



9 Scottish Schools Receive Free Author Residencies

Scottish Book Trust today announced the nine schools who will receive fully-funded author residencies this school year to inspire a lifelong love of reading and writing. The residencies will also give professional writers the opportunity to build relationships with the school and work together on a creative project.

The Live Literature School Residencies Programme, now in its third year, is funded by the Walter Scott Giving Group and delivered by Scottish Book Trust, the national charity changing lives through reading and writing.

Schools across the country were invited to apply to the programme which brings professional authors into the classroom to inspire and engage pupils. Each school taking part in the programme will receive 12 fully-funded residency sessions carried out by an author from Scottish Book Trust's author database. This directory includes almost 800 professional writers, poets, playwrights, illustrators, performance poets and storytellers.

Each school's project will be showcased on Scottish Book Trust's website, alongside suggested learning resources and helpful tips to make the most of the residency sessions.

The 9 successful schools and their chosen authors are:

- Gigha Primary School, Argyll and Bute, working with John Fardell
- Loudoun Academy, East Ayrshire, working with Neil Slorance
- Forrester High School, Edinburgh, working with Victoria Williamson
- Kirkcaldy High School, Fife, working with Mark Fleming
- Annette Street Primary, Glasgow, working with Emily Dodd
- Smithycroft Secondary School, Glasgow, working with Chris McQueer
- All Saints Primary, Inverclyde, working with Juliette Forrest
- Cumbrae Primary, North Ayrshire, working with Gerry Cambridge
- Spittal Primary, South Lanarkshire, working with Linda Strachan

The residencies will run across the 2018-19 school year and finish by Easter 2019. The Walter Scott Giving Committee is the sole funder of the Live Literature School Residencies Programme and this is the third year they have financed it. As well as an author residency, schools will receive a resources grant of £500.

Julie Wilson, Head Teacher of Gigha Primary School, said: "What a great gift to have John Fardell come and work with us to craft a series of tales from our Isle of Stories. We are so excited for this opportunity to learn from him and be inspired through his residency to create and illustrate our own picture books on the themes of nature, growth and learning for sustainability."

Marc Lambert, CEO of Scottish Book Trust, said: “The Live Literature programme gives those in education settings the opportunity to collaborate with professional writers, storytellers and creators from all over Scotland. We’re pleased to offer 9 fully-funded residencies, which will help pupils to foster a love for reading and writing that can last a lifetime.”

Notes to editors

For more information, please contact Keara Donnachie, PR Officer at Scottish Book Trust, on Keara.Donnachie@scottishbooktrust.com or 0131 524 0184.

Scottish Book Trust

Scottish Book Trust is a national charity changing lives through reading and writing. We inspire and support the people of Scotland to read and write for pleasure through programmes and outreach work that include:

- Gifting books to every child in Scotland to ensure families of all backgrounds can share the joy of books at home.
- Working with teachers to inspire children to develop a love of reading, creating innovative classroom activities, book awards and author events.
- Supporting Scotland’s diverse writing community with our training, awards and writing opportunities.
- Funding a range of author events for the public to enjoy and promoting Scottish writing to people worldwide.

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Creative Scotland

In addition to general fundraising, Scottish Book Trust receives Creative Scotland support through Regular Funding.

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. It enables people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. It distributes funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com, and follow @creativescots

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