



**BEATRICE DAVIS  
EDITORIAL  
FELLOWSHIP**



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

## Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship Application Tips

What do previous winning applications for the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship have in common?  
What can you do to increase the chance of being shortlisted for selection?

### Place your Proposed Research Plan in Context

- Anchor your proposed project in the context of current trends in editorial practice or the state of the publishing landscape to show your knowledge of the industry.
- Comment on local and international market trends and influences. For example, share your observations on the kind of books proving successful or ground-breaking; how the economics of the industry are changing and any changes in the use of publicity platforms and/or marketing techniques that are positively influencing reader behaviour.
- Express how you perceive overseas experiences or developments are influencing publishing in Australia.
- Include examples of the people and/or organisations you believe are shaping publishing in Australia to demonstrate your understanding of influential stakeholders and ideas in this market.
- Discuss industry research (e.g. released by the APA, IPEd or other groups and academics) and/or past Fellows' reports to suggest any opportunities you see to build on, or extend the existing body of knowledge.

### State Clear Objectives

- Demonstrate clear objectives and line(s) of inquiry that will be taken to achieve these. You may propose specific questions you will seek to answer through the Fellowship.

### Provide Details of the Proposed Approach

Include detailed plans and rationale for your proposed Fellowship agenda, such as:

- A list of the people and organisations to approach for meetings, interviews or observation.
- Explain how the proposed meetings relate to the research questions.
- Demonstrate familiarity with the books published or represented by the proposed interviewees and the circumstances or history of the books.
- Indicate how, ideally, research time would be invested (i.e. observing, discussing, shadowing etc).

### Appropriate Experience

- Demonstrate your experience in trade publishing editorial work and how this will enable you to learn with discernment and purpose.
- Demonstrate your capability to apply learning to your own practice and to share the knowledge obtained with others in the industry.

### Unique Opportunity

- Explain how your proposal aligns with the [Australia Council's strategic objectives](#) and how you believe receipt of the Fellowship would benefit you personally, as well as the broader community

(especially authors, readers and other editors). How do you think the reading public could benefit from your proposed research?

- Comment on your future goals / objectives for the Arts (personal or industry) and how receipt of the Fellowship could open up new opportunities. Can you envision anything that may only be possible to realise or progress if you're able to conduct this research?

### **Important Notes**

- These tips are intended to be helpful suggestions for your consideration when preparing an application.
- The Application Guidelines specify what information is *required* in an application.
- The Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship is well-regarded and therefore a highly contested professional development opportunity for one individual.
- Unfortunately, following these tips is no guarantee of success of being awarded the Fellowship. They are intended to help you get started and on the way towards a competitive application.