

# A WRITING CHANCE

Thank you for your interest in participating in this project. Before you begin your entry here is some useful information about the project timeline, key dates and how we will assess your work.

## Assessment and shortlisting:

All of the work submitted will be read by a diverse team of assessors who are experienced writers and journalists from across the UK who have been employed specifically to work on this project. They will work with New Writing North to identify a shortlist of 30 entries. Those 30 writers will be asked to submit a new or expanded piece of work of up to 1,000 words for consideration. This work will then be read and considered by a panel of project partners from the Daily Mirror, New Statesman and Joseph Rowntree Foundation who will decide on the final ten writers who will participate in the project.

## Key dates for the project in 2021 are:

1. Deadline for submissions: **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm**
2. Shortlisted writers will be contacted by 10<sup>th</sup> May
3. The deadline for the 30 longlisted writers to submit a 1,000-word piece of work is 21<sup>st</sup> May
4. The final 10 chosen participants will be informed by 31<sup>st</sup> May
5. Announcement of the chosen writers will take place during the week of 14<sup>th</sup> June
6. Mentoring meetings will take place monthly from June-October
7. Insight Days with project partners will take place during the week of the 7<sup>th</sup> July online
8. The deadline for the delivery of the final work produced for the project is 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## Eligibility criteria

1. This programme aims to support people from working-class and lower income backgrounds and those who face intersectional barriers who are under-represented in the UK media and publishing.
2. You must be over the age of 18 on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 to enter.
3. The programme is open to submissions of work written in English by writers of any nationality or descent who at the time of entering are permanently resident in the UK.
4. The work submitted for this programme may be journalism, non-fiction or fiction. We do not accept poetry or work in translation.
5. The journalistic subject area is not restrictive. Alongside fiction and creative writing you may enter news, politics, feature writing, sports writing, arts writing and any other recognisably journalistic area as long as it addresses the topic of 'Life in 2020-21'.
6. This programme is for new writers, whatever age. We define new writers as writers who are not yet earning their main income from their writing. You may be presenting your first piece of writing for this opportunity or your work may be beginning to appear online, or you may be building up a writing portfolio alongside other work. You are not eligible if you have already achieved paid published work regularly in regional or national news media in print or online. If you have been published in trade or specialist publications as part of your work or personal interests, that's fine.
7. Self-published writers, bloggers and those writing for community, trade or work-related organisations in an unpaid capacity may apply if they meet the eligibility criteria.
8. Writers who have published a full-length work with a publisher such as a poetry collection, novel or memoir are not eligible to apply for this programme.

9. If you reach the longlist stage of the programme we will ask for more detailed information about your writing career and experience.
10. New Writing North will make final decisions on eligibility. Our decisions will be final, and no communication will be entered into on the subject.

### Conditions of entry

1. Employees, and the family members of staff at New Writing North may not enter for this programme.
2. All entries must be made through the programme's Submittable online portal. We do not accept submissions by email or post. Once received the system will send you an acknowledgement to confirm that your entry has been received.
3. To be eligible submissions to the awards must have been made by **6pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**. Submissions received after this point in time will not be considered.
4. Incomplete submissions will be rejected.
5. The work that you enter must be your own original work.
6. The name that you enter under must be your legal name and not a pen name. If required you will be able to use a pen name for publication if selected. An identity check will take place for those longlisted for the programme to confirm identities and location.
7. All submissions must be written by a single author. We do not accept collaborative writing.
8. Copyright for the work that you submit remains yours.
9. The final ten writers chosen to participate in the project must commit fully to the plan of activities and sign a participation agreement with New Writing North.
10. The ten selected participants will be expected to participate in the associated academic research and all media and publicity attached to the programme.
11. We reserve the right to vary the rules and conditions of entry and to make any amendments to the published schedule as are deemed necessary.
12. By entering your work you are confirming to us that the work that you are submitting is to your knowledge eligible and that you have read and agree to the Conditions of Entry.
13. We will write to everyone who entered and inform them of the outcome of their application once the selection process has concluded.
14. We apologise in advance that we are unable to enter into individual correspondence with writers about unsuccessful submissions and cannot give feedback due to the number of entries that we are likely to receive.

Recruiting the people that this programme is designed to benefit is important to us. We acknowledge the application process is detailed and inevitably personal in nature. You may find this [article](#) and linked [research](#) interesting as it demonstrates the particular challenges around definition.

If you have any feedback on the application process we are interested in learning from it. Please email [office@newwritingnorth.com](mailto:office@newwritingnorth.com) using the heading: 'A Writing Chance Feedback'.

Good Luck with making your application. We look forward to reading it!