

## Expressions of Interest – NTWF 2022

Expressions of Interest for **NT writers\*** to be programmed in the 2022 NT Writers Festival (NTWF) are now open. If you are an NT writer producing exciting new work or have a significant body of published/produced work and you would like to be part of NTWF as a writer, performer, teacher, facilitator or panellist, then we want to hear from you! If you have another creative idea, please feel free to pitch that to us as well.

This year, the NT Writers Festival takes place from **23-26 June** at the **Museum and Art Gallery of the NT** in Darwin. Bringing people together to share story, language and culture shaped by place, NTWF takes place over four inspiring days and speaks to and from the heart of Australia and the NT.

In 2022 diverse writers and storytellers from around Australia will come together to explore the theme: **balarr | catching the light**. In Larrakia, balarr means 'to light up' or 'to become light'. In the Top End, in Saltwater Country, we are surrounded by spectacular displays of light – radiant sunsets, glistening waves and waterfalls. To catch the light is both a pursuit and a fleeting moment that might only briefly illuminate the darkness. In times of multiple crises – ecological, political, social – how can we find, and hold onto, glimmers of hope? How can we shed light on those parts of the past that have been forgotten or concealed? And what sparks might inspire a brighter future?

***Many thanks to Bilawara Lee for working with us to translate this year's theme into Larrakia language.***

We are interested in a range of ideas stemming from the main theme of balarr | catching the light and welcome EOIs that might address any of the following suggested sub-themes:

- Creativity; the spark of inspiration; the creative life
- Illuminating untold stories; recovering lost histories
- Writing and projects that explore the way visual art and photography captures and plays with light
- The ways art, writing and ideas can illuminate reality
- Finding hope after grief, mourning or struggle
- Resilience and how to survive periods of hardship or loss
- Light and the natural environment explored from First Nations, artistic, scientific, cultural, sociological or other perspectives
- Non-fiction or journalism that brings to light, through investigation or analysis, important issues or information
- Any other writing or creative project that plays with the idea of catching the light.

***\*For the purpose of these EOIs, an NT writer is someone who is based in or has significant connection to the NT, particularly within their writing.***

**EOIs will be considered according to the following criteria:**

- Applicant has a significant body of published/produced work; or is producing fresh new work that speaks to the Festival theme
- The artistic merit of any support material provided (links to published/produced work, etc.)
- The applicant resides or has previously resided in the NT or has significant connection to the NT, particularly within their writing
- The applicant can demonstrate how their work speaks to the Festival theme
- Strength and/or originality of ideas if the EOI entails a pitch for a specific event; or flexibility and willingness to participate in a range of events, such as readings, panel discussions, in-conversations, collaborative cross-artform events, workshops, schools program, etc.

*Please note, NTWF is a small festival with limited funds. Writers taking part in the festival as a result of this EOI will be paid appearance fees. **Please indicate, if you are able to cover or contribute to any travel or accommodation costs, or if you require assistance with travel costs.***

*Please also note that there is limited space in the Festival program for book launches. Only NT authors with books published **no more than four months prior to the Festival** will be considered for book launches. EOIs that indicate how the author's work might fit into other parts of the program, in addition to a book launch, will be considered more favourably.*

**In the body of your email, please include:**

1. WRITER BIO (100 words MAX)
2. YOUR WRITING: Tell us about your creative practice. What themes and topics does your work explore? How does your idea/work fit with the festival theme? Do you have any recent or forthcoming publications or projects we should know about? (100 words MAX)
3. SUPPORT MATERIAL: If possible, please provide links to any online content including publications, blogs, reviews of your writing, video or audio links. Please do not attach other writing samples.
4. TEACHING AND FACILITATION: If you have interest in any of the following, please indicate and specify any previous experience:
  - Teaching writing to young people or presenting in schools.
  - Facilitating panel discussions.
5. CREATIVE IDEA: If you have another creative idea, please submit us a pitch! (100 words MAX)
6. Please indicate your ability to contribute to travel/accommodation costs (see above)

**EOIs close midnight Friday 4 February.**

Please email your EOI with the subject line 'EOI: NT Writers Festival'  
to: [festival@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:festival@ntwriters.com.au) We will contact you as soon as possible after the closing date to advise you of the outcome of your EOI.