

UTS CRICOS provider code 00099F

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 secret flutter of **Lepidoptera** (stitched with love).
- → A friendly **ghost** that haunts our Library (she's into books not boos).
- → Four **celestial guardians** watching over our Reading Room with cosmic wisdom.
- → And as previously mentioned, a resident **unicorn**.



OUR HARD SELL

Welcome to the UTS Library, where we don't just think outside the box—we tossed the box into the stratosphere! We are the heart of the UTS community and a dynamic hub where unhinged creativity thrives and every corner buzzes with potential.

We're on the hunt for a creative powerhouse (like you) to shake things up and bring your most audacious visions to life. Dive into our diverse community and turn our space into a playground of possibilities. We can't wait for you to inspire playfulness, provoke curiosity, and stir up excitement as you weave your creative magic into our vibrant environment.

Meet the cast!!



Name: Elizabeth

Role: Operations Overlord



Name: Tess

Role: OHS



Name: Daniel

Role: Finance Guy!



Name: Michael

Role: Evil Genius*

**Head Librarian.*

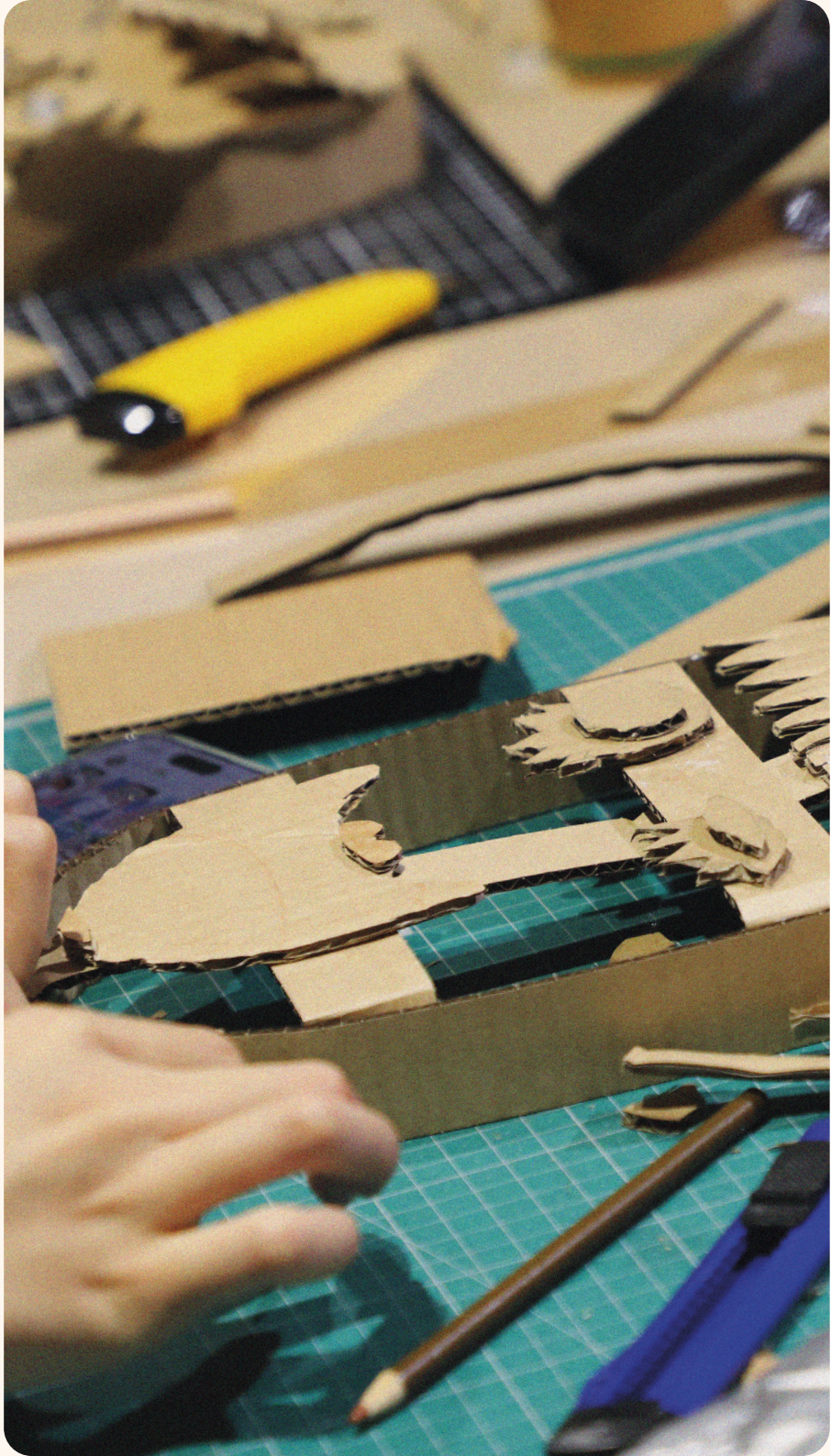


Name: Mia

Role: Curator!

THE GIST OF THE RESIDENCY

- → You will have a lofty 6 months, specifically from March 2027 to September 2027, to research your creative vision, hang out with our charismatic Library staff and students and bring your artistic genius to life.
- → Whatever you create won't just be archived and admired—it will become part of the Library's living culture and identity. However it takes form, it will leave its mark (and yes, it will also be recorded in our collection so we never forget you).
- → To compensate you for your time, energy, invaluable intellect, creative work (and actual art making), travel and accommodation, and superannuation we offer a remuneration of $15,000.
- → The materials budget is separate. You will work with $5000 to make your inspired concept a reality. Don't worry, one of our good-with-money experts will help you to stay within budget.
- → You'll also collaborate with our team (chaotic, slightly unhinged, but well-intentioned) to find playful ways your residency can spill into the life of the Library—through programming with our community, and maybe even through designed goodies or other surprises.



THE IRRESISTABLE 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, courtesy of our Operations Overlord, that gets you into (almost) every nook and cranny of the Library. Yes, it's also just a library card, and yes, you can borrow books with it!
- → A computer (no, you don't get to keep it) for the inter-webs and whatnot.
- → 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).
- → A swanky launch event that puts your work on display for the Library community and gives you a chance to shine (even more!) within the GLAM sector. Whether you're already a superstar or just about to make your big debut, this event is your moment to network, connect, and make an impression that'll last longer than Michael's kimono phase.



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

In search of our 2027 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.

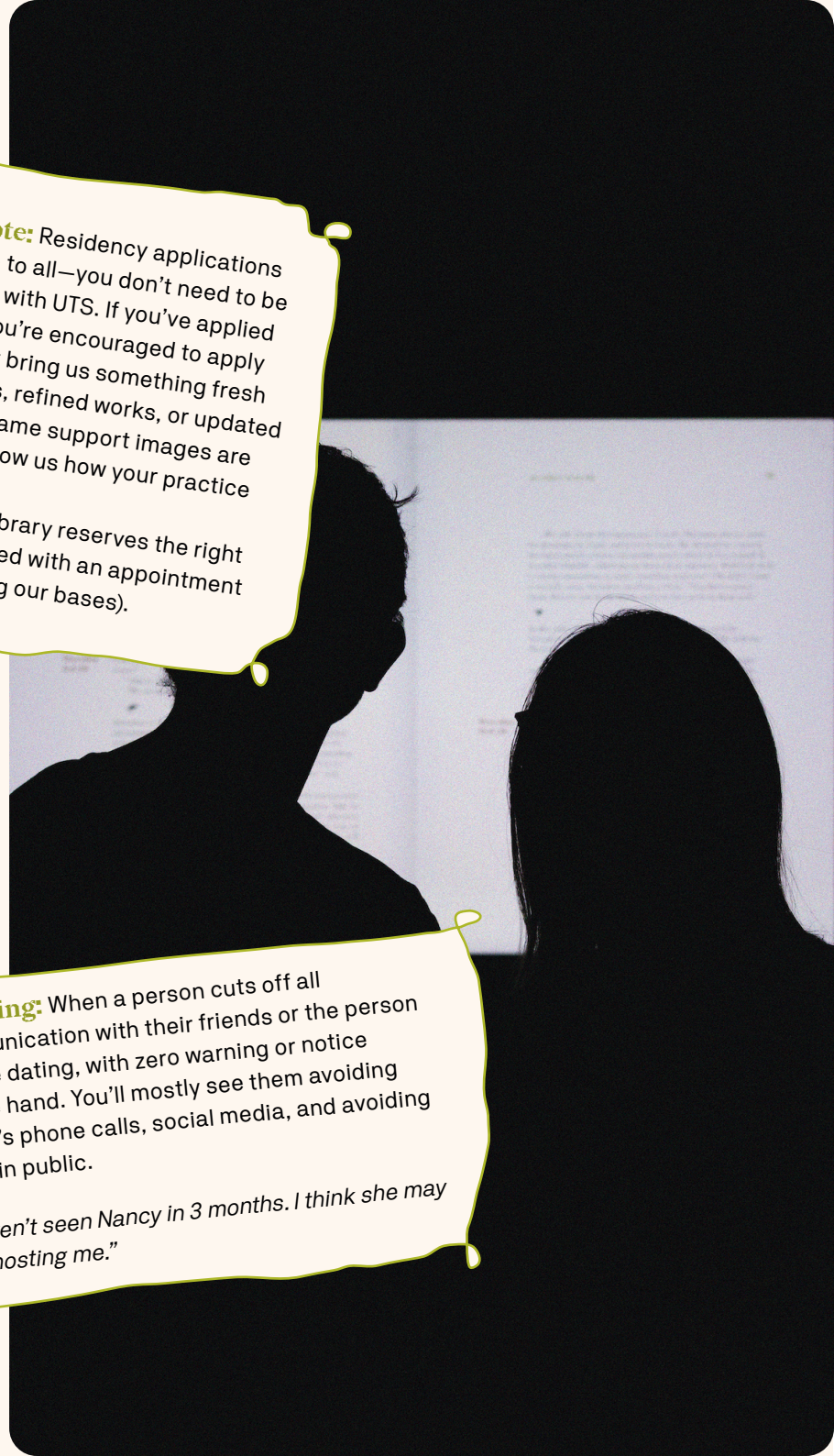
Warning: Those who enter here be ready for actual human interaction.

We are looking for someone who:

- → Is willing to work in our fabulous Library at least once a week for 16 weeks (or equal to) so the community can see you in action. (8 in Autumn + 8 in Spring—you can still haunt the campus mid-year if you like, but don't expect much of a crowd).
- → Is excited to engage with the community, culture 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.

Side note: Residency applications are open to all—you don't need to be affiliated with UTS. If you've applied before, you're encouraged to apply again, but bring us something fresh (new ideas, refined works, or updated images). Same support images are fine, but show us how your practice has grown.

Also: the Library reserves the right not to proceed with an appointment (just covering our bases).



* **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?

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



HOW TO APPLY

Application due date:

Before 5pm Monday 26th October 2026

Please email applications to **Mia.Turner@uts.edu.au** by 5pm Monday 26th October

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

- **Project description (1 page).** Tell us what you want to do, how, and why it belongs in our Library. Keep it simple, clear, and true to you. A strong proposal makes us think *heck yeah, this needs to happen and our community will love it*—because it's both achievable here and the next step in your creative journey that you're burning to take.

  Do yourself a favour: make sure your proposal aligns with the questions in *The Brass Tacks* (the slide just before this one). That's not just a hint—that's how we decide.

- **Examples of recent work (2–10 works, max 10 images).** This is your portfolio—the part that really stays with us. It's what drives your application home and helps us picture your idea as possible. (And that you can deliver the goods.)

  Visual artists: include images with captions.
  Other media (sound, performance, writing, digital, etc.): include stills or short descriptions with links so we can experience it.

- **Optional Extras:** Links to websites, reviews, blogs, or work-in-progress pages if you want. (Basically, your opportunity to be like *"Look at me!"* and *"Yeah, this is why I am the Sh*t."*)

- **Your CV and short bio (max 2 pages combined).** Essentials only—this is who you are and what you've done: exhibitions, awards, residencies, grants, papers, the works. (Yes, we like details, it's a Library thing.)

SAVE THE DATES

- → Applications open: Monday 7 September 2026
- → Applications close: 5pm Monday 26 October 2026
- → The successful applicant will be notified in early November
- → The contract commencement date will be approximately end of March and the contract end date will be approximately 30th September 2027

Feeling the urge to dive in but want proof we're not gremlins in cardigans? (Fair enough.)

Email **Mia.Turner@uts.edu.au**, our curator/your beacon of light, to snag a spot on a small group tour. You'll get the low-down, peek at the spaces, and ask your burning questions before deciding if we're your people.

Tour dates:

8am-9am Thursday 1st October
12pm-1pm Thursday 8th October
5pm-6pm Thursday 15th October

