



Report to General Manager

Attachments:

1. Don Bank - Writer in Residence Program 2018

SUBJECT: Don Bank – Selection of Writer in Residence for 2019

AUTHOR: Amanda Hudson, Community Development Librarian

ENDORSED BY: Martin Ellis, Director Community and Library Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Expressions of interest for the 2019 Writer in Residence at the Don Bank Studio have been received.

Three writers have applied for North Sydney Council's Writer in Residence at Don Bank Museum for 2019.

| | Genre |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 | Creative Non-Fiction |
| 2 | Literary Fiction |
| 3 | Public History |

All applicants have met the selection criteria and provided:

1. Statement explaining how the residency at the studio would benefit their project.
2. Statement explaining how the residency would benefit the North Sydney community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council supports the selection of Applicant 3 for the Don Bank Program commencing in 2019.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

Direction: 4. Our Social Vitality

Outcome: 4.2 North Sydney is creative and home to popular events

BACKGROUND

The Don Bank Writer in Residence program began in 2011, occupying non-public spaces in the Museum, formerly the caretaker's quarters. Artists-in-residence since then have had a connection with the visual and plastic arts while others have been playwrights, poets and crime writers: all completing successful residencies. This is the ninth year of the residency.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

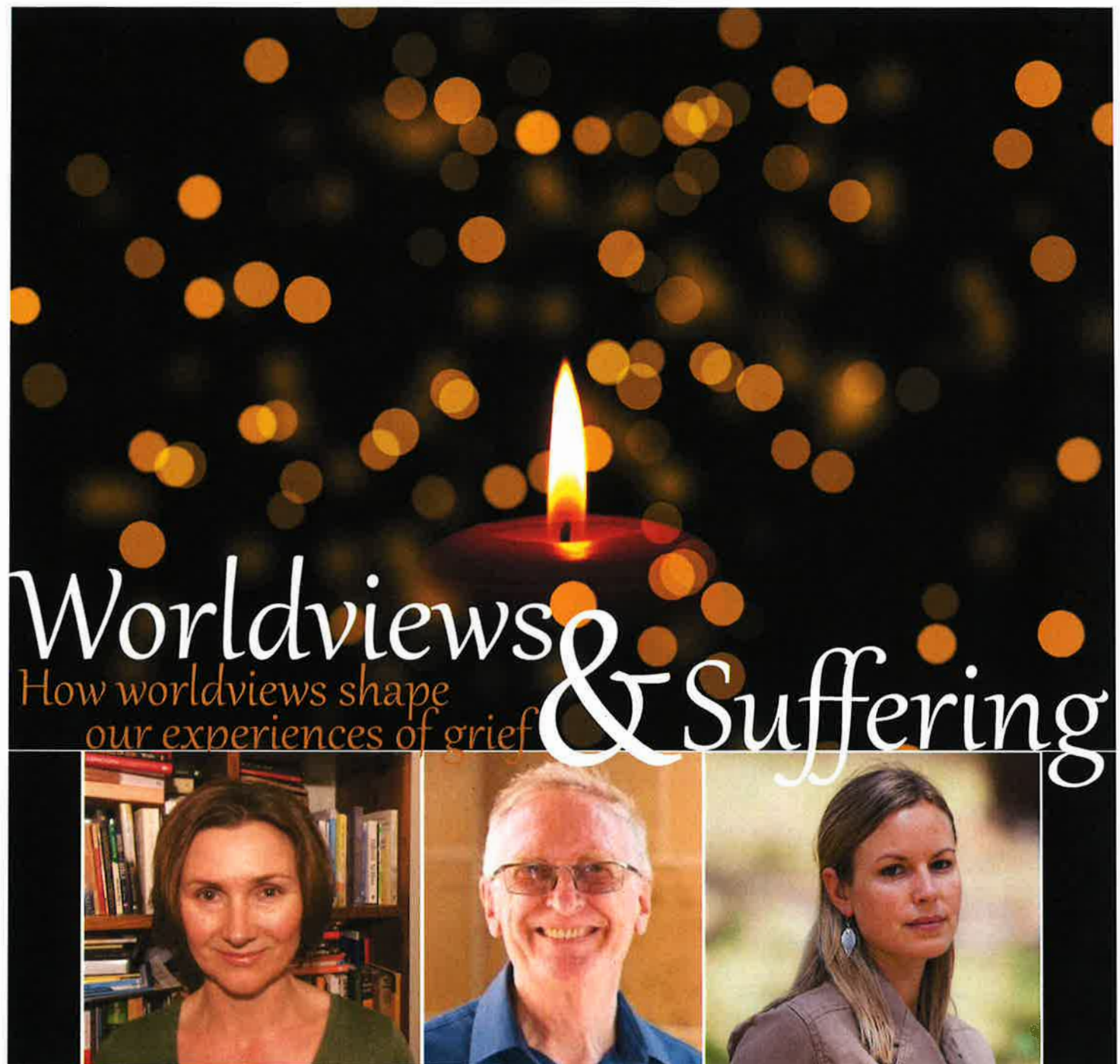
The following table provides a summary of the key sustainability implications:

| QBL Pillar | Implications |
|-------------|--|
| Environment | N/A |
| Social | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Interaction between the writer and the community is mandatory in the form of public programs of free community writing workshops, talks or involvement in writing/reading programs |
| Economic | <ul style="list-style-type: none">No cost to council's Artists/writers provide free workshops which include all materials and other costs. |
| Governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Complies with Council's Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan. All WH&S risks identified and a risk management plan is completed. |

Outcomes of the 2018 Residency

In 2018 Belinda Hopper, PhD candidate in Creative Writing at Macquarie University, made the Don Bank Residency a success. Belinda delivered a creative writing workshop in Stanton Library's Get Creative program and worked with local author Ceridwen Dovey and Philosopher Brendan Purcell on hosting a conversation on the topic 'Worldviews and Suffering: an exploration on how one's worldviews shapes one's experience of grief and loss'. Both these events were well attended and received praise from attendees. Belinda also made a final presentation of the work she did during her residency, this took the form of a Q&A with the Community Development Librarian and a reading from her manuscript, *The Minister's Wife*. Belinda found the peace and quiet of Don Bank conducive for fostering creative thought which allowed her to write with a deeper honesty. Her writing clearly benefited from her residency, she presented at the Academy of Humanities Symposium at the State Library NSW

on *Clash of Civilisations: where to now?* She also wrote and presented a paper on ‘Writing from an Apologetic of Beauty’ for the Australian Association of Writing program’s annual conference at Curtin University in Perth. Belinda’s biggest achievement at Don Bank Studio was being able her to write 100,000 words and completing the first draft of her novel *The Minister’s Wife*.



A panel discussion with Don Bank Writer in Resident Belinda Hopper, local author Ceridwen Dovey and Father Brendan Purcell. The panel will be exploring grief from comparative perspectives of Christianity, Atheism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism.

Thursday 13 September, 7-8pm

Refreshments served from 6.30pm

Bookings essential: www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/WIR



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Don Bank

IN CONVERSATION

BELINDA HOPPER

2018 Writer in Residence

This will be the final presentation with the 2018, Don Bank Writer in Resident, Belinda Hopper. This presentation will explore the manuscript Belinda has been working on during her residency and readings from her manuscript, *The Minister's Wife*.



Thursday 22 November, 7-8pm

at Don Bank Museum
6 Napier St, North Sydney

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/writers

GET CREATIVE!

@Stanton

THE WRITING PROCESS

TUESDAY 24 JULY
6-8PM

Don Bank Writer in Residence
Belinda Hopper will be conducting
a workshop on left brain/right brain:
applying the creative and analytical
mind to writing. In this workshop she
will discuss the different aspects
essential to the writing process and
when to engage with each of them.

Bookings essential
www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/getcreative



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