



Varuna Alumni Association
- Membership Application -

2017

Please read the attached Purpose, Philosophy and Principles and then complete the application form and post to Varuna with your payment for membership.

- Membership is from **January** or **July** for 12 months. Application in first 6 months of year will be financial until December. Fees received after July 1 will be financial until June 30 in the following year.
- Fee: \$110 per year (Australian dollars / GST free)
- Additional donations can be made and are Tax Deductible

Please print clearly – particularly e-mail details

Name: (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: (Street No. and Name)

Suburb/Town

State:

Postcode:

Telephone No.:

Mob.

Email:

Twitter:

Facebook:

Eligibility criteria – please tick program undertaken:

- Varuna Residential Fellowship for Writers & Illustrators
- The LitLink Residential Fellowship Program
- HarperCollins Varuna Awards for Manuscript Development Editorial Residency
- Penguin Varuna Scholarship
- Varuna Publisher Introduction Program
- Affirm Press Mentorship Award
- WA Stages Playwright
- Dr Eric Dark MJA Prize
- Varuna Focus Week
- Griffith REVIEW Contributors' Circle Award
- Val Vallis Award
- Ray Koppe Young Writers' Residency
- NSW Writers' Centre Residency
- Participated as a Mentor
- Other:

Thank you. A receipt will be issued

Varuna Alumni - Purpose, Philosophy and Principles

Purpose

The purpose of the Varuna Alumni is to:

- Foster a vibrant national community of Varuna writers
- Create opportunities for alumni to support Varuna's infrastructure and activities
- Offer professional development opportunities for Alumni to present, promote or develop their writing
- Create and maintain an annual program of international exchange for Alumni with the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Ireland

Philosophy

The Varuna Alumni continues to embody the fine generosity of spirit, reflected in Michael Dark's gifting of Varuna, the historic family home of Eleanor Dark, to serve Australian writers in 1989. The Alumni program provides an essential infrastructure and vitality for Varuna, and is one of the diverse and vital volunteer programs which contribute to grow Varuna today.

The development of an alumni community underpins the stated purpose of Varuna, the Writers' House, Australia's national writers' centre, "to identify and develop the best new Australian writing."

Principles

Varuna alumni are defined as those who have

- At any time been selected for Varuna Fellowships
- At any time been selected for Varuna Writing Programs
- Attended a Varuna Professional Development Residency
- Participated as mentors
- Made a significant contribution to or had significant involvement with Varuna as determined by the Board

Where do your fees go?

Part of alumni fees each year will support Varuna's Capital Works Fund to maintain the house so that it can continue to be a safe, well-maintained and unique residential environment for writers. Alumni fees will wholly support international writing exchanges, providing airfares to Ireland. Accommodation will be provided by the host organisation. Alumni funded International exchanges are made by a lottery process, to ensure an equitable outcome.

Expatriate alumni are eligible for the exchange fellowship to be taken at Varuna.

Alumni are offered residencies at Varuna, at a discounted rate of \$645 (non-Alumni rate \$935), when space is available.

Fees are payable on an annual basis and renewable on June 30/December 31 each year.

Activities

- **Alumni Resources section of the Varuna website.** This section includes a monthly feature article, profiles of Varuna Alumni and Alumni book releases.
- **Alumni-funded International Exchanges.** An annual exchange of between 2 and 4 weeks at the Tyrone Guthrie Writers' Centre in Ireland. Airfare up to \$2500 is paid directly from alumni fees. Accommodation will be provided by the host organisation.
- **Fellowship selection panels** Alumni members participate on the Fellowship Selection panel, selected by the Board of the Eleanor Dark Foundation. In lieu of selection fees, some participating Alumni opt to take a week's residency, courtesy of Varuna.
- **Development of professional development opportunities** for alumni. These are limited but are offered to invited alumni. They come in the form of writers in residence, workshop facilitators, speakers or moderators at the Varuna with Sydney Writers' Festival (Blue Mountains Program).
- **Informal and voluntary mentoring** by alumni of writers.
- **Alumni social gatherings** in association with festivals.

The Varuna Alumni is an ever growing and changing community of writers. We believe that there are many possibilities for the Varuna alumni to expand its activities. It's your community to nurture and develop, for your mutual benefit. Be sure to get in touch with the Alumni news editor, to inform them of your new publication or award success, to promote and celebrate your landmarks in your writing career. Above all, stay connected!
