



Librairie **DRAWN & QUARTERLY** *Bookstore*

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore

Program presentation

Residency for 2020

Montréal 

The Conseil des arts de Montréal (CAM) is joining forces with the Association des libraires du Québec (ALQ) to offer a residency for writers for adults. The residency will take place at the Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore, 211 & 176 Bernard Street West in Montreal, from February to May 2020.

Objectives of the residency

This creative writer's residency, which includes a cultural mediation¹ project, is designed to meet the following objectives:

- To give a writer contact with the public while he or she pursues creative efforts and works on an artistic project in conjunction with the community, supported by the remuneration that accompanies the residency;
- To familiarize people who frequent the bookstore with the writer's work – literary creation in particular but also the more workaday aspects involved;
- To make a writer available and accessible to the public;
- To reinforce the role of booksellers as cultural transmitters in their community.

Description of cultural mediation project

The Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore would like the cultural mediation project accompanying this residency to take the form of a comic strip. The residency will run for four (4) months, from February to May 2020, which the project proponents felt was the minimum length of time needed for the writer to settle comfortably into the space and become a sort of “phantom” of the store.

The writer selected for the residency must be available approximately eight (8) hours per week, some of which time will be spent in the hosting bookstore. While the writer's activities may vary depending on his or her particular talents, skills and interests, he or she must commit to carry out the cultural mediation project, to be developed with input from the community. The relevance of the proposed projects will be the main factor used to evaluate applications. This is to ensure that the writer-in-residence draws inspiration from the community while at the same time giving back. The writer may also choose to work on projects with artists from other disciplines, depending on the budget available.

In addition, again depending on his or her talents, skills and interests, the writer may choose to give readings or talks about the various aspects of his or her artistic process, all for different target audiences. The bookstore's staff will provide support and expertise and its animation

¹ “A true cultural democratization takes more than the enhancement of the cultural supply; it requires the steady, targeted and concerted development of the demand. This action has a name: cultural mediation. A cultural mediator is a go-between, a guide, a messenger, a human intermediary who calls on a potential public to promote, explain, even help it adapt, the cultural services offered. He helps individuals and groups – marginalized clienteles as well as citizens too taken up by their daily lives – to better identify with and appropriate their cultural institutions. A cultural mediator strives to make everyone feel he is an active participant in our cultural output and collective memory.” Montréal, Cultural Metropolis: A Cultural Development Policy for Ville de Montréal 2005-2015, p. 20.

tools will be at the writer's disposal. The store already has a comic strip "book club". Other options for the writer-in-residence include providing literary coaching or mentoring, and putting his or her pen to paper directly on behalf of community members.

Financial support provided

The selected writer will receive a \$7,000 grant from CAM. The ALQ and the Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore will both contribute to the promotion of the project and will provide the necessary logistic support.

Eligibility criteria

Any writers for adults, including cartoonists and comic strip artists, interested in applying for this residency must meet the following requirements:

- be a professional author having had at least two (2) literary works published by a recognized publisher;
- be a resident of the Island of Montreal.

Evaluation of applications

The ALQ, along with a representative of CAM and the Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore, will evaluate the applications based on the following main criteria:

- the artistic merits and instructional value of the proposed cultural mediation project, as well as its applicability to the above definition of "cultural mediation";
- the proposed project's contribution to the community and the bookstore;
- the writer's capacity to complete the project.

Application procedure

Applicants for the writer's residency at the Drawn & Quarterly Bookstore are required to submit their CV along with an outline of their project. They may also send other documents they consider relevant, such as a press kit, a list of prior works relating to the cultural mediation project, reference letters, etc.

Application deadline

Applications for the Drawn and Quarterly Bookstore residency must be received by **midnight on Sunday, November 10, 2019**. Applicants will receive a reply no later than December 2019.

Writer's obligations

On completion of the residency, the writer is required to submit a report on the experience. He or she will also be asked by the project administrators to participate in their evaluation process.

Information

To file an application or for any questions, please contact:

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