



BEATRICE DAVIS
EDITORIAL
FELLOWSHIP



Australian Government



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

2022-23

Guidelines and How to Apply

An initiative of the Australian Publishers Association's
Trade Publishers Committee

Outline

Named after distinguished literary editor, Beatrice Davis, and honouring her contribution to Australian literature, the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship is an initiative of the Australian Publishers Association (APA) and Australian publishers, established in 1998.

The Fellowship enables an editor to undertake a professional development program comprising a contemporary professional research project in an international market, followed by a series of presentations to peers and industry in Australia. The value of the Fellowship is up to \$A35,000 and the project's budget must not exceed this amount.

The successful applicant will undertake a research project with international publishing houses and/or industry representatives. This enables the Fellow to garner knowledge and expertise from international markets that could contribute to and enhance Australian trade publishing.

On the Fellow's return from overseas, the Fellow will present at a variety of professional development opportunities for the industry. These sessions will be arranged in discussion with the APA. It is envisioned they will include speaking at the APA Residential Editorial Program, the APA webinar program, the IPEd Editors' Conference and the offices of the supporting trade publishers, among other industry events.

The Fellowship is designed to be of benefit both to the recipient and to the Australian publishing industry through:

- familiarising Australian editors with changing international editorial and publishing practices;
- developing understanding of international markets for Australian books;
- the sharing of their research findings and experiences via a written report, mentoring and presentations at webinars and other events.

Further, the Fellowship's reputation also enables the successful Fellow to develop a leadership role in their field.

The Fellow will have the opportunity to speak with the APA Chief Executive and Trade Publishers Committee members prior to their travel in order to better understand the current issues in the Australian publishing scene. While abroad, the recipient may also choose to meet with the equivalent industry association body, facilitated by the APA.

Eligibility Criteria

The Fellowship is open to Australian-based editors who:

- have at least five years' editorial work experience in Australian fiction and non-fiction - adult or children's publishing;
- work either in-house or freelance;
- have experience in an array of editorial functions, including structural and development work on manuscripts with authors, commissioning and/or substantive or copy-editing of manuscripts;
- are energetic and self-motivated and able to act as an ambassador for Australian publishing and editing;

- will be enthusiastic to present their research findings in a variety of ways including through webinars and writing, so that the benefits of the Fellowship flow on to the wider publishing community. This will include presenting a session at the APA's Residential Editorial Program.
- Commissioning editors may apply, provided that most of their experience has been on structural, substantive or copy-editing of manuscripts.
- The Fellowship is not open to publishers.

The Fellowship Grant

The Grant is expected to cover:

- a return airfare to the research destination and other reasonable travelling expenses, including travel insurance;
- living and accommodation expenses for the research trip;
- reasonable professional expenses;
- some travel costs for attending professional development activities and visits on return to Australia.

Applicant Responsibilities

Host Publishers

The successful applicant will be responsible for securing placements at an international host publisher/s and/or for coordinating the majority of their meetings with other industry representatives (e.g. literary agents). The APA will act in a consultative role and offer support where possible.

Travel and accommodation

Travel and accommodation must be planned and paid for by the successful applicant using the fellowship grant.

Insurance and personal safety

The applicant is solely responsible for their own personal safety and for investigating and arranging, where necessary, other insurance needs such as accident insurance and health insurance.

Receipts and documentation

The applicant must keep a log of expenses, receipts and other relevant documentation to assist in acquitting the expenditure of the grant to the APA on return from overseas.

Grant Conditions

The successful applicant will be required to sign and return an Agreement accepting the conditions of the Fellowship. Details for the payment of the Grant will be given in this document.

The conditions of the Fellowship require the recipient to:

- acknowledge and agree to the responsibilities and requirements contained in these Guidelines;
- direct all correspondence relating to the Fellowship to the APA, including regular updates on activities throughout the period of the Fellowship. The reporting format will be discussed and agreed between the Fellow and the APA;
- write short articles on their activities, while abroad, that are suitable for the APA to post on its website and promote via its newsletter;
- complete their travel by the end of September 2023;
- present a written report to the APA and Project committee by the end of November 2023 that:
 - demonstrates what the Fellow learnt about the practice of editing (summary, supported by detail);
 - indicates areas where Australian creative/editorial practice can be enhanced;
 - outlines any collaborations that have been developed and/or may be formed in the future as a result;
 - summarises the opportunities realised or created through the Fellowship; and
 - suggests recommendations of how the research undertaken could be extended by future Fellows.
- share their research outcomes through a combination of activities that include the APA's Residential Editorial Program, and may include other workshops, talks, mentoring and writing;
- agree that the author owns and retains the copyright in reports prepared as part of the Fellowship, but the APA has unlimited licence to publish, disseminate and distribute those reports in edited or full formats.

Key Dates

- **Applications open:** Tuesday 27 September 2022
- **Closing date for applications:** Tuesday 15 November 2022

All applications should be [submitted online](#).

Supporting material should be sent to:

Andrea Hanke
Acting Chief of Staff
Australian Publishers Association
Email: andrea.hanke@publishers.asn.au
Phone: (02) 7203 1373

- **Interview dates:** Tuesday 29 November - Friday 2 December 2022.
Applicants should ensure they are available for an online interview on at least one of these working days in case they are shortlisted.
- **Announcement of the winner** is planned to occur on Tuesday 13 December 2022.
- **Residential Editorial Program:** The Fellow will be advised when the date for the next REP is confirmed so their participation can be ensured.
- **Deadline for completion of travel:** End of September 2023. It is a condition of the Fellowship that a report should be completed by the end of November 2023 and that an acquittal of grant funds should be submitted by 30 December 2023.

Administration and Selection

This Fellowship is administered by the APA in consultation with the APA's Editorial Working Group.

Selection of the recipient is undertaken by members of the Editorial Working Group and previous BDEF recipients.

The 2022 Editorial Working Group consists of: Meredith Curnow, Chair (Penguin Random House Australia), Madonna Duffy (UQP), Vanessa Radnidge (Hachette Australia), Anna McFarlane (Allen & Unwin), Agata Mrva-Montoya (University of Sydney), Tracy O'Shaughnessy (RMIT), Karen Lee (IPed), Rachel Bin Salleh (Magabala), Andrea Hanke (APA)

For further enquiries please contact:

Andrea Hanke

Acting Chief of Staff

Australian Publishers Association

Email: andrea.hanke@publishers.asn.au

Phone: (02) 7203 1373

www.publishers.asn.au

How to Apply for the Fellowship

The applicant is required to:

- Complete the [online application form](#).
(Please note you will need to have, or sign up for, a Google account to submit this form)
- Submit a 2000-word research proposal that:
 - Sets out the specific areas of research to be pursued during the Fellowship; See the Editorial Working Group's [Suggested Areas of Examination](#). Previous research reports can also be [found here](#).
 - Indicates the country of interest to travel to, with supporting reason(s);
 - Outline the applicant's current professional skills and how this opportunity would develop these;
 - Explains why the applicant's professional experience qualifies for the Fellowship;
 - Includes suggestions for ways the applicant will engage with the industry to maximum effect both while overseas and on their return.
 - Includes a rough budget of how the funds will be spent.

(See also the Editorial Working Group's [Application Tips](#))

- Submit a three-book mini-CV [using the template provided \(in Microsoft Excel\)](#) in the online application form. Please note whether you substantively or copy-edited the work etc, and articulate what you brought to the project / comment on its significance.
- Submit an example of a Manuscript Assessment that you've previously produced.
- Submit two letters of support regarding editorial capability from a colleague, publisher and/or author. Freelance editors only need to include one letter of support from a publisher or in-house editorial colleague.
- Where applicable a letter granting leave of absence from present employment for the period of the travel component of the research project. It is fundamental that availability to undertake the Fellowship is established at the time of application. The APA will need to be notified of any changes that occur during the assessment period, such as a change of employer or withdrawal of leave.

As these knowledge-sharing activities happen across a number of months, it is acknowledged that the present employer can only enter into a goodwill arrangement at the time of application. It will be incumbent upon the Fellow and the APA to ensure careful planning of such professional development opportunities by mutual agreement at an appropriate time for the APA, the Fellow and the Fellow's employer.

- Upload all supporting material requested in the online application form.