

ARTROOT WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE APPLICATION

(For January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026)

The ArtRoot Writer-in-Residence (WIR) program is an initiative founded by a collaboration of artists and arts advocates who are determined to reinvigorate Racine and Kenosha, Wisconsin through the arts, supported by the Racine Literacy Council (RLC), and funded by a generous grant from the Osborne & Scekic Family Foundation. Through this program, we seek to spotlight Racine and Kenosha's dynamic literary community while encouraging, supporting, and advocating on behalf of writers at all stages of their careers.

Two six-month residencies are available each year for emerging, mid-career, and established writers who reside in Racine or Kenosha counties. Residencies take place January through June and July through December. Candidates are awarded a \$1,500 stipend (75% initially and 25% upon completion of expectations and an evaluation form.)

Applicant Expectations

In return for a \$1,500 stipend, the WIR is expected to:

- Publish one weekly blog post on the www.racinewir.com website. Topics are the choice of the writer and should reflect your writing genre and style.
- Develop and execute one writing-focused community project. Examples include, but are not limited to: artist talks, collaborations, school-based projects, a writers' group or workshop, etc.
- Work with your coordinator to establish a location for WIR to take up residence while writing. Part of our mission is to encourage public interaction with the WIR whenever possible. Past residencies have taken place at coffee shops, studios, and art galleries.

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Applicant Requirements

To apply for the ArtRoot Writer-in-Residence position, you must:

- Be a Racine or Kenosha County resident
- Be 18 years of age or older

While the program is open to writers of all genres and experience levels, we do give consideration to: a record of your past achievements, creativity and artistic merit, advancing the literary art form, and being an active contributor to the literary arts scene.

Checklist for Your Application Packet

1. Resume or CV (not exceeding one page)
2. Single page cover letter which outlines the following:
 - Any publications that have featured your work
 - Any writer recognitions you have received
 - Educational work in the literary arts
 - Places where you have presented your work in the past two years
 - Information about your professional career, volunteer work, and hobbies as they apply to the language arts and to literacy in general.
 - The reason you wish to become our Writer-in-Residence
3. Three writing samples (one page each). Variety in writing is a plus:
 - 12 pt. font (Times New Roman or Arial)
 - Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)
 - Name and contact information on *each* page, please!
4. Description of your community-based writing project you would like to develop.
5. Photo of yourself (.jpg) and a brief bio for our promotional materials.
6. Optional: Letters of recommendation

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How to Apply:

Download this PDF, read through thoroughly, and complete it (in English, please!)

Email this and the requested documents to the Writer-in-Residence Coordinator, Peg Rousar-Thompson (uglyoldwitch@gmail.com) with Writer-in-Residence in the subject line. Applicants who have trouble accessing the online form or submitting electronically may contact us for help.

2026 Winter/Spring Residency Application due by 11:59pm on December 20, 2025

FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE INITIAL _____

LAST NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY/VILLAGE/TOWN _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ (CELL) _____

EMAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ (Must be age 18 or older)

I certify that representations made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge, and that the writing samples I have submitted with this application are my own material and accurately represent my work.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____