

Wandering Imaginations: Opportunity for Emerging Female Fantasy and Sci-Fi Writers Exchange

Bradford 2025 are excited to offer an opportunity for emerging female fantasy and sci-fi writers for an international exchange between the UK and Ghana in partnership with British Council, Writers Project of Ghana, and the Brontë Parsonage Museum.

You will participate in a residency in Bradford and Accra during 2025, and be mentored to create a new piece of writing that will be published online and produced as an audio recording and short animation shared as part of an exhibition at The Brontë Parsonage Museum and a venue in Accra in 2025.

Please make sure you send us all the information we need by the deadline of 5pm GMT on 25th October 2024.

What are we looking for?

We are seeking applications from emerging female fantasy and sci-fi writers based in the North of England and Ghana to take part in a writers exchange including residencies in Accra and Bradford, mentoring, and a commission for a new piece of short fiction.

We are seeking applications from emerging fantasy and sci-fi writers, by which we mean that you are not signed to an agent and have not had a printed publication in your name. You may have had a story published in a journal, magazine, or have self-published online. You will also be a woman based in the North of England or Ghana.

Two writers from both North of England and Ghana will be selected to take part in the writers exchange. Shortlisted writers will be invited to interview in November 2025.

The programme will include a commission of a new short piece of fiction which will be published online and produced as an audio recording and short animation, which will be shared as part of an exhibition in Bradford and Accra in 2025.

This residency requires travel to the partner countries. Please reference governmental or other official travel guidance for partner countries to ensure that you would be happy to travel.

Eligibility criteria

Aged 18+

An emerging writer, by which we mean that you are not signed to an agent and have not had a publication solely in your name.

You will be a woman based in the North of England or Ghana. For UK writers, preference will be given to writers based in or with a connection to Bradford with second preference given to writers based in or with a connection to West Yorkshire.

You will have a passport that has more than 1 year and six months before expiry, or has 6 months and you are willing to get a new passport in six months time.

You will not be aware of any reason that you cannot travel to Ghana (Bradford 2025 will coordinate visas).

You will be available for the dates outlined for the residencies and happy to travel to Ghana for the residency, and you will be willing to make yourself available for the launch events in September and October 2025.

You will be happy and willing to travel to the partner country.

Required availability

You will be available on to attend a one-week residency in-person:

Residency in Bradford, UK, in February 2025, dates tbc

Residency in Accra, Ghana, in January 2025, dates tbc

Launch Event in Bradford: September 2025, date tbc

Launch Event in Accra, Ghana: October 2025, date tbc

Fee

The total fee for this opportunity will be £6300

This figure includes:

New writing commission: £3600

Fee for 2024 Residencies Launch Events and Travel Days: £1620

Fee for 2025 Launch Events and Travel Days: £1080

All travel, accommodation, and visa costs will be covered by Bradford 2025.

Access support to make an application

If you need this information in another format or if you have access needs related to making an application, please get in touch with us straight away to discuss how we can support you. Please email programme@bradford2025.co.uk