

## **OPEN CALL FOR DUBLIN CITY LIBRARIES STORYTELLER IN RESIDENCE FOR CHILDREN**

Dublin City Council seek to award a contract of service for a Storyteller in Residence for Children. The Storyteller in Residence for Children will deliver a programme of activities designed to promote literacy and encourage the habit of reading and library usage among young people.

Closing date for applications is **FRIDAY 3 November 2023**

### **About this call**

The Storyteller in Residence for Children will involve engagement with children through community groups and schools. The resident will host storytelling sessions and workshops with children in libraries, schools, and in community settings. The resident will liaise with Dublin City Libraries' Events & Partnerships and Community, Children's Services & Social Inclusion sections to promote the library service to children within and beyond our library branch network. The residency will provide opportunities for parents and children to enjoy reading together.

The Storyteller in Residence for Children, in partnership with Dublin City Libraries, will develop a programme of activities to be delivered over the course of the residency period that will result in agreed outcomes. The resident will submit monthly activity reports, an interim report after eight weeks, a comprehensive report at the end of the residency period, blog posts, and social media content for Dublin City Libraries. The resident may be required to attend meetings as part of their role and make a presentation to Dublin City Libraries staff.

An agreed budget will be provided for the resident to develop a programme of events. Dublin City Libraries will provide a limited amount of administrative support where required and will provide assistance in advertising and promoting the project.

The project will be co-ordinated by Dublin City Libraries' Events & Partnerships and Community, Children's Services, & Social Inclusion sections.

## About the Storyteller in Residence for Children brief

The successful candidate will be offered a Contract for Service for a 4 month period. The fee for this initial 4 month period will be €8,000 based on an expectation of regular working and regular public facing hours, totalling an average of 20 hours in an average week. This includes the possibility of evening, daytime and weekend events, as may be needed to suit library branches and community groups. It also includes time spent on development, research, preparation of public events, attendance at meetings, reporting, and administration.

Successful applicants must be available to be in person in Dublin while working on the residency and must be available to undertake the residency from approximately **5<sup>th</sup> February 2024** to **24<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. The programme of work will be agreed with the successful applicants.

### Function and specification

- Deliver a programme of regular storytelling events for children that can appeal to a wide variety of audiences.
- Work with local library branches and sections of Dublin City Libraries.
- Project activities should be based on engagement with individuals, communities, and groups across the city through facilitated conversation, active listening, and other forms of creative engagement.
- Work collaboratively with Dublin City Libraries' Events & Partnerships and Community, Children's Services, & Social Inclusion sections to develop participation and engagement, promote planned public events as necessary, and ensure that activities are linked to other Dublin City Libraries activities where relevant.
- Ensure that accessibility is kept at the forefront on planning in all areas of your work.
- Submit a monthly report and support the collection of feedback and evaluation from participants.
- Be available for media requests or other promotional activities where possible.
- Work in line with Dublin City Council's Child Protection, Data Protection, and Health & Safety policies and ensure compliance with all financial, contractual, and legal procedures.

## Role requirements

### Essential criteria:

- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and storytelling skills to include the ability to give presentations/talks to audiences of varying types and sizes.
- Proven experience in devising, implementing, and delivering storytelling engagement programmes for children.
- A clear understanding of the importance of literacy in child development.
- Ability to creatively promote interest and engagement among children.
- Ability to plan, organise, and lead a project, to work independently, and to work to deadlines, with flexibility around working hours.
- Ability to incorporate aspects of digital literacy into the residency programme.
- A creative and innovative approach to the delivery of the Storyteller in Residence for Children programme.
- Expertise in the area of children's literature, literacy, and reader development.
- Proficiency in using software and a knowledge of social media use.
- Demonstrated interest in engaging with children and families in workshops that emphasise the benefits of reading for pleasure.

### Desired criteria:

- Experience in storytelling in the Irish language.
- Experience in sensory storytelling or engagement with children with special needs.
- An understanding of the work and ambitions of Dublin City Libraries.

## How to Apply

Applications for the role of Storyteller in Residence for Children are now invited from applicants who meet the published requirements. Applications must include the following:

- CV (including the names and contact details of two referees)
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- A one-page letter citing your specific skills, knowledge, and experience relevant to the role specification and requirements.
- A two-page submission on your ideas for the Storyteller in Residence for Children project.

Completed applications should be sent by email only to [libraryinthecommunity@dublincity.ie](mailto:libraryinthecommunity@dublincity.ie) with 'Storyteller in Residence for Children' in the subject line. Applications received after the closing date and time will not be accepted.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.**

The information supplied in your application will be reviewed against the requirements sent out in this notice by a panel to shortlist applicants. Dublin City Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates for interview.

### **Important Contracting Details**

- Any offer made under the Storyteller in Residence for Children is for a 4 month period and will be on a Contract for Service basis.
- The contracted Storyteller in Residence for Children will be considered as self-employed.
- No contract will be issued without proof of tax clearance, and/or VAT registration number where applicable.
- Garda vetting is mandatory for successful applicants and you must be cleared by the National Vetting Bureau before the work can commence.
- The successful applicant may be required to attend Child Protection and Equality Training.
- All publications, reports, digital content, and other outputs generated as part of the project will be the property of Dublin City Council, which will own copyright in such publications, reports, digital content, and other outputs generated.
- Works published after the duration of the project by the Storyteller in Residence for Children which uses research undertaken as part of Dublin City Council's Storyteller in Residence for Children project, must acknowledge the project and Dublin City Council.

Dublin City Council is committed to equal opportunities. For more information on our Equal Opportunities Policy, please see [here](#).



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

We are committed to respecting and protecting your privacy. We keep several kinds of personal data so we can manage the recruitment process effectively and meet our legal obligations. For more information, please see our Privacy Notice for Job Applicants [here](#).

Amendments to this document - Dublin City Council reserves the right to update or alter any information contained within this document at any time.

Dublin City Council will not be liable in respect of any costs incurred by suppliers in the preparation of applications or attendance at interviews.

## **About Dublin City Libraries**

Dublin City Libraries (DCL) is Ireland's largest library service, with responsibility for the delivery of public library, information, and archive services to a resident population of over half a million people. In normal times, our 21 branch libraries attract over 3 million visitors a year, representing one of Dublin City Council's most inclusive cultural services.

Through our collections, resources, and cultural programmes, we provide free and equal access to information, ideas, and a range of learning and self-development opportunities that are targeted to meet the needs and interests of people at all ages, stages, and levels of ability.

For more information, see [www.dublincity.ie/residential/libraries](http://www.dublincity.ie/residential/libraries)