

A detailed illustration of a scuba diver in a dark tank, floating in a blue-green underwater environment. The diver is wearing a mask with two circular lenses and has their arms outstretched. Various sea creatures, including a large fish, a squid, and a crab, are visible in the background. The overall style is reminiscent of a classic children's book illustration.

COME PLAY WITH US

UTS Library

Creative in Residence
2024

ABOUT

Believe us when we say it, we are **not your regular library**. Yes, we're mad about books, but don't be too quick to judge the book by its cover because that's just the start of who we are.

Not to brag, but our Library is kind of a big deal around here. Central to the university, and central to Sydney, our award-winning Library building, UTS Central, is the go-to space for students and researchers alike. And if that's not enough, we also have a unicorn!

Although we enjoy being the centre of attention we also really care about our community and are continuously checking ourselves to make sure everyone is having a good time. We are zealous devotees to the higher power that is human centeredness and feel that a personal approach is essential to a positive student experience.

We also have a delightful treasure trove of this and that around the Library, but to list a few:

- A flourishing beehive filled with anti-sting **bees** (look it up if you don't believe us).
- A sleeping space for sleepy people.
- An underground **robot** who is painstakingly fastidious when it comes to book organising.
- On occasion, irresistible therapy dogs in search of pats and cuddles.
- And as previously mentioned, an out of-work **unicorn**.



OUR HARD SELL

The Library is the heart of the UTS community and as we embrace an ever-evolving landscape, our vision is to deliver an excellent client experience, revitalise our vibrant community and bring some warmth, life and play into the space.

We invite you to **explore** our Library, whether that be our collection, spaces or culture. **Engage** with our community in a way that encourages connection between both physical and digital spaces. Challenge yourself to **create** something new and innovative that encourages positive client experience. Come play with us!



THE GIST OF THE RESIDENCY

- You will have a lofty 6 months, specifically from March 2024 to August 2024, to research your creative vision, hang out with our charismatic Library staff and students and bring your artistic genius to life.
- Whatever you manifest will become a special part of the UTS Library's collection. That is unless Michael tries to acquire your work to add to his office. Who is Michael Gonzalez you ask? He is our Head Librarian, who you will easily spot in his very chic Kimono and Ugg boots.
- To compensate you for your time, energy, invaluable intellect, creative work (and actual art making), travel and accommodation needs, we offer a remuneration of \$10,000.
- The materials budget is separate. You will receive \$5,000 to make your inspired concept a reality. Don't worry, one of our good-with-money experts will help you to stay within budget.



THE IRRESISTIBLE PERKS

The groovy thing about this residency is that we are way too keen to help you in whatever way we can. This includes access to:

- A VIP staff card that gets you into (almost) every nook and cranny of the Library. Yes, it is also just a library card and yes you can borrow books with it!
- Our Special Collections and if you so desire, (read: would like to be a little extra – trust us you do) private viewings of the Special Collections with our keeper of the keys.
- A computer (no you don't get to keep it) and IT support (within reason) for the inter-webs and what not.
- All our Library spaces to do with what you will (also within reason: for example, we have vetoed adult sized slippery dips and a live roaming Library Llama as we have had bad experiences in the past. Don't ask).



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

In search of our 2024 Creative in Residence soul mate (which could so be you), we have a few relationship non-negotiables.

Yes, there are residencies out there where one can burrow away in an artistic hobbit hole, hibernating and artmaking for 6 months. This is not that kind of residency.

Warning: Those who enter here be ready for actual human interaction.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is willing to work in any one of our fabulous Library spaces at least once a week so that our community can see you in action.
- Is excited to engage with the collection, community, services and spaces.
- Is ready to participate in all kinds of events and activities to show everyone how amazing your work is and how cool the Library is.
- Has current and valid work rights in Australia and a current Working With Children Check (WWCC).
- And finally, it goes without saying, we are looking for someone who will deliver their creative vision. Please don't ghost* us.

***Ghosting:** When a person cuts off all communication with their friends or the person they're dating, with zero warning or notice before hand. You'll mostly see them avoiding friend's phone calls, social media, and avoiding them in public.

"I haven't seen Nancy in 3 months. I think she may be ghosting me."

THE BRASS TACKS*

When we review your amazing application, we will be making big decisions based on the following things, so when writing your proposal, make sure you pay close attention to these questions:

- Have you clearly showcased evidence of past works, demonstrating your ability to complete a high-quality creative project so that we can clearly see how amazing and capable you are?
- How does the project activate the Library's collection, spaces and culture?
- Does the project clearly inspire playfulness, provoke curiosity, and/or encourage engagement with UTS Library, the UTS community and the general public?
- Is the project actually feasible and practical within the timeline (approximately 6 months) and budget (approximately \$5000)?
- Will this residency help you develop and advance your artistic and professional practice?

Feeling the urge to dive in but want to get a feel for things first? No worries! Drop an email to our program manager, Mia Turner at Mia.Turner@uts.edu.au. She'll set you up with a chance to swing by the Library, explore our spaces, ask your burning questions, and see if this residency vibes with your creative spirit. We're all about making sure it's a perfect fit for you. So, let's chat and see if we're a match made in library heaven!

***Brass tacks:** *Details of immediate practical importance—usually used in the phrase 'get down to brass tacks'.*

HOW TO APPLY

Application due date: Before 12pm Monday 6 November 2023

In ONE PDF document with maximum size 10MB your application will include:

- Project description (1 x A4 page). This is where you should address the proposed outcome of the residency and how you will achieve it (tell us what you want to do and how you want to do it). As well as address the proposed project's connection to the Library and the selection criteria (tell us why You + UTS Library = 2getha 4eva).
- Include supporting documents. This could be links to websites where your work can be viewed, media articles where you have been reviewed, blogs or work-in-progress pages. (Basically, your opportunity to be like "Look at me!" and "Yeah, this is why I am the Sh*t").
- Your CV (please only 2 pages max).
- Short biography (tell us all about you and your recent achievements in 500 words or less). Include recent exhibitions, awards, grants, residencies, published papers, etc. (yes, we like knowing everything, it's a Library thing).
- Examples of recent work with captioned images. Choose 2-10 recent works to show us using a maximum of 10 images.

Please email applications to Mia.Turner@uts.edu.au by 12pm Monday 6 November 2023.

A very important note: Residency applications are open to all creatures great and small, and applicants do not need to be affiliated with UTS to apply for this residency. Meaning, if you are keen as a bean to apply, go for it! We can't wait to read your application.

And another: If your proposal has been unsuccessful in the past, we encourage you to apply again. However, if you are applying again, please do not submit the same proposal. Show us that you have developed your ideas and refined your work since the last application, as this demonstrates a real commitment to your practice. It is okay to use the same support images but if you have recent works, include those too.

One more: UTS Library reserves the right not to proceed with any appointment. (Just covering our bases here.)

SAVE THE DATES

- Applications open: Monday 2 October 2023
- Applications close: 12pm Monday 6 November 2023
- The successful applicant will be notified by Friday 22 December 2023.
- The contract commencement date will be approximately 1st week of March 2024 and the contract end date will be approximately 30th August 2024. Please note: the 6-month residency is inclusive of initial planning meetings and administrative periods.

