



Društvo slovenskih pisateljev
Slovene Writers' Association



Call for Applications

for the

CEI FELLOWSHIP FOR WRITERS IN RESIDENCE

for the year 2007

awarded by the

CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE
in co-operation with the
SLOVENE WRITERS' ASSOCIATION

within the

Vilenica International Literary Festival

Overview

The CEI Fellowship for Writers in Residence is a newly established award aimed at encouraging cross-border cooperation and promotion in the field of literature for young writers from Central European countries not yet part of the European Union. The fellowship is endowed with a cash award of EUR 5,000 for a three-month stay in any of the Central European Initiative Member States, selected by the candidate. The three shortlisted candidates will be guests of the 22nd Vilenica International Literary Festival which will take place from 5 to 9 September 2007 at various locations in Slovenia. At the opening of the festival the fellowship winner will be officially announced and presented at one of the festival events. The candidate is eligible for the fellowship from 1 September 2007 till 1 September 2007. Within 60 days after completion of the residency the candidate must submit a written report.

The Central European Initiative (CEI) is composed of 18 Member States: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine. They embrace a territory of 2.4 million square kilometres and a population of nearly 250 million. The CEI was the first regional co-operation forum on the political map of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and has among all regional groupings the longest tradition and covers the largest area. It was established in 1989 by Austria, Italy, Hungary and Yugoslavia with the aim of establishing a platform of mutual political, economic, scientific and cultural co-operation called Quadrangular Co-operation. From its very inception the CEI has promoted cohesion and solidarity among its Member States. In recent years it has emerged as one of the foremost platforms for regional co-operation. One of the CEI main objectives is to bring the countries of Central, Eastern and South-eastern Europe closer together and assist them in their preparation process for EU membership through economic, human and institutional development. www.ceinet.org.

The Slovene Writers' Association produces and carries out contemporary public programmes in the field of literature. With a wide array of programmes and activities, it represents the most active organisation and the main centre of literary activity in Slovenia. The role of principal operator of public programmes in literature is also recognised by the Ministry of Culture with its active support and regular financing. The beginnings of the association can be traced back to 1872, when authors started to organise, but it took the current name in 1968. It was presided by distinguished Slovene writers. The Slovene Writers' Association promotes creative freedom, acts as advocate to improve the status of Slovene literature and writers, and brings together writers from the entire Slovene cultural space, regardless of the borders. Always critical and creative, the association has helped make significant changes in the Slovene social and cultural space and life. It was very active during Slovenia's quest for independence and the formation of the young country. The association fosters regular relations with international writers and carries out internationally acclaimed programmes. www.drustvo-dsp.si

The Vilenica International Literary Festival, a gathering of poets, prose writers, playwrights and essayists, but also translators, publishers, editors and critics from Central Europe and beyond is organized by the Slovene Writers' Association in collaboration with the Cultural Society Vilenica from Sežana. Since the first Vilenica international festival in 1986, the climax of the event has been the presentation of the Vilenica International Literary Prize, awarded by the Slovene Writers' Association to a Central European author for outstanding achievements in the field of literature and essay writing. Vilenica Prize Winners include: Fulvio Tomizza, Peter Handke, Peter Esterházy, Jan Skácel, Tomas Venclova, Zbigniew Herbert, Milan Kundera, Libuše Moníková, Josip Osti, Adolf Muschg, Adam Zagajewski, Pavel Vilikovský, Peter Nádas, Erica

Pedretti, Slavko Mihalić, Jaan Kaplinski, Ana Blandiana, Mirko Kovač, Brigitte Kronauer, Karl-Markus Gauss and Ilma Rakusa. Vilenica features numerous literary and cultural events; the theoretical part of the festival provides many opportunities for in-depth debates, while social events add to a relaxed atmosphere for socializing and meeting. www.vilenica.si.

Conditions of entry

Applicants eligible for the fellowship are writers from all genres under 35 from CEI Member States which are not part of the European Union (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine).

Application guidelines

The deadline for applications is 1 June 2007. Applications must be received in a sealed envelope by regular mail. The committee will consider entries which reach the address below by 1 June 2007, 12.00.

Slovene Writers' Association
(Writer In Residence)
Tomšičeva 12
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

The application must include the following obligatory enclosures:

1. A filled in registration form (find attached).
2. A biography in English (max. 1800 characters without spaces).
3. Copy of a valid ID or passport with the visible date and place of birth, and the citizenship.
4. A bibliography in English (max. 3600 characters without spaces).
5. A description in English of the project to be undertaken during the three-month residence, and if possible a contact address in the host country (max 4500 characters without spaces).
6. One letter of recommendation in English (max. 1800 characters without spaces).

Incomplete entries will not be considered.

Application procedure

1. The application form will be distributed through all major writers' organizations in the candidate states, on the web-page of the CEI, the SWA and the Vilenica festival, namely: www.ceinet.org, www.drustvo-dsp.si and www.vilenica.si.
2. The international committee including members from Slovenia, Italy and Austria will consider the entries received at the above address by 1 June at 12.00 and select three shortlisted candidates.
3. Entries will be evaluated according to the following criterion: 40% (4 points) for the bibliography, 40% (4 points) for the project description and 20% (2 points) for the letter of recommendation.
3. All the candidates will be notified of the decision of the committee by 15 July 2006.
4. The three shortlisted candidates will receive invitations to the Vilenica festival by 20 July 2007.
5. The three shortlisted candidates will be officially announced at the press conference of the 21st Vilenica International Literary Festival on 28 August 2007 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.
6. The fellowship winner will be officially announced at the opening of the festival on 5 September 2007 in Lipica, Slovenia.
7. 60 days after completion of the residency the candidate must submit a written report in English (7200 – 9000 characters without spaces) by regular or e-mail to the Slovene Writers' Association.

Information

Questions may be sent via e-mail or by fax no later than 14 days before the deadline to:

Slovene Writers' Association

Društvo slovenskih pisateljev

Ms Nika Gumilar

Tomšičeva 12

SI-1000 Ljubljana

Fax: 00386 1 42 16 430

e-mail: nikagumilar@gmail.com

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday: 10.00 to 13.00