



STRATEGIC PLAN

2023—2026

WRITERS SA

2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

Writers SA is located on Kurna land. We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional owners of the Adelaide region and pay our respects to elders past and present. We recognise the Kurna people as the original storytellers of this place and we celebrate the important role of First Nations writers in guiding our collective future.

CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Vision | 3 |
| History and context | 4 |
| Program | 6 |
| Key performance indicators | 9 |
| Management and planning | 11 |
| Key personnel | 12 |
| Business plan | 14 |
| Covid-19 strategy | 16 |
| Appendix - 2023 program | 17 |
| Appendix - opportunities | 19 |

VISION PURPOSE VALUES

VISION

Writers SA puts South Australian writers at the forefront of national literary culture.

PURPOSE

- Elevating South Australian writers' practice
 - » Centring First Nations literature and storytelling
 - » Coordinating an annual, statewide program of high quality writing activities
 - » Advocating for the increased visibility and material conditions of all writers
- Building the capacity of our diverse literary culture and community
 - » Acting as a facilitator, enabler and resource for writers and organisations
 - » Collaborating with other literary organisations and other artforms
 - » Making writing more accessible – culturally, physically, geographically
- Building the capacity of our organisation and team
 - » Growing our membership to reflect the breadth and diversity of the state
 - » Being a sustainable organisation with diverse revenue streams

VALUES

- Openness – we centre accessibility and diversity in all that we do, and we seek to make writing something that all people can pursue, that enriches all lives
- Impact – we pride ourselves on being the boldest writers centre in Australia, pushing a progressive agenda for literature and delivering transformative programs
- Community – we create spaces in Adelaide, regionally and online for writers to gather, to experiment and celebrate literature.

HISTORY AND CONTEXT

History and context

Writers SA is a for purpose, non-profit, membership-based incorporated association, with registered charity status and tax deductibility.

Established in 1985, Writers SA was Australia's first State writers centre and set the model for nurturing new and emerging writers and storytellers.

Driven by the ambition to place SA writers at the centre of Australian literary culture, we are proud to be the boldest writers centre in Australia. Our work is underpinned by the notions of universal access, artistic excellence, social impact, multiplicity and cooperation.

Now offering more opportunities for writers than any other writers centre in the country, our year-round program of literary activities and events includes writing workshops, book launches, author talks, festivals, publications, residencies, fellowships, creative developments, commissions and prizes – all geared towards nurturing a thriving culture of literature and storytelling in South Australia.

Recent highlights:

- Membership growth of 55% since 2018
- Over \$200,000 per annum paid to SA writers in 2021
- Employment of the SA First Nations Writers Group Coordinator
- Employment of three literary coordinators to present year-round programs of literary events in regional SA, making us truly statewide
- A new writers-in-schools residency program to provide employment for writers and cultural access for outer-suburban and regional public secondary school students
- Introduction of digital programming to make our programs accessible anywhere with an internet connection
- Production of the first South Australian edition of Liminal Magazine, promoting Asian-Australian literary excellence in SA
- Annual partnership with City of Adelaide to present the free, First Nations-led Context Writers Festival
- Partnerships with local governments including City of Port Adelaide Enfield, City of Charles Sturt, City of Campbelltown, City of Salisbury to present free, bespoke literary events
- Expansion of our partnership with Varuna, the National Writers House, to offer three residencies to SA writers, including a new First Nations Fellowship
- We are the first organisation in South Australia to secure a financial partnership with Aesop Foundation, for Aesop's first disability project, with the Deaf Writers group
- Bi-annual partnership with SA Film Corporation to introduce authors to film producers
- Cross-sector partnerships with visual arts and crafts, film, games and theatre to further the literary aspirations of all writers and storytellers.

HISTORY AND CONTEXT

As the only dedicated literary organisation in South Australia, Writers SA takes our commitment to the state's writers seriously. As we emerge from a period of significant change and move forward with this new plan (the first under the leadership of Director Jessica Alice since her appointment in 2018), we have considered the strengths of the organisation and where we wish to build, the opportunities available to us and the possible threats, our political, economic, social and technological contexts, our new learnings and online audiences and capabilities gained through the pandemic, combined with available data to make informed decisions about our direction.

Supported by a dedicated Board of Management, Writers SA now focuses on the next four years with an ambitious commitment to our values of openness, impact and community to build the literary infrastructure South Australia needs for a thriving literary ecology.

This plan confirms our key areas of focus – First Nations writing, regional writing, Deaf and disabled writing, employment for writers, education for young writers, and pathways to the publishing industry.



PROGRAM

Year-Round Writing Courses

Writers SA presents a statewide seasonal program of literary skills events to develop the practice of new, emerging and professional writers. We present a minimum of 15 writing courses per quarter (60 per year), both live and online, covering every aspect of literary theory, writing practice, editing and publishing, as well as research, marketing and promotion, contracting and author representation.

Teen Writers Club

Each term we present the Teen Writers Club, a storytelling and social program for young writers, facilitated by games writers from Mighty Kingdom and held at Adelaide City Library.

Intensive courses

We support the development of new work through annual six-month intensive courses facilitated by renowned professional authors. These in-depth craft and creative development courses are designed to produce full-length manuscripts across forms and genre:

- First Draft
- Manuscript Incubator
- Memoir Academy
- Poetry Studio



Fellowships

We have partnered with State Library of South Australia to offer the inaugural SA Literary Fellowships program in 2023. These creative writing fellowships will be awarded in the categories of First Nations Fellowship, Emerging Fellowship, and Mid-Career Fellowship to six writers each year, for a pilot term of three years, to create new work.

Adelaide Writers Week

We partner with Writers Week each year to present a suite of intimate masterclasses with visiting national and international authors. These masterclasses take place during the festival and are held in the Institute Building.

Context Writers Festival

The Context Writers Festival began as a pilot initiative between Writers SA and City of Adelaide in 2019. It evolved into a Strategic Partnership aligned with CoA's Creative City strategy. Due to the success of the program, it is now funded in its own right as an annual commitment from the Council and is a capstone project of our partnership.

The Festival showcases Adelaide's creativity, diversity, careers for artists, and the city's cultural meeting places. It also has a professional development component, with Writers SA employing an emerging First Nations or POC literary programmer to curate the Context Writers Festival each year. The Festival is accessible to all audiences and free to attend.

First Nations Writers

Writers SA centres First Nations literature and storytelling in our programs and special projects. We have a long track record of supporting the SA First Nations Writers Group with funding, administrative assistance, and collaborating to deliver new initiatives. Since 2019 we have funded the group to deliver an annual program of monthly meetings featuring prominent First Nations guest speakers, including Alexis Wright, Kim Scott, and

PROGRAM

Anita Heiss. In 2022, the group coordinator was employed by Writers SA on a part-time basis via an Artist Employment Grant.

In 2023, we will employ a dedicated First Nations role as a core staff position, confirming our dedication to First Nations literature across the next four years. This will allow Writers SA to further support the SA First Nations Writers Group and pursue other projects that serve local First Nations writers.

In partnership with the national First Nations Australia Writers Network (FNAWN), we will publish an anthology of SA First Nations literature in 2023—24, following a series of craft and creative development workshops. FNAWN will also act as national partner to our innovative Literary Agent Development Program in 2024—26, to train the first First Nations literary agent in Australia. This program will set a national model to develop First Nations literary representation that we believe will be replicated by every state and territory.

Statewide

With the support of the Australian Government's Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund and Arts South Australia, Writers SA initiated the No Limits: Young Regional Writers

project in 2021. No Limits saw our staff team grow with the addition of Regional Coordinators in three locations: Riverland, Eyre Peninsula and Limestone Coast. In 2021—22, we presented statewide writing workshops, and poetry and storytelling performances, and we began a major commissioning project from young writers producing new works of literature.

In 2022, we made regional programming a permanent part of our core operations through transitioning the role of Program Manager to Statewide Program Manager. In 2023—26, we will work with Country Arts SA, with additional support from the Regional Arts Fund, to maintain our statewide presence and collaborate with existing regional arts venues.

Deaf Writers

With the continued support of Aesop Foundation, Writers SA presents See Me Through My Hands, the annual program from the Deaf Writers group, coordinated by Stuart Anderson. Since 2019, Writers SA has supported a growing number of Deaf writers telling stories in Auslan, presenting these storytellers at Adelaide Writers Week in 2020 and 2021. In 2022, we hosted two creative development and mentoring retreats at the Living Kurna Cultural Centre, culminating in a one-day festival of Deaf storytelling.



In 2023—26 we will deepen our connection with the Deaf community through the continuation and growth of See Me Through My Hands, and embed more emerging Deaf leaders within our many projects and programs.

Education

Writers SA's Embolden: Writers in Schools Program embeds diverse professional writers in South Australian high schools. Focusing on under-resourced public schools in the outer suburbs and regions, we work with educators to tailor two-week writer residencies to their students and the curriculum—including

PROGRAM

transformative, inspiring and practical author talks, writing workshops, and mentoring. Writers SA offers at least six residencies per year, paid at the industry standard rate for full-time artists at \$1,500 per week.

Writers in Schools Program has a dual focus – employment for the writers to work on their creative projects, and the invaluable impact of embedding professional writers in an education setting to teach literary skills, demonstrate to young South Australian writers that careers in literature are possible, and to show them how.

In 2023—26 we will extend Writers in Schools as a grant-funded program free for under-resourced public schools, and offer the residencies as a new fee-for-service opportunity for well-resourced private and independent schools.

Local Libraries

We partner with local councils to deliver free literary skills workshops and courses to targeted communities. The growing list of partners include:

- City of Adelaide
- City of Charles Sturt
- City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Campbelltown City Council
- City of Salisbury
- Adelaide Hills Council

Publishing

Writers in South Australia face numerous challenges, particularly the absence of a local established literary journal or major publishing house, and a shrinking media landscape. We know that most South Australian writers publish their work interstate or in national publications. Writers SA creates opportunities for local writers to live and work locally by pursuing diverse publishing and commissioning projects, including partnerships with Liminal magazine (2022), InDaily and InReview (2020—21), and a growing number of publishers.

In 2023—24, we will publish an anthology of South Australian First Nations literature in partnership with FNAWN.

Our long term goal (2025—26) is to establish a sustainable South Australian literary journal—comparable to Westerly or Island—in partnership with a local university or media company to ensure its longevity.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| GOAL | AOP ALIGNMENT | KPI | TARGETS | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Elevating South Australian writers' practice | Artistic development National and international leadership and profile | Employment of SA artists and arts workers | >\$250,000 | >\$275,000 | >\$300,000 | >325,000 |
| | | Year-round program of high quality literary events | >80 | >90 | >100 | >110 |
| | | Total attendances | 1,500 | 1,750 | 2,000 | 2,250 |
| | | Total participants | 1,600 | 1,800 | 2,000 | 2,200 |
| | | Professional development opportunities (residencies, etc.) | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 |
| | Artistic development Sector development Access to the arts | Employment of a First Nations-specific producer role | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Build the capacity of our diverse literary culture and community | Sector development Access to the arts | Facilitation of national sector forums | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| | | National and international leadership and profile | Sector partnerships (opportunities) | 10 | 12 | 14 |
| | Member gatherings | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| | Publish and present new and diverse writers | | Publishing & new publications | 4 | 6 | 8 |
| | | Regional literary events | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 |

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Build the capacity of our diverse literary culture and community | Sector development | Donations | 20,000 <i>*Plus1 campaign</i> | 15,000 | 20,000 | 25,000 |
| | Access to the arts | Philanthropic partnerships | 100,000 | 150,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| | National and international leadership and profile | Membership growth | +10% | +10% | +10% | +10% |
| | | Regional membership growth | +15% | +15% | +15% | +15% |
| | | Corporate services | 20,000 | 22,000 | 24,000 | 26,000 |
| | | EOY result <5% variation between budgeted and actual | <10% | <10% | <5% | <5% |

MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

Board

Writers SA is an incorporated association, with a Board that consists of eight positions, elected by the membership. Terms are staggered, with four positions becoming vacant each AGM held in May. Potential board skills gaps are identified through an annual board skills matrix audit. All new Board members are fully inducted into Board policies and procedures, and agree to a Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy, in addition to all organisational policies, which are reviewed every two years. Conflicts are declared at the beginning of every Board meeting. The Board has three office bearers: Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer. The Director acts as Public Officer. As key strategic priorities, Writers SA ensures that our Board always includes individuals with professional experience in the areas of finance, fundraising and legal, as well as professional practising writers.

The Board meets every six weeks, or more regularly when required. This is supplemented by at least one full day strategic planning or strategic review session per year. The Board has annual external audit processes in place, and conducts a comprehensive biennial self assessment process. Members also regularly attend governance training opportunities such as offered by the Institute of Company Director, and the Australia Council Governance training.

The Board consists of several subcommittees, including Finance, Policy, and Programming, that comprise members of the Board of Management and selected external members, and is supported by a First Nations advisory committee.

The quality of Writers SA governance practices was acknowledged by the Commonwealth Bank in 2020 when our then-Treasurer was recognised with a Not-for-Profit Treasurers Award.

Staff

Writers SA management consists of the Director, Operations Manager and Finance Officer. Programming is undertaken by the Statewide Program Manager, First Nations Program Coordinator, and Program Assistant. Communications is led by the Marketing Coordinator. The staff work between the head office in Adelaide, and working-from-home when appropriate, and the Statewide Program Manager is based regionally.

Volunteers

Volunteers support the smooth running of Writers SA activities, across both digital and live events. Volunteers are often students from partner universities and organisations, and often will find employment through Writers SA's programs as mentors, manuscript assessors, course leaders, or in casual event employment.



KEY PERSONNEL

[AS OF JUNE 2022]

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Justyna Jochym – Chair

Tracy Crisp – Deputy Chair

Themba Shumba – Treasurer

Manal Younus

Jane Howard

Ben Brooker

David Meldrum

Carlee Smyth

Rachel Spencer

STAFF

Jessica Alice – Director

Bronwyn Tilley – Operations Manager

Alysha Hermann – Statewide Program Manager
(Mount Gambier)

Vern Schulz – Finance Officer

Lana Guineay – Marketing Coordinator

Edoardo Crismani – SA First Nations Writers Group
Coordinator

Kirste Vandergiessen – Riverland Coordinator

Eliza Wuttke – Eyre Peninsula Coordinator



ORGANISATION STRUTURE 2023-26



BUSINESS PLAN

Writers SA is a financially sustainable organisation with diverse revenue streams. For the next four-year period, we are focusing on the continued growth of self-generated income – our strongest revenue stream – as well as investing in development to increase private income, and an increase in operational funding.

Self-generated income

Writers SA generates ≈30% of our total annual turnover through self-generated revenue. We achieve this through:

- Membership
- Ticket sales (literary skills programs)
- Service delivery (manuscript assessments, mentorships)
- Event delivery contracts (local councils, schools, libraries)

Operational funding

In 2023–2026 we have applied for an increase to our multi-year funding to grow internal capacity and cement our commitment to our statewide remit and to First Nations literature. At the requested level, Writers SA's operating grant from Arts South Australia will represent 27% of total turnover. This increase on previous levels is sought to enable our continued growth, impressive output, and to ensure that the state's only dedicated organisation for literature continues to punch above its weight and be the boldest writers centre in Australia.

Operational funding supports our core operations, and represents 22% of total turnover. In 2021, Writers SA paid over \$200,000 to external writers, when funded at \$177,000, representing a strong return on investment. If funded at the requested rate of \$217,000 by 2025, Writers SA will pay out ≈\$300,000 to individual writers.



Project funding

Writers SA is highly successful at applying for project funding and enjoys investment from local, state and federal governments. We achieved an 80% success rate in 2020 and 2021. In our 2023–2026 budgets, this unconfirmed future funding is represented as both income and expenditure and does not affect the operating result.

Project funding allows us to undertake creative development and capacity building activities with targeted groups, such as:

- 2023: Writers in Schools (confirmed)
- 2023—24: SA First Nations Writers Group anthology publication
- 2024—25: Deaf Writers anthology publication
- 2024—26: Literary Agent & First Nations Literary Agent Development program
- 2025—26: South Australian writers anthology publication

BUSINESS PLAN

Private income

Increasing private income is a key goal for Writers SA in the 2023–26 period.

Writers SA receives annual philanthropic support from the Aesop Foundation, a valued partner of the Deaf Writers program since 2019. In 2022 we were successful in increasing Aesop's contribution from \$30,000 annually to \$100,000. The Deaf Writers program is now a major component of our creative development and capacity building work, supporting growing numbers of Deaf writers telling stories in Auslan each year.

In 2024–26 we aim to secure an additional philanthropic partner to support Writers SA's Writers in Schools education and artist employment program, growing this total philanthropic contribution from \$100,000 to \$200,000 by the end of the four year period.

In 2023–26 we seek to further increase donations. To support these efforts, in 2023 we have budgeted to employ a development consultant to work in conjunction with the Director and the Board Fundraising Sub-Committee to assist with updating our fundraising strategy to undertake a Creative Partnerships Australia Plus1 campaign, with the modest goal of \$20,000 including matched funding (\$10,000 raised by Writers SA).

Furthermore we will expand our writer services and event delivery services to business customers – providing writing skills workshops, copywriting, technical writing, and report and other business writing services.



Private Income Targets

| SOURCE | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | NOTES |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| Philanthropic foundations | 100,000 | 150,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 2023 figure Aesop-only; 2024 onwards is additional partners |
| Donations | 20,000 | 15,000 | 20,000 | 25,000 | 2023 figure is inclusive of matched funding from a Plus1 campaign |
| Corporate services | 20,000 | 22,000 | 24,000 | 26,000 | New revenue stream |

COVID-19 STRATEGY

Writers SA is resilient and proactive in our response to Covid-19. We put the health of our staff and community first, while maintaining engagement with members and employment for writers through our continuous artistic and service output.

Writers SA has invested in digital infrastructure to enable online programming. Digital events now make up 50% of all events in our year-round program of literary skills courses, which are live streamed – and occasionally pre-recorded for on-demand.

Digital programming was developed in response to the pandemic, and has remained a core offering due its success in offering:

- increased geographical and disability access
- environmental sustainability by reducing reliance on air travel for artists
- a valuable income stream.

We build all live programs and projects with a Covid Contingency Plan, enabling us to respond quickly if a staff member or artist falls ill or is in isolation, and either postpone or migrate live events into a digital format. We run our office at 50% staff capacity, with staff alternating schedules for office work or working from home throughout each week.

In 2020, Writers SA implemented a Covid-19 policy and this document is regularly reviewed by the Board of Management's Policy Sub-Committee. We present live events adhering to health advice from SA Health, and in accordance with our Covid-19 policy that requires mask wearing, full vaccination and rigorous hygiene protocols for staff and strongly recommends mask wearing and full vaccination for all attendees and participants.



APPENDIX: WRITERS SA 2023 PROGRAM

As we program on a quarterly basis, this document is a draft and some artists and events may change subject to availability. The 2022 Q1 program will be launched on Monday 5 December 2022 for events beginning January 2023.

EVENTS

SUMMER PROGRAM

JANUARY

Teen Writers Club with Mighty Kingdom | [Weekly](#)
Summer Bookclub panel conversations in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens (x2) | [Free events](#)
Goal Setting workshop with Epic Films (Kirsty Stark)
Pitching Yourself to Writers Festivals seminar with Raelee Lancaster
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: First Draft with Vikki Wakefield

FEBRUARY

Writing Historical Fiction workshop with Hannah Kent
Writing Family Sagas workshop with Karen Wyld
Introduction to Publishing seminar with Text Publishing | [Free event](#)
Writing Queer Love Stories workshop with Claire Christian
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: Poetry Studio Program with Evelyn Araluen

MARCH

Masterclass events (x4) in partnership with Adelaide Writers' Week
Regional Fringe Literary Showcases/Open Mic events (outcome of Adelaide Fringe collaboration)
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: Screenwriting Program with Travis Akbar

AUTUMN PROGRAM

APRIL

Regional Writing Panel at SALT Festival (Port Lincoln) with Alysha Herrmann, Ali Cobby Eckermann and Fleur Kilpatrick
Writing Better workshop with Melissa Lucashenko
Funny and Hard: Writing Difficult Stories with Humour workshop with Matt Okine
Contracts and Questions seminar with ArtsLaw | [Free event](#)
Teens School Holiday Workshop: Playwriting with Elena Carapetis (in preparation for Flinders University Young Playwrights Award)
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)

Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Project: Literary Market Lab with interstate publishers and agents | [Free event](#)
Project: Deaf Writers retreat #1 | [Free event](#)

MAY

First Nations Screenwriting Bootcamp with Pauline Clauge and Elaine Crombie
Writing Climate Change and Weathering Controversy workshop with David Finnigan | [Free event](#)
Poetry of the Body workshop with Shastra Deo
Writing Memoir for Online Publication workshop with Roz Bellamy
Marketing Basics for New Writers seminar with Lana Guineay
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: Manuscript Incubator with Pip Williams

JUNE

Writing First Nations (Super) Heroes workshop with Adam Briggs
Writing and Publishing YA Fiction workshop with Jodi McAlister

Editing Essentials workshop with Heather Taylor-Johnson
Bios, Memoir, and Writing Online Essays workshop
with Haneen Martin
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Project: Writers in Schools residencies (x2)
Members: Writers SA Mid-Winter Gathering | [Free event](#)

WINTER PROGRAM

JULY

Kids School Holiday Workshop with Adam Cece
Teens School Holiday Bootcamp with Sean Williams,
Sophie Gonzales and Margot McGovern
Writing Grants seminar with Country Arts SA, National
Young Writers Festival and ActNow Theatre | [Free event](#)
True Crime vs Crime Fiction workshop with Kyle Perry
Engaging the Six Senses in Literature workshop with
Alexis Wright
Writing Self and Others workshop with Maxine Beneba
Clarke and Carly Findlay
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: Writing Comedy Program with Elaine Crombie
City Library free writing workshop for kids

AUGUST

Salisbury Writers Festival (Writers SA curated) | [Free event](#)
Arts Writing in partnership with FELTspace (including
gallery tour/s)
Powerful Poetry workshop with Luka Lesson
Regency Romance workshop with Bronywn Stuart

Food, Travel and Other Adventures workshop with
Christina Soong
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Intensive: Script Incubator with Andrew Bovell
Project: Writers in Schools residencies (x2)

SEPTEMBER

Fantasy Writing Weekend in the Riverland with Lyndall
Clipstone, Lynette Noni, Rafeif Ismail and Deadset Press
Songwriting for Non-Musicians workshop with Nancy
Bates and Nathan May
Copywriting Tips & Tricks for Business seminar with
Libby Trainor Parker
Writing Illness and #ownvoices workshop with Kylie
Maslen | [Free event](#)
Stories on Stage workshop with Michelle Law
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)

SPRING PROGRAM

OCTOBER

Maximising Your Word Count (NaNoWriMo) workshop
with Clare Connelly
Writing Graphic Novels and Comics workshop with
Gavin Aung Than
Horror Short Stories workshop with Poppy Nwosu
Writers Rooms (and Carpark Clubbing) seminar with
Tasnim Hossain
Teens School Holiday Workshop: Graphic Novels with
Kay O'Neill

SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Project: Deaf writers retreat #2 and public showcase |
[Free event](#)
City Library free writing workshop for kids

NOVEMBER

Context Writers Festival in partnership with City of
Adelaide (Writers SA curated) | [Free event](#)
National Novel Writing Month Friday evening writing sessions
Pitch Ready workshop session with Alex Adsett
Writing for Video Games workshop with Brooke Maggs
Literary Fiction & Genre Fiction workshop with Jennifer Mills
Magical Realism workshop with Karen Wyld
SA First Nations Writers Group Meeting | [Free event](#)
Think Tank at City Library | [Free event](#)
Project: Writers in Schools residencies (x2)

DECEMBER

Self-publishing Tips & Tricks seminar with Lilly Mirren
and CJ Archer
Poetry Provocations: Poems that Change the World
workshop with Jessica Alice
Write Your Manifesto (for the year ahead) workshop
with Jamila Main | [Free event](#)
Members: Writers SA End-of-Year Celebration | [Free event](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

March

Lit Market Lab pitching weekend with publishing industry professionals

Stories to Screen pitching weekend with film industry professionals

June

Writers SA & Matilda Bookshop Deep Creek Fellowship

Writers-in-Schools Residencies

July

Campbelltown Writers Festival Short Story Competition

SA Literary Fellowships (First Nations Fellowships, Emerging Writer Fellowships, Established Writer Fellowships)

August

Writers SA Varuna Fellowships (First Nations Fellowship & Emerging Writer Fellowship)

Writers-in-Schools Residencies

October

SAETA Spring Poetry Prizes

Mindshare Awards Literary Prizes

November

Writers SA Feast Festival Short Story Competition and Awards

Writers SA Port Adelaide Enfield Living Landscapes Festival Writing Awards

Writers-in-Schools Residencies

2024—2026 PROGRAM OUTLINE

2024

Year-Round Writing Courses

90 writing courses

Teen Writers Club

1 each term in Adelaide

1 each term regionally

Intensive courses

First Draft

Manuscript Incubator

Memoir Academy

Poetry Studio

Fellowships

6 SA Literary Fellowships in partnership with State Library of South Australia

Adelaide Writers Week

4 Writers Studio Masterclasses

Context Writers Festival

Three day festival in partnership with City of Adelaide in November

First Nations Writers

Support for the SA First Nations Writers Group

Elders Stories Podcast launch

Varuna Fellowship (First Nations)

SA Literary Fellowship (First Nations)

Pilot program for Literary Agent Development Program (First Nations role)

Statewide

Regional programming in three key locations

Deaf Writers

Two intensive weekend creative development retreats in April and October

Education

Six writers in residence in public high schools

Pilot program for Literary Agent Development Program

Local Libraries

Partnerships with 4 local governments

Living Landscapes Writers Festival with City of Port Adelaide Enfield in October

Publishing

Publication of the SA First Nations Writers Anthology
Publication of SA Liminal Edition II

Major partner secured for South Australian literary journal

2025

Year-Round Writing Courses

100 writing courses

Teen Writers Club

1 each term in Adelaide

1 each term regionally

Intensive courses

First Draft

Manuscript Incubator

Memoir Academy

Poetry Studio

Fellowships

6 SA Literary Fellowships in partnership with State Library of South Australia

Adelaide Writers Week

4 Writers Studio Masterclasses

Context Writers Festival

Three day festival in partnership with City of Adelaide in November

First Nations Writers

Support for the SA First Nations Writers Group

Varuna Fellowship (First Nations)

SA Literary Fellowship (First Nations)

Launch of Literary Agent Development Program (First Nations role)

Statewide

Regional programming in three key locations

Deaf Writers

Two intensive weekend creative development retreats in April and October

Education

Six writers in residence in public high schools

Launch of Literary Agent Development Program

Local Libraries

Partnerships with 6 local governments

Living Landscapes Writers Festival with City of Port Adelaide Enfield in October

Publishing

Publication of a new South Australian literary journal

2026

Year-Round Writing Courses

110 writing courses

Teen Writers Club

1 each term in Adelaide

1 each term regionally

Intensive courses

First Draft

Manuscript Incubator

Memoir Academy

Poetry Studio

Fellowships

6 SA Literary Fellowships in partnership with State Library of South Australia

Adelaide Writers Week

6 Writers Studio Masterclasses

Context Writers Festival

Three day festival in partnership with City of Adelaide in November

First Nations Writers

Support for the SA First Nations Writers Group

Varuna Fellowship (First Nations)

SA Literary Fellowship (First Nations)

Literary Agent Development Program (First Nations)

Statewide

Regional programming in three key locations

Deaf Writers

Two intensive weekend creative development retreats in April and October

Education

Six writers in residence in public high schools

Literary Agent Development Program | first iteration complete

Local Libraries

Partnerships with 6 local governments

Living Landscapes Writers Festival with City of Port Adelaide Enfield in October

Publishing

Publication of SA Liminal Edition III

Quarterly publication of a new South Australian literary journal



WRITERS SA

