

How to apply

Eight participants will be accepted on to the Orkney Writers' Course, for which applications must be submitted by Friday 30 March 2012. Successful applicants will be notified in the week beginning Monday 16 April, and those unsuccessful in the following week. There is no requirement to have been published previously; applicants who show significant promise will be selected for the Course.

Application forms may be obtained from:
Orkney Writers' Course, St Magnus International Festival,
60 Victoria Street, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1DN

tel +44(0)1856 871445
email info@stmagnusfestival.com

or download from:
web www.stmagnusfestival.com/owc/apply.htm

Along with the completed form, applications must also include:

- six original poems
- your experience in creative writing, and a list of published material, and where it has been published (if applicable)
- a covering note explaining why you are interested in the Course, and what you hope to achieve from it.

Course fees £450

The fee includes:

- all tuition
- five nights' (20, 21, 22, 23, 24 June) hotel accommodation in Stromness
- lunch on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Students also receive an invitation to the opening Festival reception on Friday 22 June, entry to Festival Poet Alice Oswald's Stromness reading and one ticket to a festival weekend evening event.

Successful candidates will be required to confirm their acceptance by paying a non-refundable deposit of £100, and the balance of the fee will become payable by 18 May 2012.

A small number of bursaries towards course fees are available. These will be awarded to talented candidates who might otherwise have difficulty in meeting the Course fees. If you would like to be considered for a bursary, please tell us why in a covering letter.

Travel to Orkney

Orkney can be reached

- by air (via Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Inverness)
- by car, coach or train, then ferry (from Aberdeen, Scrabster, John O'Groats or Gills Bay in Caithness)

For advice on travel and other information on Orkney contact
VisitOrkney tel +44(0)1856 872856
email info@visitorkney.com website www.visitorkney.com

2012 orkney writers' course

20-24 June



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St Magnus Festival is a charity registered in Scotland, Scottish Charity No SC011666
The GMB Fellowship is a charity registered in Scotland, Scottish Charity No SC039924

St MAGNUS
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL



St Magnus International Festival is a midsummer celebration of the arts, taking place in Orkney in June. Each year a visiting national orchestra, ensembles and recitalists perform alongside theatre, cabaret and locally produced shows, all packed into six days.

Due to the success of the inaugural Orkney Writers' Course in 2011, the Festival is offering the Course again in 2012. The Orkney Writers' Course will sit alongside the long-established Conductors' and Composers' Courses, and the brand new Orkney Singers' Course.

In partnership with Orkney-based literature organisation, the George Mackay Brown Fellowship, the Orkney Writers' Course will run over four full days, including the weekend of the Festival, 20-24 June (Wednesday evening – Sunday afternoon), in the stunning surroundings of the Pier Arts Centre in Stromness.

Directed by Orkney-based poet **Pamela Beasant**, with guest tutor, Shetland-based poet **Jen Hadfield**, the Course offers intensive poetry workshops and the opportunity for participants to perform their work as part of the Festival programme. An exciting new addition for 2012 is the opportunity to interact with composers on the Orkney Composers' Course.

Sessions include:

- a session delivered by Festival Poet, **Alice Oswald**
- advice on how to get your work into print
- one-to-one mentoring on request
- the chance to read your work at a dedicated Festival event, *Poems with tunes, tea and cake*
- the opportunity to interact with composers on the Orkney Composers' Course.

Selections of the work produced will be published after the Course, and online on the Festival and GMB Fellowship websites.



**Pamela Beasant,
course director & tutor**

Pamela lives in Stromness, Orkney. She has been published widely as a poet and a non-fiction writer and three scripts have been commissioned by and performed at the St Magnus Festival. Her poetry collection, *Running with a Snow Leopard*, was published by Two Ravens Press in 2008, and *Orkney: a celebration of light and landscape*, with photographer Iain Sarjeant, in 2010. Pamela was the first George Mackay Brown Writing Fellow in 2007.



Jen Hadfield, guest tutor 2012

Jen has published two collections of poetry with Bloodaxe Books. Her second, *Nigh-No-Place*, was shortlisted for the Forward Prize in 2007 and won the T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry in 2008. She lives in Shetland, where she is currently the Shetland Library's Reader-in-Residence*. She blogs intermittently at rogueseeds.blogspot.com

*Readers in Residence is part of Creative Scotland's Creative Futures programme promoting, connecting and developing Scotland's creative practitioners.
www.creativescotland.com/investment/creative-futures



The Pier Arts Centre, Stromness.