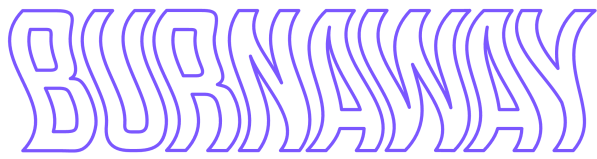


# BURNAWAY

## **Art Writing Incubator Application Toolkit**

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## About the 2021 Arts Writing Incubator:

Where does art criticism belong in a world in crisis? The last year has upended the art world, dissolved cultural norms, and revealed fractures in our sociopolitical systems. Burnaway's 2021 Art Writing Incubator will use the hundreds of cultural writers, activists and arts workers who refuse to ignore or return to pre-pandemic structures of inequalities as a model for training writers to rigorously confront present realities through their work.

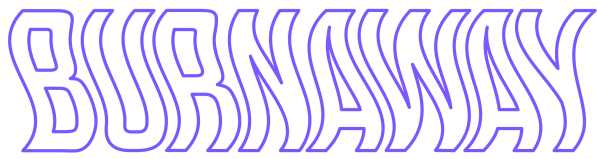
For the last six years, under the guidance of leading writers, critics and artists, Burnaway's Arts Writing Incubator program has equipped participants with tools on how to pitch, writing good artist statements and producing considered criticism. The five-week program begins with a session hosted by Burnaway's editorial masthead and subsequent weeks being led by guest mentors. Over the course of the program, students will formally propose, develop, and complete a long-form writing project with one-on-one feedback from Burnaway's editors. Following the completion of the program, these works will be compiled into a small chapbook circulated on Burnaway's platform.

## To Apply:

You must 18 years or older and living in or from our area of coverage (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico). There are no formal education requirements, and you can be currently enrolled in degree-granting program. If you have already participated in AWrl, you may apply again.

**While not a requirement, applicants should have an interest in visual arts, writing, criticism, art history and contemporary visual culture.**

*The 2021 edition of the Art Writing Incubator project is supported by Critical Minded, an initiative to invest in cultural critics of color cofounded by The Nathan Cummings Foundation and the Ford Foundation.*



## Timeline and Structure:

Each 2–3 hour session will be held on a Saturday morning via Zoom. The first 30 minutes will feature a lecture by the visiting mentor that is open to the general public. The remaining time will be structured like a workshop led by the mentor, exclusively for AWrl participants. On the evening of July 13, artist and publisher Paul Chan will give a public lecture as the keynote talk of the 2021 edition.

In between the Saturday sessions, Burnaway will host a weekly Tuesday virtual happy hour/brainstorm. This is a more casual opportunity to get to know the cohort, ask questions and have your peers' weigh in on your writing project.

AWrl participants will propose and develop a long-form essay for publication at the end of the summer. Two to three times over the six-week session, each AWrl participant will meet with their assigned Burnaway Editor for one-on-one mentoring and to develop their writing project.

### Preparation Period (April 12 – May 15)

April 12 – Applications open

April 22 – Virtual AWrl Info Session with Burnaway Editor and program manager, Jasmine Amussen

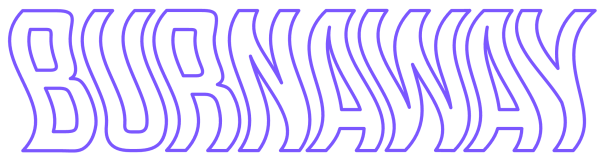
1:00PM EST | Zoom

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/burnaways-2021-art-writing-incubator-information-session-tickets-150563917731>

May 14 – Applications due at 12:00AM EST

May 25 – Accepted applicants will be notified

June 20 – Tuition payment due



## **AWrl 2021 Summer Schedule (June 26 – August 3)**

**June 26 – Session 1: Intro + Burnaway Editors**

June 29 – AWrl Happy Hour 1

July 3 – Long-form essay proposal due

July 6 – AWrl Happy Hour 2

**July 10 – Session 2: Amber Esseiva**

**July 13 – Keynote Lecture: Paul Chan**

**July 17 – Session 3: Sukhdev Sandhu**

July 17 – First Draft due

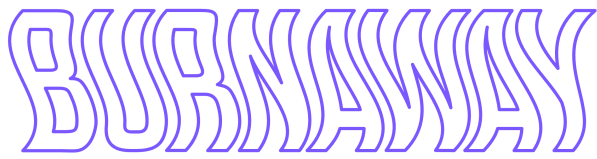
July 20 – Awrl Happy Hour 3

**July 24 – Session 4: DeForrest Brown Jr.**

July 27 – AWrl Happy Hour 4

**July 31 – Final Session: Kristin Dombek and final draft due**

August 3 – Final Happy hour and Publication celebration!



## Question by Question Guide

The following are detailed instructions on how to apply for Burnaway's 2021 Art Writing Incubator.

There are **four** short sections.

Section 1: General Information

Section 2: Tuition and Scholarships

Section 3: Optional Demographic Information

Section 4: Additional Information and Certification

### Section 1: General Information

#### Questions 1-9

##### Questions 1-3 Contact Information

Share your name, preferred pronouns and email. Please be sure to use an email you check regularly. This will be how we contact you moving forward.

##### Question 4 – Location

Identify the city and state where you live or are currently a student.

We will accept applicants our coverage region including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico.

If you are located outside of the Southeast, but still wish to participate please email [jasmine@burnaway.org](mailto:jasmine@burnaway.org).

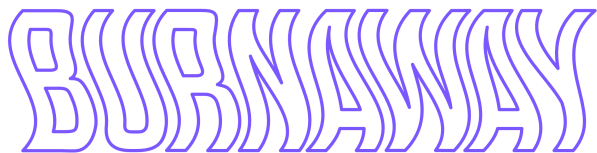
##### Question 5: Interest

AWri is open to anyone, but we hope you have a strong interest in either visual art, art criticism, cultural journalism, or art history. The program is designed to equip participants with skills to write about art and culture in an editorial or museum context.

**Question 6: Why do you want to participate in AWri? How do you think the Incubator could help your career as an artist/as a writer?** The Incubator's ultimate goal is to equip artists and writers with professional and practical skills that will be valuable in their career. What do you hope to gain from this program? (300 words or less)

##### Question 7: Resume/CV

Please upload an up-to-date resume or CV. Include relevant experience including education, jobs, exhibitions, curatorial roles, and links to previous writing.



### **Question 8: Writing Sample**

Submit two samples that you think are the strongest examples of your work, personal voice, and skill as a writer. These do not have to be published pieces but can include essays, exhibition reviews, artist statements, literary/cultural criticism, or creative writing. Samples can include poetry, creative non-fiction, or non-traditional prose, as long as they best define you as a writer. If you are submitting poetry, please no more than two poems and they should fit to one page. Samples should not exceed 1,500 words each or 8 pages total.

### **Question 9: References**

Please add the names and contact information of three professional or academic references who can speak to your ability to complete the program. Include their name, email address, and their relationship to you (professor, employer, etc). We do not need letters of recommendation.

## **Section 2: Tuition and Scholarships**

### **Questions 10-12**

Due to the pandemic and the virtual structure of the 2021 AWrl, Burnaway is offering reduced tuition of \$250. Additionally, [Critical Minded](#), an Allied Media Project, has provided funds to underwrite additional tuition reduction for all accepted BIPOC applicants (Black, Indigenous, and people of color). Burnaway will also consider needs-based support for all other applicants on a case-by-case basis. We are committed to eliminating financial barriers that might otherwise prevent participation.

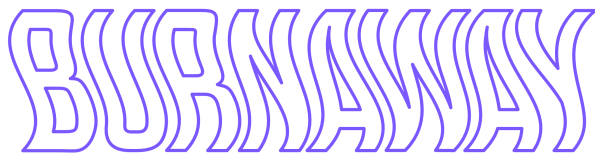
### **Question 10: Would you like to be considered for a reduction of the \$250 tuition cost?**

Let us know if you'd like to be considered for tuition reduction. Please be aware we have made every effort to make the 2021 AWrl as affordable as possible.

Select **YES**...if you are BIPOC applicant who would like support from the Critical Minded scholarships and answer questions 11 and 12.

Select **YES**...if you are a non-BIPOC applicant with a financial constraint that might prevent you for attending and answer questions 11 and 12.

Select **NO**...if you would like to or can afford to pay the full \$250 tuition and skip to question 13.



**Question 11: Reduced tuition is available for all BIPOC applicants. Please identify your demographic to receive the scholarship.**

This question is used to determine who is eligible for the Critical Minded tuition support. If you are not comfortable answering this question, you do **NOT** have to. If you would rather disclose over email, please send a note to [jasmine@burnaway.org](mailto:jasmine@burnaway.org).

Select **YES**...if you are Black, Indigenous or Person of Color

Select **NO**...if you are non-BIPOC

**Question 12: To receive the Critical Minded BIPOC Scholarship, or be considered for need-based tuition reduction, please briefly describe your financial circumstances and what you can reasonably afford to pay:**

Let us know what you can afford given your present financial status.

Example:

Due to the pandemic, I have only been employed part-time for the last six months. I could afford to pay \$100 towards my tuition.

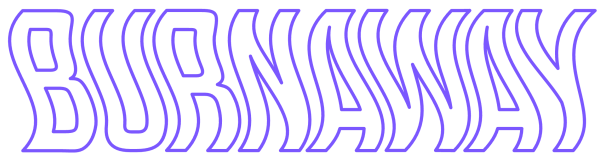
### **Section 3: Optional Demographic Information Questions 13-15**

Please note, this entire section is optional. If you are not comfortable disclosing this information, you do not have to. Burnaway collects demographic information in order to accurately report on grant applications and understand the audience we are serving. All of your personal information is confidential and will be viewed only by Burnaway Staff.

You can skip this entire section.

#### **Question 13-15: Ethnicity, Gender and additional information**

Please select the race/ethnicity, gender and additional information which mostly closely corresponds to how you self-identify.



## **Section 4: Additional Questions and Certification Questions 16-7**

Burnaway is invested in making sure AWrl is both useful and accessible to all.

### **Question 16: Are there any potential barriers preventing you from participating in a virtual format?**

On this question, please let us know if you have limited access to computers or an internet connection, scheduling conflicts particularly on Saturdays, need Closed Captioning, or any potential technical challenges that might hinder your participation.

### **Question 17: Additional Information**

This is your opportunity to tell us anything else you think is important for your application. For example, you could let us know about past experiences that have influenced your decision to apply or talk further about how you'd like AWrl to support your work. Please keep it brief!

### **Final Certification:**

To certify the information in your application as accurate, please check the Yes box.

### **Hit Submit!**

**Once you have been accepted, a full schedule, registration links, onboarding packet and course materials will be sent to you.**