

Application Pack



**Suffolk**  
Wildlife Trust

**N** National Centre  
for Writing

# Wild Pages

**Suffolk**  
Community Libraries



**Suffolk**  
County Council



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



# About us

Suffolk Community Libraries employs around 400 people and operates 45 library branches and three mobile libraries which visit hundreds of rural stops across the county.

On top of the traditional book lending service, Suffolk Community Libraries has a range of other services, including:

- A community wellbeing service, providing drop-ins, reading lists and signposting to help people with their health and wellbeing
- An extensive free eLibrary, including music, eBooks, eAudio books, eMagazines and newspapers
- Free computer access and Wi-Fi in every library
- Hundreds of activities including fun storytimes and singing for under-fives and social groups for older people – plus many more events and opportunities to have fun or learning something new
- Suffolk Community Libraries is an Arts Council England funded National Portfolio Organisation, with programmes promoting libraries as creative spaces.

# About Wild Pages

**Suffolk Community Libraries, National Centre for Writing and Suffolk Wildlife Trust** are looking for six up-and-coming short-form writers to take part in an intensive residency, engaging creatively with nature, landscape, and communities across four distinctive library venues: **Felixstowe Library** as the residency's base library, as well as Ipswich County Library, Framlingham Library, and Southwold Library.

Wild Pages is part of *Wild Reads* - an annual campaign project which runs in Autumn and celebrates the connection between the natural world and the written word.

# About Wild Pages

Are you an emerging short-form writer living in Suffolk, and looking to develop your written craft and community practice? The Wild Pages residency will give you the chance to collaborate with fellow writers, develop your voice, and hone your skills in delivering workshops and activities with an eco-focus to people of all ages.

Over the course of the week, you'll take part in talks and workshops led by environmentally conscious organisations and community artists, offered self-led creative and field research time, and encouraged to share your work with the public.

## Who are we looking for?

This residency is open to people living or working in Suffolk, or who have strong connections to the county.

We are looking for applications from a diverse range of short-form writers working in different formats, such as writers of short fiction, poets, diarists, essayists, songwriters, and scriptwriters for short plays or monologues, and any other written mediums.

We aim to work with writers who consider themselves 'emerging', which we define as:

- You are creating original work and developing your voice but not yet established.
- You have some track record in sharing your writing, but it's not extensive - a small magazine publication, a few readings, or even a body of work-in-progress can qualify.
- You have at least one example of supporting work in the community - you may have shadowed a workshop, volunteered at a festival or school, co-hosted a writing group or podcast, or informally mentored a fellow writer.
- No major recognition yet - not widely published in national outlets, no significant prizes or funding, no big publishing deal.
- Committed to growth - you take writing seriously, even if you aren't earning a living from it yet.

# About Wild Pages

## Who are we looking for?

Formal qualifications are not required and we encourage self-taught writers. As a library service, we are motivated to work with people who are underrepresented and from low-income backgrounds. We are especially interested in working with creatives who are inspired by community-practice and sharing their experiences, skills and passions with others.

## What we ask of each participating writer...

We're looking for writers who will use this residency to actively develop their practice while engaging with our libraries. By the end of the residency, we ask participating writers to have:

- Completed a first draft for new a piece of short-form written work – inspired by locations and themes throughout the residency – that they are happy to share publicly.
- Designed a workshop, activity or simple resource that they could deliver to the public in the future – opportunities to develop and deliver this work in libraries will be made available to participating writers.

## What writers can expect from the residency...

- A supportive and welcoming creative environment.
- Learn from experienced speakers and professionals
- Access to the library's collections, archives, and research resources.
- Opportunities to showcase your work, both during and after the residency.
- Meaningful ways to engage with local communities and readers.
- Time and space for creative reflection and environmental field research.
- A chance to develop your skills and grow your professional and peer network.



# About Wild Pages

## Why are we doing this residency?

This residency is happening as part of our annual *Wild Reads* campaign, which encourages people to read about, celebrate and get out in nature. We want people to discover libraries as supportive environments for creative expression, education, and conversation about our world.

## What do we want to achieve?

- Highlight Suffolk as a hub for environmental creativity.
- Support early career writers & artists and showcase their talent
- Engage with communities, amplifying local stories and voices in Suffolk
- Contribute to environmental awareness and education through creative storytelling.

## Residency information

**Location(s):** Felixstowe Library (base library), Ipswich County Library, Framlingham Library, Southwold Library.

**Dates:** Monday 24 – Friday 28 November

**Duration:** 5 days @ £140 per day

**Fee:** £700 total fee per resident. We will also cover reasonable travel and lunch expenses.

## Hours:

- Monday, 10am – 4pm
- Tuesday, 9am – 5.30pm
- Wednesday, 9am – 7.30pm
- Thursday, 9am – 5.30pm
- Friday, 9am – 5.30pm

# About Wild Pages

## How to apply...

To apply to this residency, please complete the application form available on the Suffolk Community Libraries website.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to someone for more details, you can contact the Creative Communities Team via email: [libraries.arts@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.arts@suffolk.gov.uk)

**Application deadline:** 5pm on Monday 20 October

**Online interview:** Wednesday 5 November

## Our partners

### **N** National Centre for Writing

The National Centre for Writing is a contemporary literature house in the heart of England's first UNESCO City of Literature, committed to the transformative power of stories for personal, social and community development. Rooted in Norwich and open to the world, NCW is a writing development agency with a local, national and international footprint.



For over 60 years, Suffolk Wildlife Trust has been at the forefront of wildlife conservation and education across the county. SWT is a wildlife charity on a mission to 'Bring Nature Back' in which they are championing two collective goals: to secure at least 30% of Suffolk's land and sea are our two goals, and to inspire 1 in 4 people in Suffolk to take action for nature and climate.