

# OPEN CALL

## The Swedish Academy for Children's Books: Nordic Residency 2027

The Swedish Academy for Children's Books and Hedlandet Residency invite Nordic writers and illustrators to apply for a two-week funded residency in connection to Litteralund – Sweden's largest festival for children's and youth literature. 11 April - 23 April 2027.

The application is open to established authors and illustrators of children's and youth literature from all Nordic countries.

One scholarship recipient from each country will receive:

- Free accommodation at Hedlandet Residency.
- A travel allowance of 400 euros.
- A stipend of 600 euros to cover living expenses during their stay.

Hedlandet Residency is located in the heart of a beech forest in the picturesque village of Torna Hällestad, approximately 20 kms outside the city of Lund. It serves as a hub for cross-border, process-oriented artistic practice, offering opportunities for creative development and collaboration. Participants will have access to a private bedroom, a personal workspace, and shared living and kitchen areas. The village also features a well-stocked country store that hosts a popular restaurant and a bakery, while buses to Lund are within walking distance from the residency and run once an hour.

During their stay, participants will be welcomed and supported by members of the Swedish Academy for Children's Books, who will arrange workshops, excursions, and guided access to the Litteralund Festival, Sweden's biggest literature festival about children's literature.

Participants will be invited to take part in the festival program where talks will be held in English or "Scandinavian". Interpretation will not be possible. Other public events may also be arranged, either in connection to Litteralund or at another venue, so participants should be prepared for this when applying.

The second week of the residency is a "free week," allowing participants time to focus on their own projects, collaborate with other participants, or simply enjoy Torna Hällestad's stunning surroundings.

The residency aims to serve as a platform for literary and artistic collaboration across Nordic borders. The jury for the scholarship consists of members of the academy, as well as representatives from Hedlandet and the Litteralund Festival.

## Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate professional commitment and be actively engaged in their discipline. To be eligible, applicants must have:

- Published at least three commercially released children's books. Any work done with a collaborator must be noted. Please describe your role in the work.
- Their most recent book published between January 1, 2021, and August 1, 2026.

The following do not qualify for eligibility:

- Self-published books.
- Publications from presses that require authors to cover part of or all production costs, or that publish without professional editing.

# Application Requirements

To apply, please submit:

1. A current resume or curriculum vitae including a list of works.
2. A one-page application describing your work and some questions you would like to address in a conversation with Nordic colleagues during the Litteralund festival.
3. A professional reference (a person to whom inquiries about your literary occupation can be made). Please provide email and telephone number.
4. Your contact information.

Please note: the residency is for one person only. Guests and family members are not allowed. No pets allowed.

The application must be a pdf-file with all documents above combined into a single file, titled the applicant's name. Example "AnnaAndersson.pdf". It should not be titled NordiskresidensAnnaAndersson or any other alternative, *only* AnnaAndersson.pdf. Applications in the wrong format will not be considered, nor will we ask you to reapply with the correct format. Only combined pdf-files named example AnnaAndersson.pdf are considered.

## Application Deadline

- Deadline for submissions: August 30, 2026.
- Notification of acceptance: November, 2026.

## How to Apply

Send your application to project coordinator Kristina Sigunsdotter:  
sigunsdotter@gmail.com

For further inquiries, contact:  
Kristina Sigunsdotter  
Chair no. 17, Swedish Academy for Children's Books  
Email: sigunsdotter@gmail.com  
Phone: +46 763 697 069

## Disclaimer

The Nordic residency will only be possible if our funds are granted.

Warm regards,  
The Swedish Academy for Children's Books