

Ripiro Beach Non-Fiction Writing Residency for University of Auckland Alumni

Faculty: Arts and Education

Applicable: Applicants must be alumni (not a current student) of **any faculty** of the University of Auckland

Opening date: Monday 2 March 2026

Closing date: Thursday 30 April 2026

Tenure: Two weeks

Number on offer: one

Offer rate: Accommodation plus a \$1500 stipend

Description:

Established in 2024 by Caroline Barron (Masters of Creative Writing, 2015), Jeremy Barron and Associate Professor Paula Morris, Director of the Masters of Creative Writing programme. The Ripiro Beach Non-Fiction Writing Residency for University of Auckland Alumni will provide an opportunity for an alum from the University of Auckland (from any faculty) to have time and space to work towards or complete a creative non-fiction work.

The residency will take place over two weeks between July – September of each year and will include accommodation at the Barron family bach at Ripiro Beach (Baylys Beach) and a \$1,500 stipend funded by the Barron Family and the Masters of Creative Writing Alumni Fund.

Selection process:

- Application is made to the Faculty of Arts and Education via an online form
 - A Selection Committee assesses the applications
 - The Residency is awarded by the Faculty of Arts and Education on the recommendation of the Selection Committee
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Regulations:

1. Applicants must be alumni (not a current student) of **any faculty** of Waipapa Taumata Rau the University of Auckland.
2. Applications are encouraged from both emergent and established writers.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, applicants must be i) a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident (see Note I).
4. Applicants can apply for a specific book-length creative non-fiction writing project (for example: memoir, personal essays, travel writing, nature writing).

***Creative Non-Fiction Definition:** Creative non-fiction is a genre of writing that uses literary / novelistic styles and techniques to create factually accurate narratives. It blends the storytelling elements of fiction—such as character development, dialogue, and plot—with the factual foundation of non-fiction. The focus is on engaging storytelling while staying true to real events, people, and details.

5. Current and former staff of the University of Auckland are eligible to apply for the residency if they are also an alum of the University of Auckland.
6. Applicants may submit one entry each year.
7. Awardees may not be awarded the Prize more than once.
8. Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee comprising the Programme Director for Creative Writing, the donor or the donor's representative and the Associate Dean Academic (or their nominees). The basis of selection will be i) the impact on the reader/viewer, ii) technical accomplishment, and iii) potential
9. The University of Auckland can amend or vary these regulations, in consultation with the donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Prize.
10. The Faculty of Arts and Education is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate who meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
11. Two one-week residencies with a \$750 stipend each may be awarded by the selection panel if a recipient is unable to commit to a full two-week residency.
12. The decision of the selection panel will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
13. The stipend will be paid to the recipient by the Faculty of Arts and Education while the writer is in residency. Recipients are responsible for managing their taxes (see Note II)
14. If the appointed writer is in regular employment, he or she is expected to arrange to be on leave for the duration of the residency.
15. The residency is located at the Barron family bach and will include accommodation, linen, Wi-Fi, gas, electricity, firewood and a professional end of residency clean.
16. The recipient will take good care of the property and will report any damage or issues to the property owner.
17. The recipient will be responsible for their own transport to and from the destination.
18. The writer accepts that the residency and writer may be promoted by University of Auckland in the media, including social media.
19. Within two weeks of the completion of the residency, the writer agrees to provide a written evaluation of the residency to University of Auckland.
20. In addition to the residency, recipients are welcome to two hours of one-on-one mentoring with Caroline Barron, via Zoom, should they wish.
21. The Residency and the University of Auckland should be cited in any book publications that were worked on during the residency.

The following documents must be submitted with this application

- A one-page synopsis (not a blurb).
- A letter of support from the literary or academic sector.
- A 5,000-word sample of the work for which you are applying for the residency.
- Cover letter.
- CV

Applicants must read, understand and accept the application criteria of the residency as part of this application.

Notes:

1. *New Zealand Permanent Residents have been granted a Permanent Resident Visa by Immigration New Zealand. For more information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa/becoming-a-permanent-resident>.*
2. *By accepting the residency, you are personally responsible for declaring the stipend as income to the IRD and to pay any tax required on the sum.*