



Bursary Application Call:

QUB Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

John Hewitt Society:

Hewitt International Summer School

July 27th -31st Armagh

The John Hewitt Society provides opportunities for individuals across Northern Ireland to explore issues of difference and identity through literature and creative writing. The Society was established in 1987. The 2026 John Hewitt International Summer School of Literature, Politics and the Arts takes place in the last week of July in Armagh.

This year, Queen's University Belfast's Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences is partnering with the Society to offer **two special bursaries** for students to attend the Summer School. The bursaries are intended to encourage students to engage with arts-based approaches to Medicine and Health Sciences, within the growing research field of Medical Humanities. The bursaries would enable participants to develop knowledge and skills, especially in using literature and creative writing in their research and practice.

The purpose of the bursary scheme is to present unique opportunities and experiences, motivate, inspire, and facilitate the development and enjoyment experienced by writers and readers. The Arts Festival will take place over five days at The Marketplace Theatre and Arts Centre in Armagh

The call for applications opens Monday, 27 May and closes at 5pm on Friday 5th June.

Contacts:

- Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Bruce; pvc-mhls@qub.ac.uk
- Tess Maginess, Professor Emerita, QUB and member of John Hewitt Society Committee: t.maginess@qub.ac.uk

Further details

A Full bursary includes accommodation, and a half-bursary is without accommodation.

A **full sponsored bursary** award includes:

- B&B for five nights in a single room, within walking distance of the venue.
- Free tickets to all programmed events each day, unless otherwise specified.
- A free creative writing workshop of your choice, which includes 6 hours of tuition over 3 days.
- An invitation to all festival receptions.
- Morning break refreshments Tuesday - Friday.

Half bursaries are also available (non-residential) for those who may have personal or other circumstances that do not permit them to spend evenings away from home, such as carers or those with dependents, and who are able to travel to the Market Place Theatre Armagh daily.

We welcome applications from individuals with varied backgrounds and from all sectors of society, and we encourage diversity.

What do we need from you?

- To be over 18 years old and resident in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland
- Availability to stay in Armagh for the full five nights from **27th – 31st July** (for half-bursaries, we request your availability and attendance during programme hours)
- Dedication to attend a minimum 70% of events on our five-day programme
- A keen interest in writing/storytelling and a desire to develop your skills

Bursary Criteria:

- All applicants must live in either the North or South of Ireland.
- All applicants should be aged 18 years and over.
- Previous applicants may re-apply, but priority is given to those who have never attended.

Assessment Criteria:

1. First-time applicants with priority given to MHLS students
2. Residency
4. Evidence of an interest in the ethos of the John Hewitt Summer School
5. Evidence of how your experience could impact your practice and research

Terms of Acceptance:

- Bursary students are expected to attend at least five events daily.
- If you receive a full bursary sponsored award, you will be required to sign a contract agreeing to attend for the full five days. As your expenses need to be covered, you will be subjected to a fee for premature departure.
- If you receive an award and cannot attend for the full five days, you must inform us immediately so we can reallocate your award to another person.

Please click on the [here](#) for the Bursary Application Form