

TO BE PLACED ON LAF WEBSITE

Open Call: Rising and Sinking Like Mountains in Streams

Hybrid Residency Opportunity for Emerging Welsh Poets and Musician/Sound-based Artists.

Literature Across Frontiers is delighted to announce a unique hybrid residency for one emerging poet and one emerging musician or sound-based artist living in Wales, as part of the innovative 'Rising and Sinking Like Mountains in Streams' project. This residency blends virtual collaboration with a focused, four-day in-person exploration within Wales, celebrating the creative connections between the Red River in Hanoi, Vietnam, and the River Wye in Wales. There is no requirement for international travel; instead, participants will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the landscapes and communities of Wales, gaining fresh perspectives and inspiration.

About the Project

This collaborative, site-specific initiative brings together poets and artists from Vietnam and the UK to produce experimental poetic works informed by visual scores and graphic notations of sound, reflecting the ecological and cultural rhythms of these rivers. Selected participants will work closely with established artists Nhã Thuyên (Vietnam) and montenegrofisher (Luna Montenegro & Adrian Fisher, UK), engaging in collective writing, deep listening, ecological observation, and participatory co-creation.

The project title originates from a line by Hồ Xuân Hương (1772–1822), celebrated as "The Queen of Nôm Poetry," whose legacy resonates with themes of resilience, sensuality, and the force of nature.

Eligibility and Requirements

We welcome applications from emerging and early-career artists who:

- Are based in Wales
- Have a strong knowledge of Welsh language and culture (fluency in Welsh is highly desirable)
- Either a poet OR musician/sound artist
- Are interested in experimental notation, ecological poetics, and site-responsive practice
- Are comfortable with collaborative, improvisational approaches to artmaking
- Can commit to both the online collaboration period and the full in-person residency

At least one of the two selected participants must be able to drive, as travel along the River Wye will involve car transport between locations.

We particularly encourage applications from:

- Welsh-language poets and artists
- Artists from under-represented groups backgrounds
- Those with limited access to international collaboration opportunities

Project Timeline

- **Mid March 2026:** Initial online meeting to introduce the project, bringing together the selected Wales and Vietnam participants from the open call.
- **End April:** Post-performance meeting following the Hanoi workshop, where Welsh and Vietnamese participants will present the outcomes of their workshop and performance, and share ideas.
- **Approximately 18th May:** Meeting with Wales-based participants to prepare for the on-site aspect of the project.
- **In-Person Residency in Wales (26-30 May 2026):** Four days of creative immersion along the River Wye, collaborating directly with your peers, engaging in site-specific artistic activities, responding to the local environment and culminating in a performance at the Hay festival. Immersive fieldwork along the River Wye will include: Meeting river advocates and activists, Field research and deep listening, Collaborative workshops
- **Public performance at Hay Festival (29 May):** Presenting the developed visual scores and sonic work
- **Early June:** Collaborative meeting with Welsh and Vietnamese participants to discuss the outcomes of the workshop and performance in Wales.
- **July (exact date TBC):** Evaluation meeting with all project participants to reflect on progress and experiences.
- **September (exact date TBC):** Final online engagement to mark the publication launch and conclude the project.

What We Offer

- Artist fees: £300 performance fee at Hay Festival
- All expenses covered: accommodation, meals (per diem), and transport during the residency period
- Professional development: Work directly with established international artists
- Platform and exposure: Performance at Hay Festival and inclusion in a trilingual digital publication
- Documentation: All performances will be professionally recorded
- Ongoing collaboration: Potential for sustained artistic connections beyond the project

Application Deadline

We encourage emerging poets and musicians/sound-based artists in Wales to apply and join us in this exciting, cross-cultural artistic journey. Applications are open until 22 February 2026.

How to Apply

Please submit the following by 22 February 2026 to info@lit-across-frontiers.org:

1. CV (max 2 pages) outlining your artistic practice and experience
 2. Letter of interest or video of 5 minutes or less explaining:
 - Your connection to Welsh language and culture
 - Why this project interests you
 - Your approach to ecological and site-responsive work
 - Your ability to drive (if applicable)
 3. Work samples:
 - Poets: 3–5 poems or excerpts (PDF)
 - Musicians/Sound artists: Links to 2–3 recordings or performances
 4. Confirmation of availability for both online (15–30 April) and in-person (25 May – 2 June) components
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Key Dates

- Application deadline: 22 February 2026
 - Applicants notified: 2 March 2026
 - Online collaboration: Mid March–April 2026 exact dates to be decided
 - In-person residency: 26–30 May 2026
 - Hay Festival performance: 29 May 2026
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About the Partner Organisations

Literature Across Frontiers promotes literary diversity and intercultural dialogue through literature and translation, with a growing focus on climate justice and environmental storytelling. Based at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David in Aberystwyth, LAF supports emerging writers and literary professionals through residencies, workshops, research, and advocacy.

montenegrofisher (Luna Montenegro and Adrian Fisher) work across poetry, sound, and performance, exploring ecological poetics and the entanglement of human and non-human life. Their work has been presented internationally including at The Southbank Centre, ICA London, and Venice Biennale.

Questions?

For informal inquiries about the project, please contact info@lit-across-frontiers.org. This project is supported by the British Council's Connections Through Culture programme.

We are committed to accessibility and inclusion. If you require this call in an alternative format or have questions about access requirements, please get in touch.

Facebook

Are you a poet or musician based in Wales? Literature Across Frontiers is offering an exciting residency to work with artists in Vietnam and the UK. Explore river ecosystems, experiment with sound and poetry, and be part of a transnational creative journey. Application deadline: 15/02/2026. Details & how to apply below!



Ydych chi'n fardd neu'n gerddor sydd wedi'i leoli yng Nghymru? Mae Literature Across Frontiers yn cynnig cyfnod preswyl cyffrous i weithio gydag artistiaid yn Fietnam a'r DU. Archwiliwch ecosystemau afonydd, arbrofi gyda sain a barddoniaeth, a byddwch yn rhan o daith greadigol drawswladol. Dyddiad cau ar gyfer ceisiadau: 15/02/2026. Manylion a sut i wneud cais isod! 🌐🎵

Instagram

📌 Open Call for Wales-based poets & musicians! Join 'Rising and Sinking Like Mountains in Streams'—a collaborative project blending poetic voices and river rhythms across continents. Deadline: 15 Feb 2026. Don't miss your chance! #PoetryResidency #MusicArt #EcologyInArt

📌 Galwad Agored i feirdd a cherddorion o Gymru! Ymunwch â 'Rising and Sinking Like Mountains in Streams' - prosiect cydweithredol sy'n cyfuno lleisiau barddonol a rhythmau afonydd ar draws cyfandiroedd. Dyddiad cau: 15 Chwef 2026. Peidiwch â cholli'ch cyfle! #PoetryResidency #MusicArt #EcologyInArt

LinkedIn

Literature Across Frontiers invites applications from a poet and a musician/sound artist based in Wales for an innovative residency with international partners in Vietnam and the UK. Engage in collective writing, ecological observation, and artistic exchange. Applications close on 15 February 2026. For full details and to apply, visit our website.

Mae Llenyddiaeth ar Draws Ffiniau yn gwahodd ceisiadau gan fardd a cherddor/artist sain sydd wedi'u lleoli yng Nghymru ar gyfer preswylad arloesol gyda phartneriaid rhyngwladol yn Fietnam a'r DU. Cymryd rhan mewn ysgrifennu ar y cyd, arsylwi ecolegol, a chyfnwidi artistig. Mae ceisiadau'n cau ar 15 Chwefror 2026. Am fanylion llawn ac i wneud cais, ewch i'n gwefan.