UA Poetry Center Residency Package

This document is intended to describe what the summer residency experience is like logistically and to help potential applicants decide if the UA Poetry Center’s residency program meets their needs.

The UA Poetry Center’s Residency includes:

- Airport greeting and transportation to the Poetry Center guest apartment.
- $500 stipend
- A public reading shared with one to two local readers, including publicity and book sales if applicable
- Preliminary welcome food/care package
- Welcome gathering (TBD: a reception, lunch, and/or informal meet & greet) with Poetry Center staff, docsents, and interested parties
- Free public wifi access in the guest apartment and in the Poetry Center library
- Writing desk with printer and paper, as well as pens, pencils, and notepads
- Alarm clock / radio
- Access to UA Poetry Center library during public open hours (please note: the Poetry Center is a non-lending library, and all materials must be used inside the Poetry Center building)
- Access to small collection of books kept in the guest apartment
- Maps, brochures, and directions to local restaurants and attractions
- Bicycle equipped with a helmet, lock, lights, front metal basket; air pump for tires in guest apartment
- Ample closet space
- Pillows, sheets, blankets, towels, bath mat
- Pots, pans, and cooking utensils; coffee maker, French press, electric kettle
- Outdoor courtyard with table, chairs, and a granite picnic table.

The UA Poetry Center’s Residency does not include:

- Car
- Exercise equipment
- Laundry equipment or service (including delivery)
- Phone service (the guest apartment is not equipped with a landline)
- Computer/laptop
- Smoking area (no smoking is allowed in the guest apartment)
- Housing for Resident’s partner or pets (certified service animals are welcome)
- Grocery delivery
- Signature-required package delivery

Please note that the Poetry Center staff is unable to run errands, check out books from library, or provide any other materials or services outside of what is provided in the residency package.

Other amenities are available, though they require advanced planning and/or fees to be paid by Resident (upon acceptance into the Summer Residency program, a form will be sent to you to ask after each of these):

Parking: Because summer in Tucson can be overwhelming, past residents have decided to rent a car for traveling to the grocery store, laundry, and running other errands. If you choose to do this, the University
requires that you have a University parking permit. The fee is $2 per day, which can be deducted from your stipend. Advance notice is needed for this service, as the Poetry Center must send a letter in advance for approval by UA Parking Services.

**Errands**  With advanced planning, Poetry Center volunteers and docents can accompany Residents on errands (e.g. groceries and laundry), as well as take them on tours of local sites and/or out to restaurants.

**UA identification card (“Cat Card”)**  The Cat Card is required if you wish to check out books from lending libraries on campus. It is also required if you choose to use on-campus gym facilities (more about this below). You can learn more about the Cat Card, including perks, [here](#). The fee for this service is $25.

**Gym**  Some residents request use of gym facilities. You can learn about the location, hours, and offerings of the UA Rec Center [here](#). The fee for access to the facility is $29 for a one-week pass, or $49 for a one-month pass, in addition to the $25 for a Cat Card. Classes at the Rec Center are not included in this fee.

**Community**  We find that some residents want to build community and relationships while they are here, and that others want peace and solitude. The Summer Residency program is first and foremost an opportunity for writers to write; however, if you want to engage with the community, there are ways to make this happen! The Poetry Center does not have a staff member who is able to be more than a liaison to interested parties; as the staff juggles multiple responsibilities, we cannot offer extensive hosting. Residents who have been to other residency experiences, e.g. colonies that host multiple writers, have found the UA Poetry Center experience to be more isolated. Please be prepared for this experience. That said, Poetry Center docents and patrons love to meet and work with our residents, so don’t be shy about requesting a host for specific activities, or to ask us to spread the word about open “office hours” or other public activities.

**The Weather**  Many people who are not acclimated to the Tucson climate find the heat to be a real challenge at first. We recommend that if you like to run, walk, or hike, that you plan to do so quite early in the morning, or after the sun goes down. This is also the best time to run errands. Water bottles, sunscreen, hats, and long-sleeved shirts with collars are all items that past residents have found helpful in our desert climate. That said, summer nights in Tucson are filled with fun activities like night hiking, evening visits to the Sonoran Desert Museum, the Botanical Gardens, as well as a variety of festivals and a lively night scene. As above, we’re happy to help you find hosts for all of these evening activities, should you want to engage in this way; many events are accessible by streetcar and bicycle as well.

**Food**  The Poetry Center provides a welcome care package of food, a welcome reception, and a pre-reading dinner. Residents should make plans to attend to their dietary needs on a daily basis in addition to these limited provisions. There are grocery stores accessible by bicycle, bus, and streetcar, and as previously-mentioned, docents may be available to accompany you on errands that require a car. Additionally, Safeway delivers groceries to your door at the guest apartment for small fees that depend on the amount of your purchase and how soon groceries need be delivered. A minimum purchase applies. The Poetry Center staff is not available to receive these groceries, so please schedule any deliveries for a time when you can personally receive them, and instruct the delivery persons to find the door to your apartment. Visit [http://shop.safeway.com](http://shop.safeway.com) for full details.

**It is the resident’s responsibility to bring any equipment needed to make themselves at home and create a productive writing space.** If you have questions about the residency experience, please contact Hannah Enser at 520-626-0709 or hensor@email.arizona.edu. We look forward to a productive and exciting Summer Residency.