authors' Foundation

235

00:10:22,452--> 00:10:26,343

and we would let you know
that, if that was the case.

236

00:10:26,343--> 00:10:29,308

So, who's eligible?

237

00:10:29,332--> 00:10:32,748

Professional authors who are
resident in the UK or British citizens,

238

00:10:32,772--> 00:10:36,188

including fiction writers,
illustrators, literary translators,

239

00:10:36,212--> 00:10:39,108

scriptwriters, poets,
journalists, and others

240

00:10:39,132--> 00:10:42,468

for whom author-related activities
make up a substantial amount

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241

00:10:42,492--> 00:10:44,343

of their annual income.

242

00:10:44,343--> 00:10:45,628

Now, what we mean by substantial

243

00:10:45,652--> 00:10:48,868

is that the loss of income from
writing affects your overall income,

244

00:10:48,892--> 00:10:50,548

so it's difficult
for you to live

245

00:10:50,572--> 00:10:53,343

or you're unable to
afford basic living costs.

246

00:10:53,343--> 00:10:55,988

The fund is not open
to editors, copywriters,

247

00:10:56,012--> 00:10:58,772

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or for those whose with
salaried income from writing.

248

00:11:01,343--> 00:11:04,588

The next fund that I'm going to
talk about is our Access Fund,

249

00:11:04,612--> 00:11:08,068

previously named the Drusilla Harvey
Fund, named after our benefactor.

250

00:11:10,343--> 00:11:12,508

What we can fund
at the Access Fund

251

00:11:12,532--> 00:11:16,343

is travel to events, including
overnight stays and subsistence.

252

00:11:16,343--> 00:11:18,508

Childcare and carer support

253

00:11:18,532--> 00:11:22,343

while attending an event,

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residency, or retreat.

254

00:11:22,343--> 00:11:26,708

Travel, accommodation and subsistence

for a companion, if one is required.

255

00:11:26,732--> 00:11:29,748

Other access needs,

such as materials translated

256

00:11:29,772--> 00:11:32,548

into an accessible format.

257

00:11:36,343--> 00:11:38,788

Grants are awarded

to all authors,

258

00:11:38,812--> 00:11:40,948

by which we mean

anyone who creates work

259

00:11:40,972--> 00:11:43,388

for publication,

broadcast, or performance.

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260

00:11:43,412--> 00:11:45,428

You do not need to
be a member to apply,

261

00:11:45,452--> 00:11:48,343

but you should meet our
criteria for membership.

262

00:11:48,343--> 00:11:53,548

And it is open to UK
residents and British citizens.

263

00:11:53,572--> 00:11:57,988

The usual grant is £150,
but you can apply for more.

264

00:11:58,012--> 00:12:00,343

If your trip does
require extra funding,

265

00:12:00,343--> 00:12:03,788

you do need to state how
you'll be funding the remainder.

266

00:12:06,343--> 00:12:11,028

-So, in 2024, thanks to the generous
support of the Strachey Trust,

267

00:12:11,052--> 00:12:15,343

we launched the
Strachey Trust Grants.

268

00:12:15,343--> 00:12:17,148

So the Strachey
Trust promotes access

269

00:12:17,172--> 00:12:19,828

to and availability
of manuscripts.

270

00:12:19,852--> 00:12:23,228

Those are for the use of historians,
biographers, and other researchers,

271

00:12:23,252--> 00:12:26,343

as well as assisting in the
tracing of copyright holders.

272

00:12:26,343--> 00:12:27,468

So as a result,

273

00:12:27,492--> 00:12:29,228

these grants are

specifically available

274

00:12:29,252--> 00:12:33,343

to authors wishing to travel

to a UK archive or collection.

275

00:12:33,343--> 00:12:35,948

So by manuscripts

in this context,

276

00:12:35,972--> 00:12:38,708

we mean any letter, diary,

or other unpublished matter

277

00:12:38,732--> 00:12:40,188

appertaining to

a person of note,

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278

00:12:40,212--> 00:12:43,788

including a photographic or
digitized copy of such material.

279

00:12:43,812--> 00:12:46,708

And it's important that you
reference this specific manuscript

280

00:12:46,732--> 00:12:48,188

in your application.

281

00:12:49,343--> 00:12:51,548

So, again, who's eligible?

282

00:12:51,572--> 00:12:54,748

Applicants must be UK
residents or British citizens

283

00:12:54,772--> 00:12:58,343

and the archival collection
must be in the UK.

284

00:12:58,343--> 00:13:01,588

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The research must contribute
to a full-length literary project

285

00:13:01,612--> 00:13:03,268

that doesn't need
to be under contract,

286

00:13:03,292--> 00:13:06,343

but we do ask that it has a
strong likelihood of publication.

287

00:13:06,343--> 00:13:10,588

So this wouldn't be appropriate
to apply for an article.

288

00:13:13,343--> 00:13:15,068

The P.D. James Memorial Fund

289

00:13:15,092--> 00:13:16,948

is the last of our funds
that we will discuss

290

00:13:16,972--> 00:13:20,108

and has previously also

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been called the Pension Fund.

291

00:13:22,343--> 00:13:25,428

So, these are grants

given to long-term members,

292

00:13:25,452--> 00:13:27,268

by which we mean people

who have been a member

293

00:13:27,292--> 00:13:28,828

for 10 years or more,

294

00:13:28,852--> 00:13:31,343

though this doesn't

need to be consecutive.

295

00:13:31,343--> 00:13:33,148

They're designed to

be lifetime payments,

296

00:13:33,172--> 00:13:35,268

so they continue indefinitely.

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297

00:13:35,292--> 00:13:38,668

There are 4 payments of £625

298

00:13:38,692--> 00:13:39,788

made throughout the year,

299

00:13:39,812--> 00:13:42,428

and an additional £60

voucher at Christmas.

300

00:13:43,343--> 00:13:45,028

Due to the nature

of these grants,

301

00:13:45,052--> 00:13:47,068

it's not always possible to know

302

00:13:47,092--> 00:13:48,668

when we'll be open

for applications.

303

00:13:48,692--> 00:13:51,948

However, we are currently

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accepting applications to the fund

304

00:13:51,972--> 00:13:55,188

with a deadline of

31st of July this year.

305

00:13:57,343--> 00:13:58,468

In order to be eligible,

306

00:13:58,492--> 00:14:01,828

recipients also need to

be either over the age of 60

307

00:14:01,852--> 00:14:03,343

or unable to work.

308

00:14:03,343--> 00:14:05,828

The form can be

downloaded on our website

309

00:14:05,852--> 00:14:07,588

and should be sent

to the Grants Team.

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310

00:14:07,612--> 00:14:09,748

You can also contact the SoA

311

00:14:09,772--> 00:14:11,548

either by email

or over the phone

312

00:14:11,572--> 00:14:14,588

to discuss the fund

confidential... confidentially

313

00:14:14,612--> 00:14:16,468

with a member of the team.

314

00:14:19,343--> 00:14:21,228

-So now we've told

you all about our grants,

315

00:14:21,252--> 00:14:22,343

but how do you apply?

316

00:14:22,343--> 00:14:25,748

Well, I am here to

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help you with that.

317

00:14:25,772--> 00:14:28,428

We, um...

318

00:14:28,452--> 00:14:30,148

Before I say how you apply,

319

00:14:30,172--> 00:14:33,548

we do always encourage applicants
to ask anything they are unclear about

320

00:14:33,572--> 00:14:36,343

and to give us as much
detail on that as possible.

321

00:14:36,343--> 00:14:39,228

You can download the
application form from our website,

322

00:14:39,252--> 00:14:40,828

read through questions.

323

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00:14:40,852--> 00:14:43,343

As I say, get in touch

if anything is unclear.

324

00:14:43,343--> 00:14:45,908

We can always discuss

your specific situation

325

00:14:45,932--> 00:14:47,868

with you regarding eligibility.

326

00:14:47,892--> 00:14:50,348

The team

can offer support with completing the form

327

00:14:50,372--> 00:14:52,343

or provide it in a

different format for you.

328

00:14:52,343--> 00:14:54,948

All our funds are

open year-round

329

00:14:54,972--> 00:14:57,908

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and, as I said, the

more details, the better.

330

00:14:57,932--> 00:14:59,628

Once you've completed your form,

331

00:14:59,652--> 00:15:01,388

you can send it via email to

332

00:15:01,412--> 00:15:04,628

grants@societyofauthors.org,

333

00:15:04,652--> 00:15:07,343

but all that information

is also on the website.

334

00:15:07,343--> 00:15:08,748

Giving as much

detail as possible

335

00:15:08,772--> 00:15:10,788

leads to a smoother

process on both sides.

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336

00:15:10,812--> 00:15:12,188

We may come back to you

337

00:15:12,212--> 00:15:14,643

if something isn't clear and
we need a bit more information.

338

00:15:14,667--> 00:15:17,268

The forms are not
designed to catch you out.

339

00:15:17,292--> 00:15:20,988

We would like, obviously,
to fund you if possible,

340

00:15:21,012--> 00:15:22,908

but please don't feel like,

341

00:15:22,932--> 00:15:26,343

if you want to add anything
extra or you're not sure,

342

00:15:26,343--> 00:15:29,108

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that that discludes you or
discounts you from anything.

343

00:15:29,132--> 00:15:32,108

Please try to ensure that
the relevant information

344

00:15:32,132--> 00:15:33,508

is in the correct sections.

345

00:15:33,532--> 00:15:37,268

We've tried, over the years to
make it as kind of clear as possible,

346

00:15:37,292--> 00:15:40,308

um, so... but sometimes
applicants let us know

347

00:15:40,332--> 00:15:42,888

information in one section that
needs to be in another section,

348

00:15:42,912--> 00:15:44,668

so then we miss it.

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349

00:15:46,343--> 00:15:49,148

-So, what are the
assessors looking for?

350

00:15:49,172--> 00:15:51,308

We've broken this down
into the different funds

351

00:15:51,332--> 00:15:53,268

to give you a sense of
what you might expect

352

00:15:53,292--> 00:15:56,343

to be answering questions
about on your application form.

353

00:15:56,343--> 00:15:59,308

So, we'll ask you about
the amount you receive

354

00:15:59,332--> 00:16:01,068

from writing-related activity

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355

00:16:01,092--> 00:16:03,343

for each of the
past three tax years.

356

00:16:03,343--> 00:16:05,748

This is for the Contingency
Fund, I should be clear.

357

00:16:05,772--> 00:16:07,468

So this is the, um...

358

00:16:07,492--> 00:16:11,343

The grants for if
you're in financial need.

359

00:16:11,343--> 00:16:14,188

So this gives us an accurate
picture of your writing income

360

00:16:14,212--> 00:16:16,588

and helps the assessors
to understand your reliance

361

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00:16:16,612--> 00:16:18,343

upon writing-related income.

362

00:16:18,343--> 00:16:20,868

So this should

include book advances,

363

00:16:20,892--> 00:16:23,148

income from workshops

or author visits,

364

00:16:23,172--> 00:16:26,388

royalties, ALCS or PLR payments,

365

00:16:26,412--> 00:16:29,343

and anything else related

to your creative practice.

366

00:16:29,343--> 00:16:31,628

The more detail you

can give here, the better.

367

00:16:31,652--> 00:16:34,988

Next, we'll ask you to

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outline any payments

368

00:16:35,012--> 00:16:38,343

you make towards annual

expenses or financial commitments.

369

00:16:38,343--> 00:16:40,228

This can illustrate

to the assessors

370

00:16:40,252--> 00:16:43,148

how much money would make

a difference to your situation

371

00:16:43,172--> 00:16:46,348

and help them come to a

conclusion for a grant amount.

372

00:16:47,343--> 00:16:49,588

We'll also ask for

a covering statement.

373

00:16:49,612--> 00:16:52,108

This is one of the

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most important sections

374

00:16:52,132--> 00:16:55,343

and should outline why
you require financial support.

375

00:16:55,343--> 00:16:58,268

We do appreciate this section
can be the hardest to write,

376

00:16:58,292--> 00:17:00,548

but as much detail as
you're comfortable giving

377

00:17:00,572--> 00:17:04,228

allows the assessors to understand
the practicalities of your situation,

378

00:17:04,252--> 00:17:08,343

and that's beyond the figures
in the rest of the document.

379

00:17:08,343--> 00:17:11,343

As with all of our forms,

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and as Aine has already said,

380

00:17:11,343--> 00:17:13,988

if you have any accessibility
issues with the form,

381

00:17:14,012--> 00:17:15,388

please do let us know

382

00:17:15,412--> 00:17:18,343

and we can make
adjustments for you.

383

00:17:18,343--> 00:17:22,343

Finally, we ask for a name
and contact details for a referee.

384

00:17:22,343--> 00:17:25,388

It's very rare that we
would contact your referee

385

00:17:25,412--> 00:17:28,108

and we'll always be in touch
with you before we do so,

386

00:17:28,132--> 00:17:30,343

if that's something
that's necessary.

387

00:17:30,343--> 00:17:34,343

So this should be someone who
can verify your creative output

388

00:17:34,343--> 00:17:37,508

and an agent or a publisher
would be ideal in this situation,

389

00:17:37,532--> 00:17:40,343

or a colleague in the
writing community.

390

00:17:40,343--> 00:17:43,068

If you have any concerns
about selecting a referee

391

00:17:43,092--> 00:17:46,343

or if someone you're
considering would be appropriate,

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392

00:17:46,343--> 00:17:49,343

do get in touch.

393

00:17:49,343--> 00:17:53,428

-So, next up, we have

the Authors' Foundation

394

00:17:53,452--> 00:17:55,343

and what assessors

are looking for.

395

00:17:55,343--> 00:17:58,708

So, name of publisher or

producer for your script commission,

396

00:17:58,732--> 00:18:00,348

either current or previous.

397

00:18:00,372--> 00:18:03,348

So this is the eligibility

question, as discussed earlier,

398

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00:18:03,372--> 00:18:06,343

and it just means that we can
verify that you're eligible for the fund.

399

00:18:06,343--> 00:18:11,343

As a result, it's very important to
be clear and accurate in this section.

400

00:18:11,343--> 00:18:13,388

Advance and amount
so far received.

401

00:18:13,412--> 00:18:15,668

Receiving an advance
or even a large advance

402

00:18:15,692--> 00:18:17,343

does not mean you
won't receive a grant.

403

00:18:17,343--> 00:18:19,188

But as the fund is
very competitive,

404

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00:18:19,212--> 00:18:21,468

this is sometimes

taken into consideration.

405

00:18:21,492--> 00:18:24,988

We do also ask how much of
an advance you've received,

406

00:18:25,012--> 00:18:28,108

as we know just asking for
an amount can be misleading

407

00:18:28,132--> 00:18:31,343

if you only receive a small
percentage on signing.

408

00:18:31,343--> 00:18:33,508

The type of work, this is
useful for the assessors

409

00:18:33,532--> 00:18:37,343

when considering the special
awards that Robyn discussed earlier.

410

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00:18:37,343--> 00:18:39,548

And a writing sample.

411

00:18:39,572--> 00:18:42,788

The key factor the assessors are considering for the Authors' Foundation

412

00:18:42,812--> 00:18:44,668

is the strength of the work.

413

00:18:44,692--> 00:18:46,228

We ask for a writing sample,

414

00:18:46,252--> 00:18:49,228

and ideally this should be the work in progress you're applying for,

415

00:18:49,252--> 00:18:52,343

so the assessors can make decisions based on creative merit.

416

00:18:52,343--> 00:18:54,148

It's important to remember

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417

00:18:54,172--> 00:18:56,468

that this is an incredibly
competitive fund

418

00:18:56,492--> 00:18:59,343

with a success rate of
between 20% to 30%

419

00:18:59,343--> 00:19:04,343

and so not receiving a grant is
no reflection on individual talent.

420

00:19:04,343--> 00:19:07,228

And finally, your reason
for requesting funding.

421

00:19:07,252--> 00:19:09,908

Again, this is where it's
important to consider why you,

422

00:19:09,932--> 00:19:12,343

why this work in
progress, and why now.

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423

00:19:12,343--> 00:19:14,548

This is your pitch
to the assessors

424

00:19:14,572--> 00:19:15,948

on the importance of the work

425

00:19:15,972--> 00:19:18,343

and why the funding is
necessary to make it happen.

426

00:19:18,343--> 00:19:20,708

Though we don't ask
for a budget breakdown,

427

00:19:20,732--> 00:19:22,828

the more detail you
can give, the better.

428

00:19:22,852--> 00:19:26,508

Remember, this is a snapshot
the assessors get of you,

429

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00:19:26,532--> 00:19:29,948

so the more you can give of
yourself in an application, the better.

430

00:19:32,343--> 00:19:37,343

-So, some final things to consider
across all of our funding applications

431

00:19:37,343--> 00:19:40,343

and what our assessors are
always going to be looking for.

432

00:19:40,343--> 00:19:44,268

Even if it's not
for a specific fund

433

00:19:44,292--> 00:19:47,132

where you're applying for an event
or where you're accessing an archive,

434

00:19:47,156--> 00:19:48,528

if that's part of
your application,

435

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00:19:48,552--> 00:19:51,343

do give details of the event

and why it will support you,

436

00:19:51,343--> 00:19:53,748

when it's going to be happening,

437

00:19:53,772--> 00:19:57,343

and any support that the event

organisers might be giving you.

438

00:19:57,343--> 00:20:01,108

If you can give details of the specific

manuscripts you're hoping to access

439

00:20:01,132--> 00:20:03,343

at an archive for

the Strachey Trust,

440

00:20:03,343--> 00:20:07,081

please also outline if they're

currently inaccessible by other means.

441

00:20:08,343--> 00:20:10,068

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We've already touched on this,

442

00:20:10,092--> 00:20:13,228

but just to reiterate, if your budget
is larger than the grant amount

443

00:20:13,252--> 00:20:15,308

that we can give you,
this isn't a problem,

444

00:20:15,332--> 00:20:16,948

but we might ask you to outline

445

00:20:16,972--> 00:20:18,708

how you'll raise
the remaining funds

446

00:20:18,732--> 00:20:21,343

to ensure that the
trip goes ahead.

447

00:20:21,343--> 00:20:23,268

Reporting.

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448

00:20:23,292--> 00:20:26,343

So, if you receive a grant
from any of the funds,

449

00:20:26,343--> 00:20:27,908

there isn't any
essential reporting

450

00:20:27,932--> 00:20:29,148

that you'll need to do for us.

451

00:20:29,172--> 00:20:31,028

You don't need to
write a report on your trip

452

00:20:31,052--> 00:20:33,343

as part of the grant
that you receive.

453

00:20:33,343--> 00:20:35,308

However, we might
get in touch with you

454

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00:20:35,332--> 00:20:38,228

to ask for a quote or
details of your publication

455

00:20:38,252--> 00:20:39,308

or your trip,

456

00:20:39,332--> 00:20:42,343

so that we can include it in
our annual grants round-up.

457

00:20:42,343--> 00:20:43,948

This is totally voluntary,

458

00:20:43,972--> 00:20:46,108

but it does help us
to promote the grants

459

00:20:46,132--> 00:20:48,343

and also to promote you.

460

00:20:48,343--> 00:20:50,028

There's no other
reporting required.

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461

00:20:50,052--> 00:20:53,748

But remember, if you receive a
Strachey Trust or Access Fund grant,

462

00:20:53,772--> 00:20:56,343

you will need to
provide receipts.

463

00:20:56,343--> 00:20:58,028

So do make sure that
you're keeping those,

464

00:20:58,052--> 00:21:01,028

especially if you pay for
transport or food in cash.

465

00:21:02,343--> 00:21:04,148

Finally, feedback.

466

00:21:04,172--> 00:21:06,628

Because of the volume of
applications that we receive,

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467

00:21:06,652--> 00:21:10,343

we're unable to give feedback
on unsuccessful applications.

468

00:21:10,343--> 00:21:13,348

However, we'll always let
you know why you're ineligible,

469

00:21:13,372--> 00:21:17,343

if that's the case.

470

00:21:17,343--> 00:21:20,468

-So you've applied and
when will you hear back?

471

00:21:20,492--> 00:21:22,988

So, it's usually within
one to two weeks,

472

00:21:23,012--> 00:21:25,548

and this is for the
Access Fund, um,

473

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00:21:25,572--> 00:21:27,588

and also our

Strachey Trust grants.

474

00:21:27,612--> 00:21:30,268

This can also include

the Contingency Fund.

475

00:21:30,292--> 00:21:32,388

We do have additional

checks in place

476

00:21:32,412--> 00:21:35,628

for anything more than £150

when it comes to the Access Fund,

477

00:21:35,652--> 00:21:38,343

so you may wait up to 2

weeks for that decision.

478

00:21:38,343--> 00:21:41,868

The Authors' Foundation

is a 5-month wait

479

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00:21:41,892--> 00:21:44,348

as this is a rolling fund

and the assessors need time

480

00:21:44,372--> 00:21:46,343

to read and make

decisions in batches.

481

00:21:46,343--> 00:21:49,908

Um, if you don't hear from

us in a longer time than that,

482

00:21:49,932--> 00:21:51,788

we will either contact

you or you can...

483

00:21:51,812--> 00:21:54,343

Do feel free to pop us an email.

484

00:21:54,343--> 00:21:57,268

Um, importantly,

uh, oh, let me just...

485

00:21:57,292--> 00:21:58,708

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I'll just touch on

the P.D. James.

486

00:21:58,732--> 00:22:02,188

So, P.D. James recipients who
apply for the 31st July deadline

487

00:22:02,212--> 00:22:07,343

will be notified of a decision made
by the committee in September 2025.

488

00:22:07,343--> 00:22:09,988

Just an important last bit
of information here on this.

489

00:22:10,012--> 00:22:13,148

If you have previously received
a grant for the Contingency Fund

490

00:22:13,172--> 00:22:15,343

or the Authors' Foundation,

491

00:22:15,343--> 00:22:17,988

you must wait 4 years

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before reapplying.

492

00:22:18,012--> 00:22:20,788

But this does not apply

to our Access Fund.

493

00:22:24,343--> 00:22:26,788

-So, benefactors and

supporting the fund.

494

00:22:26,812--> 00:22:29,148

You may have noticed

that many of our funds

495

00:22:29,172--> 00:22:30,343

are named after individuals.

496

00:22:30,343--> 00:22:33,268

In particular, our

special awards.

497

00:22:33,292--> 00:22:38,119

And this is due to the generosity of

authors and members over the years

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funding opportunities with the Society of Authors**
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498

00:22:38,143--> 00:22:40,308

who are incredibly grateful
to a lot of organisations,

499

00:22:40,332--> 00:22:43,708

such as the Royal Literary Fund,
Authors Licensing and Collecting Society,

500

00:22:43,732--> 00:22:47,343

and Hawthornden Foundation for
their generous support of these funds.

501

00:22:47,343--> 00:22:49,588

But we're also
very grateful to you,

502

00:22:49,612--> 00:22:52,148

because if you're making
a donation for attendance

503

00:22:52,172--> 00:22:56,343

to any of our at Home, SoA at
Home events, including today,

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504

00:22:56,343--> 00:22:58,388

that goes directly
to our Access Fund

505

00:22:58,412--> 00:23:02,343

and makes a real tangible
difference to your author community.

506

00:23:02,343--> 00:23:05,388

Finally, you can remember the
SoA and the funds in your will,

507

00:23:05,412--> 00:23:07,348

and we have details
on our website

508

00:23:07,372--> 00:23:08,988

about the importance
of making a will

509

00:23:09,012--> 00:23:10,588

and looking after
your literary estate,

510

00:23:10,612--> 00:23:15,343

as well as how to
leave a bequest.

511

00:23:15,343--> 00:23:19,868

So, that's a bit of a whistle-stop
tour of all of the funds,

512

00:23:19,892--> 00:23:23,028

but I think probably the most
important bit about this session

513

00:23:23,052--> 00:23:25,343

is getting to your questions.

514

00:23:25,343--> 00:23:27,868

So, we do have an
advanced question

515

00:23:27,892--> 00:23:32,343

which we'll deal with first, which,
Aine, I think you were going to read out.

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516

00:23:32,343--> 00:23:35,868

-Indeed, so we have a question
here from Katherine Stansfield.

517

00:23:35,892--> 00:23:38,343

Hi, Katherine, if you're
here with us today.

518

00:23:38,343--> 00:23:39,588

So, Katherine's question was,

519

00:23:39,612--> 00:23:41,388

"with the Authors' Foundation grants,

520

00:23:41,412--> 00:23:44,188

I would like to know if the
SoA prioritizes applicants

521

00:23:44,212--> 00:23:47,343

who already have a contract
with a publisher when they apply.

522

00:23:47,343--> 00:23:51,343

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Is there any point applying if you
don't have a contract in place already?"

523

00:23:51,343--> 00:23:53,343

Robyn?

524

00:23:53,343--> 00:23:56,108

-Um, yes, please do apply.

525

00:23:56,132--> 00:23:58,908

You don't need a
contract in order to apply

526

00:23:58,932--> 00:24:00,468

for the work that
you're working on.

527

00:24:00,492--> 00:24:02,988

We... the criteria are there

528

00:24:03,012--> 00:24:05,343

to establish a track
record for authors.

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529

00:24:05,343--> 00:24:07,628

As we said, they are
kept under a review,

530

00:24:07,652--> 00:24:10,108

but this is the system
that's in place currently

531

00:24:10,132--> 00:24:11,643

and it's the one
that's working best.

532

00:24:11,667--> 00:24:14,028

And it's about
trying to make sure

533

00:24:14,052--> 00:24:17,188

that we're supporting works that
are going to make it to publication.

534

00:24:17,212--> 00:24:20,228

But that doesn't mean that you
have to have a contract in place.

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535

00:24:20,252--> 00:24:23,348

The most important thing
with the Authors' Foundation,

536

00:24:23,372--> 00:24:25,388

once you've ticked
that eligibility box,

537

00:24:25,412--> 00:24:27,343

is the strength
of the work itself.

538

00:24:27,343--> 00:24:29,868

That's why we ask
for that writing sample.

539

00:24:29,892--> 00:24:33,228

So it's absolutely
worth applying

540

00:24:33,252--> 00:24:35,748

if you don't have
a contract in place,

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541

00:24:35,772--> 00:24:38,868

especially for some works where
you can't have a contract in place

542

00:24:38,892--> 00:24:41,068

until you've written it and
you need to do the research

543

00:24:41,092--> 00:24:44,343

in order to write it. I know
for a lot of fiction writers,

544

00:24:44,343--> 00:24:48,388

it's not possible to
get a contract on spec.

545

00:24:48,412--> 00:24:50,428

You have to submit
most of the novel

546

00:24:50,452--> 00:24:53,268

and if that novel requires
that you travel somewhere

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547

00:24:53,292--> 00:24:54,508

in order to write it,

548

00:24:54,532--> 00:24:58,948

then we understand you need funding

for... for that portion of the work.

549

00:24:58,972--> 00:25:00,108

So...

550

00:25:00,132--> 00:25:02,348

So yes, please do apply,

please don't be disheartened

551

00:25:02,372--> 00:25:03,828

if you're not

under contract yet.

552

00:25:03,852--> 00:25:05,788

If you tick those

other eligibility boxes,

553

00:25:05,812--> 00:25:10,343

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then we would love to
have an application from you.

554

00:25:10,343--> 00:25:14,348

Right, we'll be answering
your questions in the chat next.

555

00:25:14,372--> 00:25:16,588

If we have any
extra time at the end

556

00:25:16,612--> 00:25:18,188

and we haven't
already discussed them,

557

00:25:18,212--> 00:25:21,343

we'll go through some of
our FAQs on the website.

558

00:25:21,343--> 00:25:23,468

I'm sure we will
get to most of them.

559

00:25:23,492--> 00:25:25,188

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Just a note on the questions,

560

00:25:25,212--> 00:25:27,388

we're happy to talk

through eligibility generally,

561

00:25:27,412--> 00:25:28,828

but please be aware

562

00:25:28,852--> 00:25:32,343

we can't answer questions about

your specific application status

563

00:25:32,343--> 00:25:34,628

or state for certain

if you're eligible

564

00:25:34,652--> 00:25:36,868

without seeing a

completed application form.

565

00:25:36,892--> 00:25:38,988

But we'll do our best.

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566

00:25:39,012--> 00:25:40,508

We'll just go back to our...

567

00:25:40,532--> 00:25:42,308

So, I'm just gonna get...

568

00:25:42,332--> 00:25:45,828

the Q&A open on my screen.

569

00:25:50,343--> 00:25:52,828

So, um...

570

00:25:52,852--> 00:25:54,668

The first question I have,

571

00:25:54,692--> 00:25:58,308

and an apology in advance

if I mispronounce your name,

572

00:25:58,332--> 00:26:00,343

I'm gonna do my absolute best.

573

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00:26:00,343--> 00:26:02,108

Brunella Longo has said,

574

00:26:02,132--> 00:26:04,308

"sorry if you
mentioned this before,

575

00:26:04,332--> 00:26:07,828

any route for self-published
authors in the UK?"

576

00:26:07,852--> 00:26:11,868

So, our Authors' Foundation
isn't open to self-published authors,

577

00:26:11,892--> 00:26:14,068

but things like the Access Fund,

578

00:26:14,092--> 00:26:17,268

you just need to be eligible
for membership of the SoA.

579

00:26:17,292--> 00:26:18,788

You don't have to be a member

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580

00:26:18,812--> 00:26:21,288

and we should stress you don't
have to be a member of the SoA

581

00:26:21,312--> 00:26:24,548

to enter any of our grants or
prizes, that's not a condition.

582

00:26:24,572--> 00:26:28,108

Um, and you can be a member of
the SoA as self-published author,

583

00:26:28,132--> 00:26:30,528

which means you would be
eligible for our Access Fund.

584

00:26:30,552--> 00:26:33,988

So if you wanted to go for a
retreat or do a bit of research,

585

00:26:34,012--> 00:26:37,319

then you would be
eligible for that fund.

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586

00:26:37,343--> 00:26:39,343

Anything to add, Aine?

587

00:26:39,343--> 00:26:42,068

-No, I think you

covered that magically.

588

00:26:42,092--> 00:26:43,343

[laughter]

589

00:26:43,343--> 00:26:44,548

-Okay...

590

00:26:44,572--> 00:26:49,108

Next up, I have an

anonymous attendee.

591

00:26:49,132--> 00:26:52,428

"Can you apply twice to

the Authors' Foundation

592

00:26:52,452--> 00:26:54,908

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for the same project

if 4 years have passed

593

00:26:54,932--> 00:26:57,708

since your first

successful application?

594

00:26:57,732--> 00:27:01,343

The gap is explained by

the evolution of the work."

595

00:27:01,343--> 00:27:06,668

So, the Authors' Foundation

can only fund one project once.

596

00:27:06,692--> 00:27:09,228

Even if the four

years has passed,

597

00:27:09,252--> 00:27:11,028

we wouldn't be able

to give a second grant

598

00:27:11,052--> 00:27:13,628

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for that same piece of work.

599

00:27:13,652--> 00:27:18,188

Um, I'm afraid there's not a
nicer bit to add on the end of that.

600

00:27:18,212--> 00:27:21,348

However, you can get
grants from other places.

601

00:27:21,372--> 00:27:23,708

So we wouldn't
necessarily be unable

602

00:27:23,732--> 00:27:25,988

to give you some money
from the Strachey Trust Grants,

603

00:27:26,012--> 00:27:28,343

if there was a manuscript
you needed to access.

604

00:27:28,343--> 00:27:30,588

Or you could get a top-up

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from the Access Fund.

605

00:27:30,612--> 00:27:33,343

We're kind of quite happy

for you to use these grants

606

00:27:33,343--> 00:27:36,868

in conjunction with

one another, um...

607

00:27:36,892--> 00:27:40,868

So, there's ways of making

up that funding if you did need.

608

00:27:40,892--> 00:27:44,348

If, you know, if the project went on

and you needed some additional support.

609

00:27:47,143--> 00:27:48,719

Did you want to do

the next one, Aine?

610

00:27:48,743--> 00:27:51,308

-Yeah, I'll do the next

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one from Margaret Skea.

611

00:27:51,332--> 00:27:55,828

"I presume all the special awards
have the same eligibility criteria?"

612

00:27:55,852--> 00:27:57,988

You are correct,
yes, in terms of

613

00:27:58,012--> 00:28:01,068

there's no special form
that you have to fill out.

614

00:28:01,092--> 00:28:03,108

So on the form, you
will see a part that says,

615

00:28:03,132--> 00:28:05,868

"would you like to be
considered for a special award?"

616

00:28:05,892--> 00:28:08,748

Do you think that you meet

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that special awards criteria?"

617

00:28:08,772--> 00:28:11,428

For example, from Wales, um...

618

00:28:11,452--> 00:28:14,468

then you can write, "yes, I think I'm eligible for this one"

619

00:28:14,492--> 00:28:16,148

and you will be considered.

620

00:28:16,172--> 00:28:19,428

But in terms of it being a separate a long list of criteria,

621

00:28:19,452--> 00:28:21,748

no, it's all the same criteria.

622

00:28:24,343--> 00:28:27,068

Do you have anything to add there on that, Robyn?

623

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00:28:27,092--> 00:28:29,343

-No. Perfect.

624

00:28:29,343--> 00:28:30,788

Um...

625

00:28:30,812--> 00:28:33,028

Oh gosh, this is great,
there's so many questions.

626

00:28:33,052--> 00:28:35,108

We might have to pick up
the pace towards the end.

627

00:28:35,132--> 00:28:37,268

So an anonymous attendee said,

628

00:28:37,292--> 00:28:40,348

"I'm an author of three books with
Unbound submitted traditionally.

629

00:28:40,372--> 00:28:41,628

Does this qualify me?

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630

00:28:41,652--> 00:28:43,508

The company is
folded, so I'm in limbo."

631

00:28:43,532--> 00:28:49,343

Just to add on this point that if you
have concerns as an Unbound author,

632

00:28:49,343--> 00:28:50,343

our...

633

00:28:50,367--> 00:28:53,628

our advisory team
is there to support.

634

00:28:53,652--> 00:28:56,668

If you send an email to
info@societyofauthors.org, there's...

635

00:28:56,692--> 00:28:59,068

If you have inquiries or
concerns about your estate

636

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00:28:59,092--> 00:29:00,388

or about copyright,

637

00:29:00,412--> 00:29:03,572

then they're there to support you, because

I know that's really challenging, so...

638

00:29:03,596--> 00:29:05,948

But if you've been traditionally

published by Unbound,

639

00:29:05,972--> 00:29:08,268

as I said, I can't say for

certain if anybody's eligible

640

00:29:08,292--> 00:29:11,343

without looking at

a full eligibility form,

641

00:29:11,343--> 00:29:14,068

but that sounds like

you would be, yes.

642

00:29:14,092--> 00:29:16,148

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Just because the company's
no longer operating,

643

00:29:16,172--> 00:29:18,268

that wouldn't
affect your eligibility,

644

00:29:18,292--> 00:29:20,588

that wouldn't be
your fault at all.

645

00:29:23,343--> 00:29:24,343

Aine, anything to add?

646

00:29:24,343--> 00:29:26,668

-No, nothing to add.

647

00:29:26,692--> 00:29:29,828

Margaret's followed up, um...

648

00:29:29,852--> 00:29:33,343

"Sorry, what's the name of the last
one, please, for travel to events?"

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649

00:29:33,343--> 00:29:36,548

So I believe that's the Access Fund
that you're thinking of there, Margaret.

650

00:29:36,572--> 00:29:39,768

And like we said, you can find
them all on the website as well,

651

00:29:39,792--> 00:29:41,808

but if you weren't... still
weren't sure after this,

652

00:29:41,832--> 00:29:43,728

please do pop an email
to one of us, and we can...

653

00:29:43,752--> 00:29:45,708

lead you in the right direction.

654

00:29:48,343--> 00:29:53,188

-Next is Karen McCombie,
RE: P.D. James Award.

655

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00:29:53,212--> 00:29:58,348

"How do I find out how many years

I've been a member of the SoA?

656

00:29:58,372--> 00:30:01,308

It's been several years, but

I'm uncertain how long exactly."

657

00:30:01,332--> 00:30:04,068

So if you give our

Membership team an email,

658

00:30:04,092--> 00:30:05,668

they should be able

to tell you exactly

659

00:30:05,692--> 00:30:07,343

how many years

you've been a member.

660

00:30:07,343--> 00:30:09,428

And as I said before,

for the P.D. James,

661

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00:30:09,452--> 00:30:12,788

it absolutely does not
need to be consecutive.

662

00:30:12,812--> 00:30:15,148

You can have one year
here, one year there,

663

00:30:15,172--> 00:30:17,748

as long as it adds
up to 10 years.

664

00:30:17,772--> 00:30:20,108

And that's something
that they consider, so it...

665

00:30:20,132--> 00:30:22,343

If you have been a
member for 8 years,

666

00:30:22,343--> 00:30:25,108

it might be worth sending
in an application regardless,

667

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00:30:25,132--> 00:30:27,708

because it might be
something that they'll still look at.

668

00:30:27,732--> 00:30:31,188

They are looking at a
broad range of criteria

669

00:30:31,212--> 00:30:32,988

when it comes to
that, so get in touch

670

00:30:33,012--> 00:30:34,343

and if you have any concerns

671

00:30:34,343--> 00:30:37,748

then do drop us
a line or a call,

672

00:30:37,772--> 00:30:39,908

and we can talk through
that process with you.

673

00:30:43,343--> 00:30:48,343

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-Uh, oh. I've got a nice question from
Bethany Rivers on eligibility criteria.

674

00:30:48,343--> 00:30:50,268

"Does income related
to being an author

675

00:30:50,292--> 00:30:53,268

include workshops and
delivering creative writing courses?"

676

00:30:53,292--> 00:30:54,668

Yes, it does.

677

00:30:54,692--> 00:30:57,748

What I would say
on this is that, um,

678

00:30:57,772--> 00:31:01,708

if possible, either in the section where
we ask for your writing-related income

679

00:31:01,732--> 00:31:04,343

or further on in about yourself,

680

00:31:04,343--> 00:31:06,268

if you... it's always

good if you could outline

681

00:31:06,292--> 00:31:08,148

what percentage of that income

682

00:31:08,172--> 00:31:10,748

is from your creative

writing and the courses.

683

00:31:10,772--> 00:31:12,708

And, um...

684

00:31:12,732--> 00:31:14,868

things you get from book

sales, that kind of thing,

685

00:31:14,892--> 00:31:17,343

just because the assessors

can then see the breakdown.

686

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00:31:17,343--> 00:31:19,428

Especially if you're...

687

00:31:19,452--> 00:31:23,308

If the loss of income has been from
the workshops or creative writing courses.

688

00:31:23,332--> 00:31:25,388

Again, it's hard to kind of say,

689

00:31:25,412--> 00:31:27,068

especially with the
Contingency Fund,

690

00:31:27,092--> 00:31:28,908

the eligibility,
whether you're eligible

691

00:31:28,932--> 00:31:31,343

without kind of seeing
a lot more information.

692

00:31:31,343--> 00:31:34,148

But in terms of workshops and

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delivering creative writing courses,

693

00:31:34,172--> 00:31:38,708

yes, that does... that would be
eligible for writing-related income.

694

00:31:41,343--> 00:31:43,908

-Bethany Rivers has asked,

695

00:31:43,932--> 00:31:47,788

"can you say more about what
the Arthur Welton Award is given for,

696

00:31:47,812--> 00:31:49,343

the criteria for this?"

697

00:31:49,343--> 00:31:53,628

So, the Arthur Welton Award is
part of the Authors' Foundation,

698

00:31:53,652--> 00:31:58,348

so you have... it has the same eligibility
criteria as the Author's Foundation,

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699

00:31:58,372--> 00:32:01,028

which is that you must
be previously published by

700

00:32:01,052--> 00:32:05,343

or under contract with a UK or
Irish publisher for a work in progress.

701

00:32:05,343--> 00:32:07,148

It's... Um...

702

00:32:07,172--> 00:32:11,868

money from the Arthur Welton
Estate that we give out each year

703

00:32:11,892--> 00:32:14,348

and so what we like
to do is make sure

704

00:32:14,372--> 00:32:18,028

that that's given to work that
represents what he was interested in,

705

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00:32:18,052--> 00:32:20,343

but that is very broadly poets.

706

00:32:20,343--> 00:32:23,028

So, it doesn't need to be
any more detailed than that.

707

00:32:23,052--> 00:32:24,068

It's...

708

00:32:24,092--> 00:32:26,288

As long as you're eligible
for the Authors Foundation,

709

00:32:26,312--> 00:32:28,068

we'll probably consider
you for the poet--

710

00:32:28,092--> 00:32:31,343

for the Arthur Welton
as a poet who's applying.

711

00:32:31,343--> 00:32:33,748

Um, we...

712

00:32:33,772--> 00:32:35,748

A lot of the time
with our bequests,

713

00:32:35,772--> 00:32:38,228

by the time we get the
money from the author,

714

00:32:38,252--> 00:32:40,628

it's part of their bequest,
so they're not here to tell us

715

00:32:40,652--> 00:32:43,668

their exact desires for
that money any longer,

716

00:32:43,692--> 00:32:46,468

but we try and make sure
that we're keeping in line

717

00:32:46,492--> 00:32:50,348

with their work or their
career as much as possible,

718

00:32:50,372--> 00:32:52,348

and that's the situation

with the Arthur Welton

719

00:32:52,372--> 00:32:55,188

that it will go to a

poet in his name.

720

00:32:57,343--> 00:32:59,948

-Anna Foden...

721

00:32:59,972--> 00:33:02,428

I hope that's how you pronounce

her surname, apologies if not.

722

00:33:02,452--> 00:33:05,348

"Is the Access Fund means-tested

or have an income level?"

723

00:33:05,372--> 00:33:07,708

I think I'm correct

in meaning here,

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724

00:33:07,732--> 00:33:10,188

in the same way that
the Contingency Fund

725

00:33:10,212--> 00:33:12,668

has an income for
writing-related activity,

726

00:33:12,692--> 00:33:14,228

and the answer to
that question is no,

727

00:33:14,252--> 00:33:16,343

it doesn't, not for
the Access Fund.

728

00:33:16,343--> 00:33:21,988

We don't ask for, um, your income on
writing-related activities for that fund.

729

00:33:23,343--> 00:33:24,343

Robyn?

730

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00:33:24,343--> 00:33:26,588

-What we will

look at is in the...

731

00:33:26,612--> 00:33:29,468

When you write your cover letter or
your background covering statement

732

00:33:29,492--> 00:33:33,068

explaining why this might be
something that you can't cover yourself,

733

00:33:33,092--> 00:33:34,448

we don't need to
hear the figures,

734

00:33:34,472--> 00:33:37,668

but it would be good to understand
your reasons for applying to the fund

735

00:33:37,692--> 00:33:41,343

and that is taken into
consideration by the assessors.

736

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00:33:41,343--> 00:33:43,348

But you don't need to
give us your last 3 years

737

00:33:43,372--> 00:33:46,468

of, um... of income
in the same way.

738

00:33:48,343--> 00:33:51,148

Great.

739

00:33:51,172--> 00:33:54,068

Moir, "does the Antonia
Fraser biography of women

740

00:33:54,092--> 00:33:56,028

require a contract beforehand?"

741

00:33:56,052--> 00:33:57,228

No. No, it doesn't.

742

00:33:57,252--> 00:33:59,708

It doesn't require... oh,
I wonder if you mean...

743

00:33:59,732--> 00:34:01,788

So it's the same as
the Authors' Foundation,

744

00:34:01,812--> 00:34:04,343

so you do need to have
been previously published

745

00:34:04,343--> 00:34:06,228

or you need to
be under contract,

746

00:34:06,252--> 00:34:09,068

but you don't need a contract
for that specific work, no.

747

00:34:09,092--> 00:34:10,828

You can still get that award,

748

00:34:10,852--> 00:34:12,868

even if you're not
currently under contract,

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749

00:34:12,892--> 00:34:16,343

but you're in the, kind of,
research stages of that biography.

750

00:34:16,343--> 00:34:19,748

I hope that answers your question.

751

00:34:22,343--> 00:34:25,588

-I've got another question
here from Anonymous.

752

00:34:25,612--> 00:34:29,388

"Do you need to make a case about
your project and career trajectory,

753

00:34:29,412--> 00:34:34,343

step changes in your career, and outreach
when applying for the Access Grant?"

754

00:34:34,343--> 00:34:35,828

No, not specifically.

755

00:34:35,852--> 00:34:38,628

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But I think what I
would say, again, is

756

00:34:38,652--> 00:34:40,548

if you would like to
give that information,

757

00:34:40,572--> 00:34:43,148

it is always helpful to
have that information.

758

00:34:43,172--> 00:34:45,108

And of course, we
do want to hear about

759

00:34:45,132--> 00:34:48,268

the project, if there is a
specific project that you're,

760

00:34:48,292--> 00:34:50,343

for example, going
to a retreat for

761

00:34:50,343--> 00:34:54,028

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or going for a research

trip for, to be able to fund.

762

00:34:54,052--> 00:34:55,708

So that's really

important to, you know,

763

00:34:55,732--> 00:35:00,343

for the assessors to understand, kind of,

what project and what you're working on.

764

00:35:00,343--> 00:35:03,348

And there is a section in

the Access Fund application

765

00:35:03,372--> 00:35:07,628

that asks what-- anything that

you're working on specifically now.

766

00:35:07,652--> 00:35:11,148

But in terms of, kind of, step

changes in your career and outreach,

767

00:35:11,172--> 00:35:13,108

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it's always really

helpful to know all of that,

768

00:35:13,132--> 00:35:15,343

but it isn't a, um...

769

00:35:15,343--> 00:35:17,581

It's not contingent on

you receiving funds.

770

00:35:18,343--> 00:35:19,343

-Yeah.

771

00:35:19,367--> 00:35:21,428

I think the assessors are

often looking for impact.

772

00:35:21,452--> 00:35:25,388

So, understanding that how

this will change things for you,

773

00:35:25,412--> 00:35:28,388

why it's important, it's the

thing that Aine touched on earlier

774

00:35:28,412--> 00:35:31,748

about why this project,
why you, and why now.

775

00:35:31,772--> 00:35:34,308

Those are really important
questions to answer.

776

00:35:34,332--> 00:35:36,228

Not necessarily for
the Contingency Fund,

777

00:35:36,252--> 00:35:38,343

because that's more about
you needing the support

778

00:35:38,343--> 00:35:41,028

quickly for an emergency
or something that's...

779

00:35:41,052--> 00:35:42,988

or kind of a health issue.

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780

00:35:43,012--> 00:35:45,948

But with the funds that are
supporting Work in Progress,

781

00:35:45,972--> 00:35:48,028

those three kind
of "why" questions

782

00:35:48,052--> 00:35:51,388

are what the assessors will be
looking for in that covering letter.

783

00:35:55,343--> 00:35:57,908

So, uh, Lorna has asked...

784

00:35:57,932--> 00:35:59,348

"Hi there." Hi, Lorna.

785

00:35:59,372--> 00:36:01,788

"Just wondering
whether debut authors

786

00:36:01,812--> 00:36:04,668

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with a publishing contract can
apply to the Authors' Foundation

787

00:36:04,692--> 00:36:07,343

in respect of work being
undertaken on their next novel,

788

00:36:07,343--> 00:36:10,588

but while still awaiting
publication in the first."

789

00:36:10,612--> 00:36:11,868

Yeah, so this does come up.

790

00:36:11,892--> 00:36:13,828

Um, if you have...

791

00:36:13,852--> 00:36:16,628

your first novel and it's
maybe coming out in June,

792

00:36:16,652--> 00:36:18,988

but you obviously need to
start working on the next one.

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793

00:36:19,012--> 00:36:21,343

Even though that hasn't
technically been published yet,

794

00:36:21,343--> 00:36:23,988

we would still accept
an application from you

795

00:36:24,012--> 00:36:25,268

for the Authors' Foundation,

796

00:36:25,292--> 00:36:27,148

because you need
to begin, you know...

797

00:36:27,172--> 00:36:28,988

You need to begin
work on the next thing

798

00:36:29,012--> 00:36:31,308

and it's not necessarily
in your control

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799

00:36:31,332--> 00:36:33,908

when that first work is gonna
make it out into the world,

800

00:36:33,932--> 00:36:36,343

because there's lots of
other steps between...

801

00:36:36,343--> 00:36:38,668

Once you finish working on it,

802

00:36:38,692--> 00:36:41,628

there's a lot that needs to happen
before it's actually published.

803

00:36:41,652--> 00:36:45,668

So yes, um, as long as you've
got that contract with the publisher

804

00:36:45,692--> 00:36:47,268

and you know the
publication date,

805

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00:36:47,292--> 00:36:48,543

that's usually quite helpful.

806

00:36:48,567--> 00:36:50,428

It doesn't matter

too much if it moves.

807

00:36:50,452--> 00:36:51,668

We know these things happen

808

00:36:51,692--> 00:36:54,148

and it's always worth, if

something does change,

809

00:36:54,172--> 00:36:55,443

just getting in touch with us.

810

00:36:55,467--> 00:36:57,268

Myself and Aine and Natalie,

811

00:36:57,292--> 00:37:00,388

we're around, we're happy to chat

to you about these kind of things.

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812

00:37:00,412--> 00:37:02,508

But the quick
answer to that is yes,

813

00:37:02,532--> 00:37:03,948

you're very welcome to apply,

814

00:37:03,972--> 00:37:06,708

even if it's not out
in the world yet.

815

00:37:07,343--> 00:37:08,668

-Yeah.

816

00:37:08,692--> 00:37:12,508

Another lovely
person from the chat...

817

00:37:12,532--> 00:37:15,948

"hi, what's the maximum
amount you can apply for

818

00:37:15,972--> 00:37:18,343

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for the Authors'

Foundation Award?"

819

00:37:18,343--> 00:37:20,828

So, I believe it's on the

website and what we do say

820

00:37:20,852--> 00:37:23,343

is you can apply

for up to £6,000.

821

00:37:23,343--> 00:37:25,908

However, what I will

say is that it's not...

822

00:37:25,932--> 00:37:28,348

that's... if you are successful

in receiving a grant,

823

00:37:28,372--> 00:37:31,343

that's not necessarily the

amount that you will receive.

824

00:37:31,343--> 00:37:33,468

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It's likely to be
slightly less than that.

825

00:37:33,492--> 00:37:35,108

Obviously, we have a, um...

826

00:37:35,132--> 00:37:37,308

We only have a finite
amount of money,

827

00:37:37,332--> 00:37:40,228

so it does need to be,
kind of, um, sectioned out

828

00:37:40,252--> 00:37:43,388

between everybody
that is receiving a grant

829

00:37:43,412--> 00:37:46,028

in that particular
section of people.

830

00:37:46,052--> 00:37:49,343

So everybody that is successful

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in a grant has to get money.

831

00:37:49,343--> 00:37:52,348

So you may find that you
don't apply for very much,

832

00:37:52,372--> 00:37:53,988

but you may find
you get a little more.

833

00:37:54,012--> 00:37:56,508

Or you may have find that
you apply for the full £6,000,

834

00:37:56,532--> 00:37:58,708

but you do just
get slightly less.

835

00:37:58,732--> 00:38:00,268

But it's always good, as I say,

836

00:38:00,292--> 00:38:01,668

as I think we've
said previously,

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837

00:38:01,692--> 00:38:04,343

to put a little rundown

budget, if you can.

838

00:38:04,343--> 00:38:06,948

And it doesn't have to be, um...

839

00:38:06,972--> 00:38:10,228

It can just be an estimate

in your rundown as well,

840

00:38:10,252--> 00:38:12,208

because then that just

allows the assessor to see

841

00:38:12,232--> 00:38:14,343

what kind of spending

you're wanting to do.

842

00:38:14,343--> 00:38:15,343

Robyn?

843

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00:38:15,343--> 00:38:17,548

-Yeah, and on that

point as well, it...

844

00:38:17,572--> 00:38:19,948

It can be used to pay yourself.

845

00:38:19,972--> 00:38:22,028

I think sometimes

authors can feel nervous

846

00:38:22,052--> 00:38:24,428

about assigning themselves

money for working,

847

00:38:24,452--> 00:38:26,148

and looking on...

848

00:38:26,172--> 00:38:28,628

I know the Creative Alliance

have a really good calculator

849

00:38:28,652--> 00:38:32,188

for working out your

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daily rate as a freelancer,

850

00:38:32,212--> 00:38:33,988

and so including in your budget

851

00:38:34,012--> 00:38:35,828

"this is how much I

would be paid for this day

852

00:38:35,852--> 00:38:37,988

and I'm going to be spending

all of this day on that."

853

00:38:38,012--> 00:38:40,508

That piece of work is a

completely legitimate thing

854

00:38:40,532--> 00:38:42,308

to apply to the

Authors Foundation for.

855

00:38:42,332--> 00:38:45,068

You can... You know,

paying yourself a salary

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856

00:38:45,092--> 00:38:46,428

while you're doing this work

857

00:38:46,452--> 00:38:48,308

and not taking on

other paid work, that's...

858

00:38:48,332--> 00:38:50,428

we would... very happily fund that

859

00:38:50,452--> 00:38:52,148

through the Authors Foundation,

860

00:38:52,172--> 00:38:54,343

so that's worth including.

861

00:38:54,343--> 00:38:57,868

So, next I have Melissa Addy...

862

00:38:57,892--> 00:38:59,028

Sorry.

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863

00:38:59,052--> 00:39:01,308

Said, "it would be really
nice if self-published authors

864

00:39:01,332--> 00:39:02,868

could also be considered,

865

00:39:02,892--> 00:39:06,668

e.g. The Crime Writers' Association
have the criteria to ensure quality.

866

00:39:06,692--> 00:39:09,388

I've been a writer and
member of SoA for 10 years,

867

00:39:09,412--> 00:39:11,828

but only this month was I
allowed to apply, which I have."

868

00:39:11,852--> 00:39:13,019

That's great news.

869

00:39:13,043--> 00:39:15,188

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"Because I just got a
publisher for some of my books.

870

00:39:15,212--> 00:39:16,868

It just would be
nice to allow that,

871

00:39:16,892--> 00:39:18,748

since we are allowed to
be members of the SoA."

872

00:39:18,772--> 00:39:21,868

So just to reiterate, you don't
have to be a member of the SoA

873

00:39:21,892--> 00:39:23,548

to apply for any of our grants,

874

00:39:23,572--> 00:39:25,588

so there isn't a kind
of correlation between

875

00:39:25,612--> 00:39:29,343

the SoA membership and

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the access to the grants.

876

00:39:29,343--> 00:39:31,708

The Authors' Foundation

is an independent charity.

877

00:39:31,732--> 00:39:34,308

It has independent trustees.

878

00:39:34,332--> 00:39:37,188

The SoA is a corporate trustee,

but just one of many trustees

879

00:39:37,212--> 00:39:38,788

for the Authors' Foundation.

880

00:39:38,812--> 00:39:40,508

And we do keep these, um...

881

00:39:40,532--> 00:39:42,828

These criteria under review

882

00:39:42,852--> 00:39:45,028

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and pass those to
the trustees to discuss

883

00:39:45,052--> 00:39:47,343

at their meetings when
they meet twice a year.

884

00:39:47,343--> 00:39:49,908

So, these are things that
we are considering actively.

885

00:39:49,932--> 00:39:53,628

Um, in the meantime, you can
apply to the Access Fund as...

886

00:39:53,652--> 00:39:56,188

because the same,
um, you just need to be...

887

00:39:56,212--> 00:39:57,668

to qualify for membership.

888

00:39:57,692--> 00:39:59,828

Not be a member, but

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qualify for membership.

889

00:39:59,852--> 00:40:03,268

So there are other funding
streams open to you at the moment.

890

00:40:06,343--> 00:40:07,788

-Thanks, Robyn.

891

00:40:07,812--> 00:40:10,188

So we've had
another question here.

892

00:40:10,212--> 00:40:13,388

"Can you apply for the
contingency fund twice?"

893

00:40:13,412--> 00:40:15,908

Yes, however, you
do have to make sure

894

00:40:15,932--> 00:40:18,948

that you've waited 4 years
between your applications.

895

00:40:18,972--> 00:40:21,788

And when we say 4 years,
we mean 4 calendar years.

896

00:40:21,812--> 00:40:25,308

So, for example, if you received
a grant from us this year in 2025...

897

00:40:25,332--> 00:40:28,188

Watch me do maths...

898

00:40:28,212--> 00:40:31,668

You, although it's 2009 which
would technically be four years,

899

00:40:31,692--> 00:40:34,343

it's actually calendar years,
so you could reapply in 2010

900

00:40:34,343--> 00:40:36,148

if that makes sense.

901

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00:40:36,172--> 00:40:38,428

But yes, essentially
you can apply twice.

902

00:40:39,343--> 00:40:40,988

-Yep.

903

00:40:41,012--> 00:40:43,788

So, next, Paula Knight said,

904

00:40:43,812--> 00:40:46,988

"could the Access Fund be
used to fund a creative PA?"

905

00:40:47,012--> 00:40:48,343

Yes.

906

00:40:48,343--> 00:40:51,068

If it's something that
would give you access to...

907

00:40:51,092--> 00:40:53,268

give access to your
author community

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908

00:40:53,292--> 00:40:56,188

or give you access

to be able to, like,

909

00:40:56,212--> 00:40:58,068

to be able to do

your creative practice,

910

00:40:58,092--> 00:41:00,948

that's definitely something you

could apply to the Access Fund for.

911

00:41:02,343--> 00:41:04,548

It's... and I think we've also

had on there discussions

912

00:41:04,572--> 00:41:07,428

of putting things

into a usable format,

913

00:41:07,452--> 00:41:10,068

so if you needed

somebody to type something

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914

00:41:10,092--> 00:41:11,668

that wasn't available to you,

915

00:41:11,692--> 00:41:14,188

that's a legitimate

use of the fund as well.

916

00:41:17,343--> 00:41:19,228

-Sunita Thind...

917

00:41:19,252--> 00:41:20,868

Again, I'm sorry.

918

00:41:20,892--> 00:41:24,068

"Can I apply if I have had

a different grant before,

919

00:41:24,092--> 00:41:25,828

not from the

Society of Authors?"

920

00:41:25,852--> 00:41:27,343

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Yes, you absolutely can.

921

00:41:27,343--> 00:41:28,668

Um, that's not a problem at all.

922

00:41:28,692--> 00:41:31,548

We don't take in grants that
aren't ours into consideration.

923

00:41:31,572--> 00:41:32,572

-Yeah.

924

00:41:32,596--> 00:41:33,808

We might ask about them on...

925

00:41:33,832--> 00:41:36,308

on our Authors' Foundation
form, we do ask if you've received

926

00:41:36,332--> 00:41:39,788

any other funding, um, because,
again, it's a really competitive fund, so...

927

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00:41:39,812--> 00:41:42,588

Ultimately, it might be
something that we consider,

928

00:41:42,612--> 00:41:45,148

but it definitely doesn't
prevent you from applying

929

00:41:45,172--> 00:41:48,188

and usually it wouldn't
impact, because with that fund,

930

00:41:48,212--> 00:41:51,588

as we've said, it's really
the strength of the work.

931

00:41:54,343--> 00:41:57,348

So, Steph M has said,

932

00:41:57,372--> 00:41:59,548

"would the access
fund support fuel costs

933

00:41:59,572--> 00:42:01,828

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and/or mileage when

travelling to an event

934

00:42:01,852--> 00:42:03,148

if we go in our own car?"

935

00:42:03,172--> 00:42:04,468

Yes, it would.

936

00:42:04,492--> 00:42:06,748

So, if you applied

to the Access Fund,

937

00:42:06,772--> 00:42:08,708

we will, um, direct...

938

00:42:08,732--> 00:42:10,748

you can use-- For

things like mileage,

939

00:42:10,772--> 00:42:13,668

we'll direct you to

our expenses policy.

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940

00:42:13,692--> 00:42:16,343

And within that, we
have a breakdown of

941

00:42:16,343--> 00:42:18,588

how you can report
mileage to us and fuel,

942

00:42:18,612--> 00:42:20,268

so you'd be
able to fill that out

943

00:42:20,292--> 00:42:23,108

and get reimbursed for the
amount that you've spent.

944

00:42:23,132--> 00:42:26,828

Again, I would stress that
please do hold onto your receipts

945

00:42:26,852--> 00:42:29,343

for the Access Fund,
because we need those to...

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946

00:42:29,343--> 00:42:30,788

To give to our auditors.

947

00:42:30,812--> 00:42:33,628

So it's important

that you demonstrate

948

00:42:33,652--> 00:42:36,348

how you've spent

that money for your trip

949

00:42:36,372--> 00:42:38,548

and where it's been used.

950

00:42:43,343--> 00:42:45,628

-Jenny Godfrey...

951

00:42:45,652--> 00:42:49,588

"If unsuccessful, do you have to

wait a certain period to reapply?"

952

00:42:49,612--> 00:42:52,668

It depends on the fund that

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you're speaking about, Jenny.

953

00:42:52,692--> 00:42:55,508

Um, for the Contingency Fund...

954

00:42:55,532--> 00:42:57,908

You don't have to wait a
certain amount of period to reply.

955

00:42:57,932--> 00:43:01,548

However, if your circumstances
haven't dramatically changed,

956

00:43:01,572--> 00:43:04,068

then it's
unfortunately not like...

957

00:43:04,092--> 00:43:07,188

it's unfortunately not
an eligible application.

958

00:43:07,212--> 00:43:10,628

You can reapply for
something entirely different

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959

00:43:10,652--> 00:43:12,343

or if your

960

00:43:12,343--> 00:43:14,148

circumstances have

very much changed,

961

00:43:14,172--> 00:43:15,988

then yes, you can reapply

962

00:43:16,012--> 00:43:18,343

and the assessors

will look at that again.

963

00:43:18,343--> 00:43:21,508

For the Authors' Foundation,

964

00:43:21,532--> 00:43:24,468

if you're unsuccessful,

yes, you can reapply.

965

00:43:24,492--> 00:43:26,148

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I'm right in saying
that, aren't I, Robyn?

966

00:43:26,172--> 00:43:27,172

-Yes.

967

00:43:27,196--> 00:43:30,343

-You can reapply with the
same project, we would just, uh...

968

00:43:30,343--> 00:43:33,343

We would just advise in a
slightly different time frame.

969

00:43:33,343--> 00:43:35,868

-So yeah, so we ask you to
wait until the next calendar year

970

00:43:35,892--> 00:43:37,388

for the Authors' Foundation.

971

00:43:37,412--> 00:43:39,148

This is simply because

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972

00:43:39,172--> 00:43:41,668

we have one set of
assessors in place

973

00:43:41,692--> 00:43:42,788

and they work for a year,

974

00:43:42,812--> 00:43:45,343

and then we have a new
panel of assessors

975

00:43:45,343--> 00:43:46,343

the next calendar year,

976

00:43:46,367--> 00:43:48,188

so that we're making
sure that we're

977

00:43:48,212--> 00:43:50,308

not looking for the
same things every time.

978

00:43:50,332--> 00:43:54,108

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We're making sure we're getting a
diverse application process in there.

979

00:43:54,132--> 00:43:56,748

But, so we basically just
don't want you to send

980

00:43:56,772--> 00:43:59,343

the same application to the
same set of assessors twice.

981

00:43:59,343--> 00:44:01,828

It's better if you're reapplying

982

00:44:01,852--> 00:44:03,308

when a new panel is in place,

983

00:44:03,332--> 00:44:06,588

and that will happen at
the next calendar year.

984

00:44:10,343--> 00:44:12,628

Uh, Caroline has asked,

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985

00:44:12,652--> 00:44:14,988

"do you need to

demonstrate financial need

986

00:44:15,012--> 00:44:18,343

for the P.D. James Award as

you do for the Contingency Fund?"

987

00:44:18,343--> 00:44:21,468

So, yes, on the entry

form-- application form, sorry,

988

00:44:21,492--> 00:44:24,343

we will ask you about

your financial situation

989

00:44:24,343--> 00:44:28,948

and that will be taken into

consideration by the assessors.

990

00:44:33,343--> 00:44:35,868

-Yes, sir, again, hello.

991

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00:44:35,892--> 00:44:40,628

"How much of a biography is
it, like, if it was historical fiction?"

992

00:44:40,652--> 00:44:43,343

Was that relating to the, um...

993

00:44:43,343--> 00:44:45,731

-I think that's Antonia Fraser.

994

00:44:45,755--> 00:44:48,228

So that would need
to be non-fiction,

995

00:44:48,252--> 00:44:49,988

if you were
applying specifically...

996

00:44:50,012--> 00:44:52,588

if you wanted the
Antonia Fraser grant.

997

00:44:52,612--> 00:44:55,548

That does need to be a

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biography of women or...

998

00:44:55,572--> 00:44:58,508

or of a woman, so

historical fiction wouldn't be

999

00:44:58,532--> 00:44:59,948

eligible for that.

1000

00:44:59,972--> 00:45:02,628

But that's just one part of the

1001

00:45:02,652--> 00:45:04,068

Authors' Foundation,

1002

00:45:04,092--> 00:45:07,343

so we could still

strongly advise

1003

00:45:07,343--> 00:45:09,908

applying and seeing if you

can get funding regardless,

1004

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00:45:09,932--> 00:45:11,132

because I think there's, um...

1005

00:45:11,156--> 00:45:14,148

there's a lot of space

for historical fiction

1006

00:45:14,172--> 00:45:15,343

about women or a woman.

1007

00:45:15,343--> 00:45:19,668

But you wouldn't be eligible for
the Antonia Fraser grant for that.

1008

00:45:21,343--> 00:45:25,068

-Okay, a question from
Sophie Buchaillard.

1009

00:45:25,092--> 00:45:27,908

"Am I right that
for the K Blundell,

1010

00:45:27,932--> 00:45:30,028

you have to have

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been born in the UK?"

1011

00:45:30,052--> 00:45:32,308

You are correct

in that, I'm afraid,

1012

00:45:32,332--> 00:45:34,028

but as Robyn has said earlier,

1013

00:45:34,052--> 00:45:36,268

do remember that if you're

eligible for the K Blundell,

1014

00:45:36,292--> 00:45:37,343

you are, um...

1015

00:45:37,343--> 00:45:39,628

If you're not eligible

for the K Blundell, sorry,

1016

00:45:39,652--> 00:45:43,108

you probably would still be

eligible for the Authors' Foundation

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1017

00:45:43,132--> 00:45:45,588

as long as you
follow that criteria.

1018

00:45:48,343--> 00:45:51,628

-So, an anonymous
attendee has asked,

1019

00:45:51,652--> 00:45:56,228

"if a project has had early
or seed funding elsewhere,

1020

00:45:56,252--> 00:45:59,588

say to develop the initial
section of a manuscript,

1021

00:45:59,612--> 00:46:01,828

would this then
make it ineligible

1022

00:46:01,852--> 00:46:03,248

for the Authors'
Foundation Award?"

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1023

00:46:03,272--> 00:46:04,343

No.

1024

00:46:04,343--> 00:46:06,228

So, we would ask
you to disclose this,

1025

00:46:06,252--> 00:46:09,468

just so that we know if there's
been other contributions,

1026

00:46:09,492--> 00:46:11,708

but it's quite far down
on the list of things

1027

00:46:11,732--> 00:46:13,348

that the assessors
are looking for.

1028

00:46:13,372--> 00:46:15,268

It doesn't make you ineligible,

1029

00:46:15,292--> 00:46:16,868

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you can definitely still apply.

1030

00:46:16,892--> 00:46:19,188

It's the same way as in you
would disclose in advance,

1031

00:46:19,212--> 00:46:23,068

which I guess does still mean
seed funding in a certain way.

1032

00:46:23,092--> 00:46:25,348

Um, so we just ask
you to disclose it

1033

00:46:25,372--> 00:46:27,343

so that we have an accurate

1034

00:46:27,343--> 00:46:30,588

picture of the contributions that
have gone into that specific project

1035

00:46:30,612--> 00:46:34,308

and then that will be taken into
consideration by the assessors.

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1036

00:46:37,343--> 00:46:38,588

-Caroline...

1037

00:46:38,612--> 00:46:40,988

"If you've got Contingency

Fund help during COVID,

1038

00:46:41,012--> 00:46:43,428

can you apply again or do

you have to wait the four years?"

1039

00:46:43,452--> 00:46:45,343

Depends on which year, Caroline.

1040

00:46:45,343--> 00:46:47,428

So, if you received in 2020,

1041

00:46:47,452--> 00:46:50,348

you would be eligible

now as of 2025 to reapply.

1042

00:46:50,372--> 00:46:53,188

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If you applied in 2021...

1043

00:46:53,212--> 00:46:55,343

Here's me trying to remember
how long COVID lasted.

1044

00:46:55,343--> 00:46:59,068

Um, then you would just have
to wait until 2026, I believe,

1045

00:46:59,092--> 00:47:01,343

if my maths is correct
there with the quick Maths.

1046

00:47:01,343--> 00:47:02,428

-Yeah.

1047

00:47:02,452--> 00:47:05,348

Yeah, this has been a policy
change for the Contingency Fund.

1048

00:47:05,372--> 00:47:08,668

I know that some people who
received help during COVID from--

1049

00:47:08,692--> 00:47:11,343

I think at the time we were
calling it the Emergency Fund.

1050

00:47:11,343--> 00:47:14,348

Because we had a
massive injection of funding.

1051

00:47:14,372--> 00:47:16,868

The RLF were very
generous with funding for...

1052

00:47:16,892--> 00:47:18,908

I think we gave out
about £1.2 million

1053

00:47:18,932--> 00:47:21,868

during COVID, because
it was so necessary.

1054

00:47:21,892--> 00:47:23,343

A lot of people
needed that support.

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1055

00:47:23,343--> 00:47:25,748

That funding has stopped,

1056

00:47:25,772--> 00:47:29,388

so the fund has gone back

down to pre-COVID levels,

1057

00:47:29,412--> 00:47:32,988

which means we give out in

the region of £100,000 a year.

1058

00:47:33,012--> 00:47:34,668

So it has had to reduce

1059

00:47:34,692--> 00:47:38,508

and a way of managing

that is adding in more criteria

1060

00:47:38,532--> 00:47:40,428

to ensure that we have enough money

1061

00:47:40,452--> 00:47:42,268

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to support the
people who need it.

1062

00:47:42,292--> 00:47:44,708

And unfortunately, that has
meant that we need to put

1063

00:47:44,732--> 00:47:47,343

a restriction on how
frequently people can reapply.

1064

00:47:47,343--> 00:47:50,068

I know that we did have
some people who received

1065

00:47:50,092--> 00:47:52,748

multiple years of
funding during COVID,

1066

00:47:52,772--> 00:47:55,868

so this might be something that
you haven't encountered previously.

1067

00:47:55,892--> 00:47:58,788

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The new system means that
we do have to wait 4 years

1068

00:47:58,812--> 00:48:01,108

due to the reduction
in our funding.

1069

00:48:04,343--> 00:48:07,188

Sunita has another question.

1070

00:48:07,212--> 00:48:11,508

"Can you apply if you are disabled
and have had a grant before

1071

00:48:11,532--> 00:48:13,343

for a work in progress, please?"

1072

00:48:13,343--> 00:48:15,908

So, um, yep, you can
apply to all of our grants.

1073

00:48:15,932--> 00:48:17,108

Um, there's...

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1074

00:48:17,132--> 00:48:20,828

And if you've had a grant
before for a work in progress.

1075

00:48:20,852--> 00:48:23,343

So, if it's a grant from us

1076

00:48:23,343--> 00:48:25,428

for that specific
work in progress,

1077

00:48:25,452--> 00:48:29,343

you can't have another Authors'
Foundation grant for that same project.

1078

00:48:29,343--> 00:48:31,428

The Authors
Foundation will only,

1079

00:48:31,452--> 00:48:33,668

and that includes any
of the special awards

1080

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00:48:33,692--> 00:48:35,343

and the K Blundell Trust.

1081

00:48:35,343--> 00:48:37,668

So you can't receive

something from the K Blundell

1082

00:48:37,692--> 00:48:40,028

and then get something else

from the Authors' Foundation.

1083

00:48:40,052--> 00:48:43,343

We consider that Work in

Progress fund to be the same fund.

1084

00:48:43,343--> 00:48:45,748

We would ask that you...

1085

00:48:45,772--> 00:48:48,188

Yeah, you can't get more

money for the same project,

1086

00:48:48,212--> 00:48:50,888

but you might be able to get

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something from one of the other funds

1087

00:48:50,912--> 00:48:52,068

if you needed a top-up.

1088

00:48:52,092--> 00:48:55,908

Um, but if you've had a grant
before from another organization,

1089

00:48:55,932--> 00:48:59,343

again, that wouldn't
restrict you from...

1090

00:48:59,343--> 00:49:00,668

Um, from applying.

1091

00:49:00,692--> 00:49:03,668

It might be considered as
part of the assessment process,

1092

00:49:03,692--> 00:49:06,388

but it wouldn't prevent
you from getting a grant.

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1093

00:49:09,343--> 00:49:13,268

-Uh, Anna Maria Hellberg

Moberg, incredible name.

1094

00:49:13,292--> 00:49:15,343

Thank you for your question.

1095

00:49:15,343--> 00:49:17,068

"Can I apply to the
Authors' Foundation

1096

00:49:17,092--> 00:49:19,828

for funding that goes towards
spoken word storytelling

1097

00:49:19,852--> 00:49:21,343

rather than writing?"

1098

00:49:21,343--> 00:49:22,468

Um, so I'm just...

1099

00:49:22,492--> 00:49:24,068

I'm gonna respond

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on my... on, uh...

1100

00:49:24,092--> 00:49:25,908

my initial one here,

1101

00:49:25,932--> 00:49:28,348

but Robyn, do jump in if

you've got more information.

1102

00:49:28,372--> 00:49:31,348

So, The Authors'

Foundation can't be used

1103

00:49:31,372--> 00:49:34,148

for promotional

marketing or sales,

1104

00:49:34,172--> 00:49:37,548

or anything towards publication.

1105

00:49:37,572--> 00:49:40,428

So, for example, if you

apply for a work in progress

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1106

00:49:40,452--> 00:49:43,228

and part of your

application was to fund...

1107

00:49:43,252--> 00:49:46,343

to go and kind of spoken

word and storytell your work,

1108

00:49:46,343--> 00:49:49,388

we would consider

that a promotional cost.

1109

00:49:49,412--> 00:49:52,588

So that would probably be a no.

1110

00:49:52,612--> 00:49:56,588

But do let us know if there's kind

of more information on that front.

1111

00:49:56,612--> 00:49:58,443

Robyn looks like she's

going to say something.

1112

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00:49:58,467--> 00:50:01,988

-Yeah, if the project itself is
spoken word or storytelling, however,

1113

00:50:02,012--> 00:50:04,188

the fund is open
to scriptwriters.

1114

00:50:04,212--> 00:50:07,748

So we just ask that you
have either previously been...

1115

00:50:07,772--> 00:50:09,668

So it kind of works
in the same way,

1116

00:50:09,692--> 00:50:12,508

but we've tried to translate
it into a scriptwriting space

1117

00:50:12,532--> 00:50:13,828

or a performance space,

1118

00:50:13,852--> 00:50:16,108

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in that we would ask that
you've been commissioned

1119

00:50:16,132--> 00:50:19,188

to perform previously

1120

00:50:19,212--> 00:50:22,108

and that... or that you are
currently being commissioned.

1121

00:50:22,132--> 00:50:25,343

So in the same way that said previously
published or currently under contract,

1122

00:50:25,343--> 00:50:27,428

we've tried to translate
that onto the stage

1123

00:50:27,452--> 00:50:30,108

to say you've either been
previously commissioned to perform

1124

00:50:30,132--> 00:50:33,343

or you're currently under

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contract with a performance space.

1125

00:50:33,343--> 00:50:35,948

So we'd need evidence

that it's going to be...

1126

00:50:35,972--> 00:50:37,828

that this production's

going to happen

1127

00:50:37,852--> 00:50:40,488

and the same things that when

you're saying about not contributing

1128

00:50:40,512--> 00:50:41,543

to publication costs,

1129

00:50:41,567--> 00:50:43,908

production costs would

then be considered with this.

1130

00:50:43,932--> 00:50:46,108

But that's something

we would definitely, um...

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1131

00:50:46,132--> 00:50:48,668

Because the fund is
now open to writers

1132

00:50:48,692--> 00:50:51,708

who are writing for the
stage, the screen, or radio,

1133

00:50:51,732--> 00:50:54,268

it does sound-- Like, we'd have
to get a bit more information.

1134

00:50:54,292--> 00:50:55,668

I'm sorry we keep saying that,

1135

00:50:55,692--> 00:50:58,748

but that does sound like something
that we would be able to fund

1136

00:50:58,772--> 00:51:01,108

if you had a
performance in mind,

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1137

00:51:01,132--> 00:51:03,188

rather than a publication.

1138

00:51:03,212--> 00:51:05,228

Sorry, that's a bit wordy.

1139

00:51:05,252--> 00:51:06,343

Hope that helps.

1140

00:51:06,343--> 00:51:07,343

-Thanks, Robyn.

1141

00:51:07,343--> 00:51:11,228

-So, um, an anonymous
attendee has said,

1142

00:51:11,252--> 00:51:14,388

"is it only income from
writing that's taken into account

1143

00:51:14,412--> 00:51:16,428

or is it also household income?"

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1144

00:51:16,452--> 00:51:20,828

So we do also ask
for household income.

1145

00:51:20,852--> 00:51:24,028

So income that's non-writing
related, we'll ask for that.

1146

00:51:24,052--> 00:51:26,708

Because the thing that we're
looking for is that balance

1147

00:51:26,732--> 00:51:28,588

where the majority
of your income

1148

00:51:28,612--> 00:51:31,343

should come from writing
in order to be eligible

1149

00:51:31,343--> 00:51:33,188

for the Contingency Fund.

1150

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00:51:33,212--> 00:51:36,348

It doesn't mean you have to be
making loads of income from writing,

1151

00:51:36,372--> 00:51:38,868

because I know that's
often not the case.

1152

00:51:38,892--> 00:51:42,348

It's more that you have to be
reliant upon the writing income

1153

00:51:42,372--> 00:51:45,108

in order to be eligible
for the Contingency Fund.

1154

00:51:45,132--> 00:51:48,468

So we will ask about other
money that's coming in,

1155

00:51:48,492--> 00:51:52,708

whether that be pensions
or benefits or welfare or...

1156

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00:51:52,732--> 00:51:56,028

Um, we also ask if you
share your home or your life

1157

00:51:56,052--> 00:51:58,343

with a partner,
what their income is

1158

00:51:58,343--> 00:51:59,348

and how that is...

1159

00:51:59,372--> 00:52:02,548

how that's been affected
by your current situation.

1160

00:52:04,343--> 00:52:07,108

-So it looks like
we're on our last two.

1161

00:52:07,132--> 00:52:08,428

Thank you for
all your questions.

1162

00:52:08,452--> 00:52:10,308

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Jenny is having a Google

1163

00:52:10,332--> 00:52:12,588

to find the Creative

Alliance rates, Robyn,

1164

00:52:12,612--> 00:52:15,228

that you mentioned, but

they aren't able to find them.

1165

00:52:15,252--> 00:52:17,343

Is it possible to

offer direction?

1166

00:52:17,343--> 00:52:18,348

-Sure, yes.

1167

00:52:18,372--> 00:52:20,548

I don't have that

in front of me now,

1168

00:52:20,572--> 00:52:23,388

but what I will do is I'll

speak to the Events team

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1169

00:52:23,412--> 00:52:25,408

and I'll see if we can

add that onto the follow-up

1170

00:52:25,432--> 00:52:27,628

that goes to everybody,

so that we can link to that,

1171

00:52:27,652--> 00:52:29,508

because I think

they are really useful.

1172

00:52:29,532--> 00:52:32,208

Um, and it's, yeah, they... I think

they update them quite regularly.

1173

00:52:32,232--> 00:52:33,948

There's, like, a

day rates and it's...

1174

00:52:33,972--> 00:52:35,748

it's a really good resource.

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1175

00:52:35,772--> 00:52:39,188

So, um, I will make sure that's
added to the follow-up that happens in...

1176

00:52:39,212--> 00:52:41,268

after this email.

And if it's not,

1177

00:52:41,292--> 00:52:42,808

which I can't see
why it wouldn't be,

1178

00:52:42,832--> 00:52:45,148

but just in case, Jenny,
do get in touch with us

1179

00:52:45,172--> 00:52:46,343

and I can direct you myself.

1180

00:52:46,343--> 00:52:48,508

I'm about to put our
emails on the screen,

1181

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00:52:48,532--> 00:52:50,588

because we are going

to need to wrap up shortly.

1182

00:52:50,612--> 00:52:54,748

Which is good, because I think

we're on to our last question.

1183

00:52:56,343--> 00:52:58,668

So relating to the

Authors' Foundation Fund,

1184

00:52:58,692--> 00:53:01,708

why being a self-published

or hybrid author

1185

00:53:01,732--> 00:53:03,348

excludes you from this fund?

1186

00:53:03,372--> 00:53:06,348

It's a question of the capacity of the fund

1187

00:53:06,372--> 00:53:09,348

and the decision of the trustees

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made when setting up the fund.

1188

00:53:09,372--> 00:53:11,428

It is kept under review,

1189

00:53:11,452--> 00:53:13,743

so it's something that we
raise with them periodically.

1190

00:53:13,767--> 00:53:16,148

But it's just something
that's not, um...

1191

00:53:16,172--> 00:53:18,343

that we're not able to
facilitate at the moment.

1192

00:53:18,343--> 00:53:21,748

But, like I said, the Access Fund
is open to self-published authors

1193

00:53:21,772--> 00:53:24,628

and even if you were to apply,

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1194

00:53:24,652--> 00:53:26,788

you wouldn't be able to
submit anything that would be

1195

00:53:26,812--> 00:53:28,988

related to publication costs.

1196

00:53:34,343--> 00:53:36,388

-Okay, so... I think
that's everything.

1197

00:53:36,412--> 00:53:38,388

We've got our little
round-up now to do,

1198

00:53:38,412--> 00:53:39,548

which we'll talk through,

1199

00:53:39,572--> 00:53:41,343

so I'll hand over to Aine

1200

00:53:41,343--> 00:53:45,343

for the next kind of few

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events we've got coming up.

1201

00:53:45,343--> 00:53:48,068

-So, if you have enjoyed our
events and our events generally...

1202

00:53:48,092--> 00:53:50,148

I'm sure you've enjoyed
today, I know I have,

1203

00:53:50,172--> 00:53:52,388

you can join us
at our next event

1204

00:53:52,412--> 00:53:56,068

which is how to handle rejection
and knock backs in your author career.

1205

00:53:56,092--> 00:53:58,348

And that is with Kelly Weekes,

1206

00:53:58,372--> 00:54:02,343

and that will be on the
23rd May at 11am.

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1207

00:54:02,343--> 00:54:03,343

Then on...

1208

00:54:03,343--> 00:54:06,748

-Oh, sorry, I'm just gonna jump in,
because I've just opened the chat.

1209

00:54:06,772--> 00:54:07,772

Sorry, Aine.

1210

00:54:07,796--> 00:54:10,788

And I think Vicky has put
that day rate into the chat.

1211

00:54:10,812--> 00:54:12,388

Thank you so much, Vicky.

1212

00:54:12,412--> 00:54:13,828

I really appreciate that.

1213

00:54:13,852--> 00:54:15,348

That looks like

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it's the right link.

1214

00:54:15,372--> 00:54:16,372

[Aine] Amazing.

1215

00:54:16,396--> 00:54:19,508

I'll still talk to the Events team and
see if we can get that sent out to you,

1216

00:54:19,532--> 00:54:21,168

but thank you, that's
really appreciated.

1217

00:54:21,192--> 00:54:22,543

-And Jenny says,
"got it, great."

1218

00:54:22,567--> 00:54:23,567

-Excellent.

1219

00:54:23,591--> 00:54:25,868

-Teamwork makes the
dream work, everybody.

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1220

00:54:25,892--> 00:54:26,908

[laughter]

1221

00:54:26,932--> 00:54:29,508

So if you'd like to do some
more teamwork at another event,

1222

00:54:29,532--> 00:54:34,343

the other event after the
23rd of May would be June 5th

1223

00:54:34,343--> 00:54:36,188

at 10am...

1224

00:54:36,212--> 00:54:39,343

Which is the next slide, please.

1225

00:54:39,343--> 00:54:40,343

-Sorry.

1226

00:54:40,367--> 00:54:41,367

-That's alright.

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1227

00:54:41,391--> 00:54:45,588

That will be video content in
book marketing with Anna Caig.

1228

00:54:49,343--> 00:54:50,343

Lovely.

1229

00:54:50,343--> 00:54:53,628

-Finally, one of the big things
that is important to this team

1230

00:54:53,652--> 00:54:55,628

is the SoA Awards.

1231

00:54:55,652--> 00:54:58,208

So, this is our grants hat that
we've been talking about today,

1232

00:54:58,232--> 00:54:59,748

but we also have our prizes hat

1233

00:54:59,772--> 00:55:03,343

and the SoA Awards will

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be taking place next month.

1234

00:55:03,343--> 00:55:04,628

We'd love to see you there.

1235

00:55:04,652--> 00:55:07,068

You can either attend

in person or online,

1236

00:55:07,092--> 00:55:12,343

and we'll be awarding over

£140,000 in literary prizes and awards.

1237

00:55:12,343--> 00:55:14,348

We'll have Joseph

Coelho doing a keynote

1238

00:55:14,372--> 00:55:16,030

and will be followed

by our summer party.

1239

00:55:16,054--> 00:55:18,343

Tickets are available now.

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1240

00:55:18,343--> 00:55:20,343

-Love it.

1241

00:55:20,343--> 00:55:23,708

-So, I'd like to say a

massive thank you to Aine

1242

00:55:23,732--> 00:55:25,628

for hosting today's

event with me,

1243

00:55:25,652--> 00:55:27,308

and thank you all

very much for coming

1244

00:55:27,332--> 00:55:28,988

and for posting

so many questions.

1245

00:55:29,012--> 00:55:32,268

Thank you to Natalie Thorpe

for moderating today's event,

1246

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00:55:32,292--> 00:55:33,708

being a general

great hype woman,

1247

00:55:33,732--> 00:55:37,343

and also for managing all

of those links and questions.

1248

00:55:37,343--> 00:55:39,188

If you've enjoyed this event

1249

00:55:39,212--> 00:55:41,508

and aren't yet a member

of the Society of Authors,

1250

00:55:41,532--> 00:55:43,228

please consider

joining our community

1251

00:55:43,252--> 00:55:45,348

with our special

SoA at Home offer.

1252

00:55:45,372--> 00:55:48,348

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You get 20% off for the
first year of membership

1253

00:55:48,372--> 00:55:53,343

and you can use code

"SOAATHOME20" to get that discount.

1254

00:55:53,343--> 00:55:56,188

As we've talked about, we've
got our next events coming up.

1255

00:55:56,212--> 00:55:59,628

The SoA at Home
event is free to all,

1256

00:55:59,652--> 00:56:00,908

but if you can afford to,

1257

00:56:00,932--> 00:56:03,988

please consider donating to our
Society of Authors Access Fund

1258

00:56:04,012--> 00:56:06,343

which now you

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know so much about.

1259

00:56:06,343--> 00:56:09,108

We suggest a

minimum donation of £5.

1260

00:56:09,132--> 00:56:12,028

You can also help the

Society of Authors Access Fund

1261

00:56:12,052--> 00:56:15,388

by making a purchase on our

virtual bookstore at Bookshop.org,

1262

00:56:15,412--> 00:56:19,028

and our shortlists for the

SoA Award went live today,

1263

00:56:19,052--> 00:56:21,628

so if you go on there now,

you can also buy books

1264

00:56:21,652--> 00:56:23,228

that are on the SoA shortlist.

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1265

00:56:23,252--> 00:56:25,148

So there's a massive
range of excellent titles

1266

00:56:25,172--> 00:56:27,828

that give a little percentage
to the Access Fund

1267

00:56:27,852--> 00:56:30,343

and support your
author community.

1268

00:56:30,343--> 00:56:32,988

So a final big
thank you to Aine

1269

00:56:33,012--> 00:56:34,508

who's made this such a joy,

1270

00:56:34,532--> 00:56:36,343

to all of you who've
joined us today,

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1271

00:56:36,343--> 00:56:39,148

and you can continue the
conversation on social media

1272

00:56:39,172--> 00:56:41,708

with the festival
hashtag, #SoAatHome.

1273

00:56:43,732--> 00:56:44,788

Thanks, everyone.

1274

00:56:44,812--> 00:56:46,812

-Thanks Robyn, thanks
so much everybody.

1275

00:56:46,836--> 00:56:47,836

It's been a joy.