

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AWARDS CEREMONY

4:30 pm: Opening Reception

5:30 pm: Awards Presentation

Robyn Warhol, Mistress of Ceremonies

Student Awards

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EGO Professor of the Year	
Marlene Longenecker Award for Teaching and Leadership	
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AWARDS IN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WRITING

THE KITTY LOCKER PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS COMMUNICATION

\$1000 awarded for an outstanding graduate-student conference presentation, publication, or dissertation on professional communication.

2012 Winner

Annie Mendenhall, “Joseph V. Denney, the Land-Grant Mission, and Rhetorical Education at Ohio State: An Institutional History” (*College English* 74.2, Nov. 2011)

KITTY O. LOCKER TRAVEL AWARDS

\$500 to subsidize travel for graduate students attending conferences on research in professional communication.

2012 Winners

Will Kurlinkus

Ryan Omizo

Blake Wilder

THE KITTY O. LOCKER UNDERGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL WRITING CONTEST

\$750 (first prize) and \$250 (second prize) awarded to student groups that demonstrate excellence in professional writing produced in English 304. An honorarium is also awarded to the instructor.

2012 First Place Group

Ana-Ilia Fitzhugh

Kit Lewis

Kaitlin Manahan

Brianna Wolfe

Ryan Omizo, instructor

2012 Second Place Awardees

Allison Dalrymple

Karlton Lastes

Jordan McFall

Amber Washington

Jenny Patton, instructor

AWARDS IN CREATIVE WRITING

THE REBA ELAINE PEARL BURKHARDT ROORBACH AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION

\$50 judged and funded each year by Bill Roorbach in memory of his mother and grandmother, and in appreciation for his time on the faculty of the creative writing program at Ohio State.

2012 Winner

Albert Shin, “I See Now”

Judge’s notes: This is an elegant, breezy piece about the difficulties of assimilation and re-assimilation for a kid pulled back and forth between countries and cultures. I laughed at the spectacle of an American kid finding himself in a Korean classroom, but I felt for that kid, too, and enjoyed hearing that kid’s voice, brought vividly to the page.

Honorable Mention

Marianne Manzler, “Redemption”

Judge’s notes: An interesting tumble through a life unfulfilled, and filled with all the wrong things. Till it’s not. And an interesting split column for the last section. Kudos for this bit of structural daring.

About the judge: Bill Roorbach’s latest book, *Life Among Giants*, is due out in November. He served on the faculty of the creative writing program at Ohio State, 1995-2000.

THE JACOBSON SHORT STORY AWARD

\$250 for the best short story by an undergraduate student.

2012 Winner

Joshua Kleinberg, “New Baby”

Judge’s notes: “New Baby” is written with severe wit, melancholy, and uncanny wisdom. Sol and Tyler, our wilted brothers, drift through a landscape of embleakened strip malls and ridiculously tacky chain restaurants, looking for all they’ve lost in all the wrong places. It’s a tender riot, and well deserving of this year’s Jacobson Prize.

Honorable Mentions

Tim Bachelor, “Without Looking”

Lucas Gladman, “Body in a Box”

About the judge: Claire Vaye Watkins, OSU MFA 2011, teaches at Bucknell University. Her first book, *Battleborn*, a collection of short stories, is due out this summer.

THE GERTRUDE LUCILLE ROBINSON AWARD

\$250 for the best piece of writing by an undergraduate woman.

2012 Winner

Elizabeth Long, “Draft Horses in Tickland”

Judge’s notes: “Draft Horses in Tickland” is a dreamy yet controlled fantasia on memory and childhood with sharply observed detail and an ear for lyrical phrasing. It is a gorgeous and promising piece.

Honorable Mentions

Lily Liu, “Buying Fish at the Market”

Christina Lutz, “Genesis”

About the judge: Letitia Trent is a 2007 graduate of the OSU MFA program. Her first book of poetry, *One Little Bird*, will be published this year.

THE CITINO UNDERGRADUATE POETRY AWARD

\$1,700 for the best group of poems by an OSU senior English major.

2012 Winner

Derek Pfister, “Documenting the Changes”

Judge’s notes: This poem leaps through a fine and unexpected architecture of lines. But the leaps aren’t those of an indecisive poet, trying to throw things together to see what sticks; instead, the moves are deliberate and enlightening. From the first line to the last—this is a poem that asks us to consider the lives we live, and the ones we think we’ve set aside for good, even though they’re still nipping at our heels. This poem is proof that poetry can accomplish great things in small spaces.

Honorable Mentions

Zachariah McVicker, “Elegy for Others,” “To a Suspected Pervert in the Library,” “Looking,” “Psalm for Death and Data,” “Speaking With Two of the Disciples,” “Pale Eye,” and other poems

Lynsey Kamine, “Remedies,” “Windows,” “And Other Things,” “I Listened,” and “Yellow Bathing Suit”

About the judge: Aimee Nezhukumatathil (OSU BA 1996, OSU MFA 2000) teaches at the State University of New York–Fredonia. She is the author of three poetry collections, most recently *Lucky*

Fish, winner of the gold medal in Poetry from the Independent Publisher Book Awards and the Eric Hoffer Grand Prize for Independent Books.

THE VANDEWATER POETRY AWARD

\$250 for the best poem or group of poems by an undergraduate or MFA student.

2012 Winner

Undergraduate student **Joshua Kleinberg**, “The Letdown, The Lift”

Judge’s notes: “*The Letdown, The Lift*” is not a ‘perfect’ poem—it’s too full of stance and voice to be interested in a gleamingly polished surface. But it is a poem of peculiar personality and odd intellectual propositions that caught me off guard--it woke me up, demanded my engagement and poked at me until I had to wonder where it was going next. It’s also smart, funny, unapologetically felt and a lot more crafty than it appears to be on the surface. I hope this person writes a book as I’m now curious to see what else they have to tell me. No doubt it will be both true and surprising (and possibly a bit badly behaved). I look forward to it.

Honorable Mentions

MFA student **Michael Marberry**, “Windigo, OH (2),” “Love Poem (6),” and “Snow Song”

Judge’s notes: *The deft rhythms and lyricism are contagious.*

MFA student **Matt Sumpter**, “The Mechanic’s Creation Story,” “Elegy at Low Volume,” and “Triolet of a Backyard Ghost”

Judge’s notes: *Particularly in “Elegy” and “Triolet,” there’s something formally smart cooking there, and a strong lyric intelligence within the voice.*

MFA student **Andrea Dickens**, “Magdalen College,” “Corona Borealis,” and “Self Portrait With Haystacks”

Judge’s notes: *Lovely, lyric and the poet starts to get at some real surprise and invention in “Self-Portrait With Haystacks.”*

About the judge: Erin Belieu (OSU MFA 1992) is the author, most recently, of *Black Box*. Her first book, *Infanta*, was selected by Hayden Carruth for the National Poetry Series and was named one of the ten best books of 1995 by Library Journal, Washington Post Book World, and the National Book Critics’ Circle. Her poems regularly appear in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Esquire*, *Slate*, *Nerve*, *The Yale Review*, *TriQuarterly*, *Ploughshares*, *The New York Times*, and other journals. She teaches at Florida State University.

THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS AWARD (THE ARTHUR RENSE PRIZE)

\$400 is given for the best poem or group of poems by an undergraduate or MFA student.

2012 Winner

MFA student **Lois Kwa**, “Man O’ War,” “Canis lupus familiar song of songs,” “Arrow”

Judge’s notes: *I was lulled and spun by these poems, by their haunt, by their rich imagery made both vivid and emotional—beautiful and a little dangerous. I loved the carefully-crafted tumble and play in language and linebreak—seemingly effortless, but I know better. A little Stevens, a little Crane, a little Bishop in their beloved attention to light and object, weaving observation, emotion and history into a meaningful poem-experience for both poet and reader. I want to read more of this poet’s excellent poems.*

Honorable Mentions

MFA student **Allison Davis**, “[before the storm a flock of crows],” “Red Because,” “Sea Songs”

MFA student **Alex Fabrizio**, “Sailing Stones,” “Apologia: A Cento,” “Crew Practice, Lake Howell, Florida”

MFA student **Tory Adkisson**, “Somewhere Between Memory,” “Figure Study,” “Wilderness of Flesh”

MFA student **Michael Marberry**, “Windigo, OH (25),” “Long Poem (8),” “Skin Song”

About the judge: Betsy Wheeler (OSU MFA 2005) is the author of the poetry collection *Loud Dreaming in a Quiet Room*. From 2005-2007, she served as the Stadler Fellow at Bucknell University. She is editor of the limited-edition poetry chapbook press Pilot Books, and Managing Director of the Juniper Summer Writing Institutes.

THE HAIDEE FORSYTH BURKHARDT AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION

\$50 for the best essay by an MFA student.

2012 Winner

Ashley Caveda, “The Shorebirds”

Judge’s notes: A frank and funny and beautifully written chronicle of ability and love after a family disaster, the kid in the wheelchair who can remember what it was like to run across the lawn, but who’s learned that “disability has kept me not from the people who might have loved me, but from the people who would have only loved me superficially.” A writer to learn from, with plenty more to teach.

About the judge: Bill Roorbach’s latest book, *Life Among Giants*, is due out in November. He served on the faculty of the creative writing program at Ohio State, 1995-2000.

THE TARA M. KROGER AWARD

\$500 for the best short story by an MFA student.

2012 Winner

Dominic Russ, “Manglevine”

Judge’s notes: The first sentence of “Manglevine” immediately hooks the reader. Who is the stranger lumbering by the fence line? Who is Luke? Why is the stranger “bedraggled”? The writer then takes time to describe the setting: August, after a storm has knocked out the power, Luke and his mother in the kitchen. There’s a lot of confidence in this pacing; the writer is sure that the reader is intrigued enough to hang on. And in the middle of page two, the real story starts to emerge: Luke’s father is not like his mother. The reader learns that “Luke could never get a proper read on his thoughts or feelings,” but there’s also that man outside, approaching the house. The story is all about Manglevine for the next few pages, and then suddenly, it’s a story about Luke’s father.

Luke’s understanding of Manglevine and the father is a puzzle, two interlocking pieces that he tries to put together. The writing is vivid, the sense of place is evocative, the characters are well defined. What more can a reader ask for? Creepy, suspenseful, and engaging, “Manglevine” will stay with me for a long time.

Honorable Mentions

Hannah Langhoff, “The Things We Don’t Talk About”

Ann Glaviano, “Four in Hand”

About the judge: Geeta Kothari is the fiction editor of the *Kenyon Review*. Her fiction and nonfiction have appeared in various journals and anthologies, including the *Kenyon Review*, the *Massachusetts Review*, *Fourth Genre*, and *Best American Essays*.

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY FELLOWSHIP IN FICTION AWARD

\$1,000 for the best body of work in fiction by an MFA student.

2012 Winner

Nick White, “The Geography of Skin,” “Break,” “Tattletale”

Judge’s notes: I read my way through the tall stack of submissions, first for pleasure, and then I read them again, this time with the discouraging task of selecting one winner. Ohio State has a startlingly rich program: I read many pieces that I have no doubt will find their way into top magazines in journals. In the end, I chose these daring stories—about sexual and social misfits—that were infused with wisdom and fearlessness and sadness and brought to mind a young John Irving.

Honorable Mentions

Molly Patterson, “Honors Track”

Derek Palacio, “Preparations for the Body”

About the judge: Ben Percy is the writer-in-residence at St. Olaf College and teaches at the low residency MFA program at Pacific University. He has also taught at the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and regularly lectures at conferences and universities around the country. He is the author of the forthcoming novel *Red Moon*, as well as *The Wilding* (a novel), *Refresh, Refresh*, and *The Language of Elk* (story collections). He is currently adapting *The Wilding* into a screenplay for the filmmaker Guillermo Arriaga (*Babel*, *21 Grams*).

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY FELLOWSHIP IN POETRY AWARD

\$1,000 for the best body of work in poetry by an MFA student.

2012 Winner

Ben Glass, “Cold Open”

Judge’s notes: From the first poem in this manuscript, “Cold Open on the Letter H,” I was hooked. This is true poetry—full of energy and surprise. This is a poet who, first and foremost, loves language. There is music in every line, and none of these poems takes the easy way out. The poet attends to every facet of every poem, and nearly every line is its own poem. These poems truly do wrestle the reader to the ground. Had I found these poems in a book on a shelf rather than gathered together for a student contest, I would have instantly known that this was a completely new and important poet, one conversant in the contemporary poetry language, but who’d taken it in heretofore unexplored terrain. There’s nothing ‘familiar’ here, but the poems come out of tradition, are crafted. I have no doubt that this poet will go on to great success, and I eagerly await the publication of the future book that contains these poems. Congratulations on such strong work, and thank you for the electrifying reading experience. I was reminded again of all the things an ambitious poem, and a real poet, can do with words.”

Honorable Mentions

Lois Kwa, “A Girl-Thief’s Illustrated Primer,” “Ariel,” “Through a Glass Through Which We Cannot See,” and other poems

Clayton Clark, “The Coalescences”

About the judge: Laura Kasischke was awarded the 2011 National Book Critics Circle Award in poetry for *Space, In Chains*. She has published seven collections of poetry and teaches in the University of Michigan’s MFA program and the Residential College.

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY FELLOWSHIP IN CREATIVE NONFICTION AWARD

\$1,000 for the best body of work in nonfiction by an MFA student.

2012 Winner

Thao Thai, “Fatherland”

Judge’s notes: With grace and sympathy, the writer introduces us to what is and is not her home. The story is full of luminous passion, sorrow, and honesty—a triumph!

Honorable Mentions

Molly Patterson, “Zhuag Zhou Dreams He’s a Butterfly”

Silas Hansen, “Trans/formations”

About the judge: Deb Olin Unferth is the author of the collection of stories *Minor Robberies*, the novel *Vacation*, and the memoir *Revolution: The Year I Fell in Love and Went to Join the War*, which was a finalist for a 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award.

CITINO AWARDS FOR TRAVEL

These \$250 awards, in 2012, support the recipients’ travel to attend the Bucknell Seminar for Young Poets.

2012 Recipients

Zachariah McVicker

Stephen Rodriguez

AWARDS IN FIRST-YEAR WRITING

THE FIRST-YEAR WRITING PROGRAM AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCH PAPER

\$100 for the researched essay that best demonstrates excellence in analysis, use of researched materials, and academic form, sponsored by Cengage Publishing.

2012 Winner

Njoki Mwangi, “The Delivery Man has Changed, but the Source Remains the Same: Remittance as Relief Aid.” Joe McQueen, instructor.

OUTSTANDING COMMONPLACE ESSAY

\$50 for the most timely, compelling, and and relevant essay(s) published on the Commonplace website during the past year (spring 2011–winter 2012), sponsored by Commonplace.

2012 Winners

Jonathan Holan, “Tattoos: What You See is What You Get.” Molly Patterson, instructor.

Emily Fox, “Our (Dis)Connection with Meat.” Greg Smith, instructor.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH TEACHING AWARD FOR FIRST-YEAR WRITING

\$200 for demonstrated excellence in teaching first-year writing by an experienced GTA, based upon review of syllabi, assignment prompts, student evaluations, and teaching philosophy.

2012 Winner

Meg LeMay

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING BY A FIRST- YEAR GTA

\$100 for a first-year GTA who demonstrates excellence in teaching First-Year Writing, based upon student evaluations and observations of teaching.

2012 Winner

Joe McQueen

AWARDS IN DIGITAL MEDIA STUDIES

DIGITAL MEDIA PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE WORK

\$100 recognizing outstanding student digital media project(s) completed in an undergraduate course in the Department of English.

2012 Winners will be announced during the ceremony

DIGITAL MEDIA PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE WORK

\$300 recognizing an outstanding digital media project completed by a graduate student in the Department of English, either in a seminar or as part of the student's research or creative work.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

DIGITAL MEDIA PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP IN DIGITAL MEDIA

\$300 recognizing an exemplary piece of scholarship on digital media. To be eligible, scholarly projects should be submitted as a course project or to a journal (either print or online).

2012 Winner will announced during the ceremony

ERIC WALBORN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DIGITAL MEDIA AND ENGLISH STUDIES INSTRUCTION

Established in memory of Eric Walborn, Coordinator of the Digital Media Project (formerly Computers in Composition and Literature/CCL) 1987–1993, this \$500 award is intended to recognize excellence and innovation in computer-supported teaching and/or the development of digital media instructional materials in any area of English studies by a GTA.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

GRADUATE AWARDS

MUSTE DISSERTATION PRIZE

John M. Muste (1927-2002) was the son of A.J. Muste, the political activist, and was a long-time member of the Department. He worked in twentieth-century literature and culture, wrote *Say That We Saw Spain Die: Literary Responses to the Spanish Civil War*, and numerous essays on writers such as Joseph Heller, Vance Bourjaily, and Thomas Pynchon. Like Marlene Longenecker, John was a stalwart citizen of the Department and served as Director of Graduate Studies and as Vice-Chair. In the years before his retirement in 1986, he served as Associate Dean of the College of Humanities. Upon his retirement, John and the College of Humanities established the fund for the prize for the best dissertation, and the Department decided to name it in his honor.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

2012 Nominees

Matthew Bolton

Committee members:

Brian McHale and Jim Phelan, Co-Chairs

Frederick Aldama

Sean O'Sullivan

David Deutsch

Committee members:

Sebastian Knowles, Chair

David Adams

Mark Conroy

Maria Eugenia Gonzalez-Posse

Committee members:

David Riede, Chair

Jill Galvan

Clare Simmons

Paul McCormick

Committee members:

Jim Phelan, Chair

Jared Gardner

Brian McHale

ESTRICH PAPER PRIZE

The Robert M. Estrich Fellowship Fund was established October 5, 1990, by the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University, with gifts to The Ohio State University Development Fund from Alice E. Estrich of Columbus, Ohio, colleagues, friends, and former students in memory of Robert M. Estrich (M.A., English '29; Ph.D., English '35), Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University Department of English. Robert Estrich was chair of the English department from 1952 to 1964, during which he presided over the department's enormous WWII growth. In both his brilliant hiring and his democratizing of internal governance, he was instrumental in transforming the department into both a model within the university and a national presence in the academic profession.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

2012 Nominees

Chase Bollig (Nominated by: Frank Donoghue)

Michael Harwick (Nominated by: David Brewer)

Jonathan Holmes (Nominated by: Alan Farmer)

Kate Novotny (Nominated by: Lisa Kiser)

Dominic Russ (Nominated by: Jessica Prinz)

Elizabeth Zaleski (Nominated by: David Herman)

SACKS PAPER PRIZE

The Sheldon Sacks Award has been given since 1997 when James Phelan established it as a way to honor the teacher who introduced him to narrative theory. After receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in the late 1950s, Sheldon Sacks taught at the University of Texas and the University of California Berkeley before returning to Chicago in 1968, where he remained until his death in 1979. He is best-known as the author of *Fiction and the Shape of Belief*, the founding editor of *Critical Inquiry*, and an inspirational teacher and advisor.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

2012 Nominees:

Tonisha Calbert (Nominated by: David Herman)

Jenny Patton (Nominated by: David Herman)

Matt Poland (Nominated by: Jim Phelan)

GRADUATE ASSOCIATE TEACHING AWARD

This award, granted by the OSU Graduate School, is the university's highest recognition of the exceptional teaching provided by graduate students at Ohio State. Award winners receive \$1,500 and are recognized at the annual Graduate School awards reception.

2012 English Department Recipients

Leila Ben-Nasr

Adam Stier

PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Presidential Fellowship, awarded the OSU Graduate School, is the most prestigious award given to recognize the outstanding scholarly accomplishments and potential of graduate students entering the final phase of their dissertation research or terminal degree project. Each fellowship provides financial support so the recipient may devote one year of full-time study to the completion of his or her dissertation or degree project unimpeded by other duties.

Spring 2011 English Department Recipient

Erin McCarthy (Advisor: Richard Dutton)

Autumn 2011 English Department Recipient

Adam Stier (Advisor: David Herman)

2011-2012

GRADUATE DEGREES

MASTER OF ARTS

Jazmin Colin (Advisor: Frederick Aldama)
Kondwani Harawa (Advisor: Koritha Mitchell)
James Harris (Advisor: Joe Ponce)
Suzanne Hartwick (Advisor: Les Tannenbaum)
Joseph McQueen (Advisor: Clare Simmons)
Carmen Meza (Advisor: Alan Farmer)
Victoria Muñoz (Advisor: Jennifer Higginbotham)
Kate Novotny (Advisor: Sandra Macpherson)
Ben Owen (Advisor: Jared Gardner)
Matthew Poland (Advisor: Ryan Friedman)

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Tory Adkisson (Advisor: Henri Cole)
Ashley Caveda (Advisor: Lee Martin)
Clayton Clark (Advisor: Andrew Hudgins)
Allison Davis (Advisor: Kathy Fagan)
James Ellenberger (Advisor: Andrew Hudgins)
Asha Falcon (Advisor: Lee Martin)
Rebecca Fox-Gieg (Advisor: Lee Abbott)
Benjamin Glass (Advisor: Henri Cole)

Lois Kwa (Advisor: Kathy Fagan)
Hannah Langhoff (Advisor: Erin McGraw)
Derek Palacio (Advisor: Erin McGraw)
Molly Patterson (Advisor: Erin McGraw)
Jennifer Patton (Advisor: Lee Abbott)
Samara Rafert (Advisor: Erin McGraw)
Bill Riley (Advisor: Lee Martin)
Alex Streiff (Advisor: Michelle Herman)
Thao Thai (Advisor: Lee Martin)
Gabriel Urza (Advisor: Michelle Herman)

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Summer 2011

Tammy Birk (Advisor: Marlene Longenecker)
Rachel Clark (Advisor: Richard Dutton)
Tiffani Clyburn (Advisor: Valerie Lee)
Kathryn Comer (Advisor: Kay Halasek)
Gregory Smith (Advisor: Sebastian Knowles)

Autumn 2011

Matthew Bolton (Co-Advisors: Brian McHale and Jim Phelan)
Anne-Marie Schuler (Advisor: Richard Dutton)

Winter 2012

Amanda Gerber (Advisor: Lisa Kiser)
Maria Eugenia Gonzalez-Posse (Advisor: David Riede)

Paul McCormick (Advisor: Jim Phelan)

Spring 2012

Genevieve Critel (Advisor: Cynthia Selfe)

Catherine Hart (Advisor: Clare Simmons)

Karin Hooks (Advisor: Elizabeth Renker)

Ryan Judkins (Advisor: Richard Green)

Erin McCarthy (Advisor: Richard Dutton)

Aaron McKain (Advisor: Jim Phelan)

Christine Moreno (Advisor: Lisa Kiser)

Ryan Omizo (Advisor: Wendy Hesford)

Rebekah Starnes (Advisor: Jared Gardner)

Heather Thompson-Gillis (Advisor: Susan Williams)

Paige VanOsdol (Advisor: Nan Johnson)

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

OSU LIBRARIES UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PRIZE

Awarded annually by the University Libraries' Teaching and Learning Committee, this prize recognizes the best essays produced by undergraduate students who have worked with university librarians to prepare research papers as part of their upper-level coursework. The undergraduate winner and the course instructor receive \$750 and \$250, respectively.

2011 Winner

Kelsie King, B.A., Honors English and French, Spring 2012

Essay: "American Literary Reactions to the Pétroleuses of the Paris Commune"

Course: English 590.08H; Archival Research Methods and American Literature, 1865-1900; Spring 2011

Instructor: Elizabeth Renker

THE ROBERT E. REITER PRIZE FOR CRITICAL ANALYSIS

This \$500 annual award recognizes excellence in critical and/or scholarly writing at the undergraduate level. For the 2012 prize, students were invited to submit essays written as part of English coursework completed Spring 2011–Winter 2012. More than 50 submissions were received.

2012 Winner

Claire Ravenscroft, B.A., English and Political Science with a minor in French, Spring 2013

Essay: “Masters and Slaves in Endless Cycle: Moby Dick in the Transitioning 19th-Century American Economy”

Course: English 561, Special Topics in Fictional and Nonfictional Narrative, Winter 2012

Instructor: Elizabeth Renker

This excellent essay shows how, on the levels of imagery, plot, and characterization, Melville’s work expresses some of the ideological concerns produced by the two different economic models that made America prosperous in the nineteenth century—the slave-based agricultural model and the industrial factory model. Claire makes sophisticated, persuasive insights about both Melville’s masterpiece and American culture in a paper that is well researched and elegantly written.

2012 Honorable Mentions

Melissa Duncan, B.A., English with a minor in Classics, Spring 2012

Essay: “The Right to Sext”

Course: English 405, Special Topics in Professional Communication, Autumn 2011

Instructor: Robert Eckhart

Using a professional, legal format, this essay puts forth an audacious and well researched argument for (as the title suggests), “the right to sext.”

Lee Emrich, B.A., English, Spring 2013

Essay: “Recovering George D. Prentice: The Lost Mentor of Sarah Piatt”

Course: English 590.08H, U.S. and Colonial Literature, Winter 2012

Instructor: Elizabeth Renker

This essay uses archival research to bring to light genuinely new knowledge about Piatt's literary career.

Michelle McCarty, B.A., English with minors in German and the Legal Foundations of Society, Spring 2013

Essay: "Rhetorical Control and the Development of a 'Citizen-Driven' Hegemon: An Analysis of the 'We Are Ohio' Movement"

Course: English 573.02, Rhetorical Theory and Analysis of Social Action, Autumn 2011

Instructor: Kay Halasek

This essay uses both empirical research and sophisticated theoretical techniques to provide an original account of an important political movement.

THE HELEN MORRISON EARNHART HARLEY SCHOLARSHIP IN ENGLISH

This \$500 annual award recognizes and encourages excellence in English studies among students who graduated from a high school located in Ohio's Franklin County and who are pursuing an undergraduate degree in English at Ohio State. Each applicant for this award is evaluated based on a current transcript, a personal statement, and two letters of recommendation.

2012 Winner

Ashley Fournier, B.A., Honors English and Spanish with a minor in Theatre, Spring 2013

Ashley is a 2009 graduate of Thomas Worthington High School and will receive her B.A. from Ohio State in Spring 2013. While at Ohio State she has been active in Sigma Tau Delta and has done volunteer work at the Worthington Public Library—all while maintaining a 3.9 cumulative GPA. She has already begun work

on her senior Honors thesis, which will center on the work of Sarah Piatt, a little-known nineteenth-century American poet. Elizabeth Renker, Ashley's thesis director, describes her "personal rigor, discipline, and academic enthusiasm," notes her "respect for her own education and for the classroom experience," and describes her as "among our best and our brightest." The department agrees.

THE ROSEMARIE SENA SCHOLARSHIP IN ENGLISH

This \$500 annual award recognizes and encourages excellence in English studies among students pursuing an undergraduate degree in English at Ohio State. Each application for this award is evaluated based on a current transcript, a personal statement, and two letters of recommendation.

2012 Winner

Sage Boggs, B.A., Honors English with minors in Media Production and Analysis and Professional Writing, Spring 2013

Among a group of highly talented and competitive candidates, this year's winner—Sage Boggs—stands out not only for his formidable intellectual and creative talents, but for his achievements outside the classroom as well. Complimenting Sage's creative work, one recommender declared, "[he is] one of the best undergraduates I have ever taught...because he is so gifted in such surprising, varied, and thoroughly interesting ways." His creative work is "charming, humorous, complex, subtle" and "nothing short of brilliant." A member of the English Honors society Sigma Tau Delta and OSU's Fishbowl Improv Comedy Group, Sage is also the winner of a Coca Cola scholarship and the Credit Union of Ohio's Steve Stoffel's Memorial Film Competition (along with other Fishbowl members).

THE DAVID O. FRANTZ THESIS AWARD

This \$500 award recognizes the best undergraduate thesis completed by an English major during the preceding year. Because no theses were reviewed nor was an award given in 2011, the Awards Committee decided to give out two thesis awards in 2012 and to consider all theses completed from Summer 2010 through Winter 2012 for these two awards. A total of 10 theses were considered.

2012 Winners

Scott Dieter, B.A., Honors English, Spring 2011

Thesis: “Narrative Theory in Light of Contemporary Narrative Practice”

Advisor: David Herman

In his thesis, Scott reads three contemporary experimental narratives—Ian McEwan’s Atonement, Kazuo Ishiguro’s Never Let Me Go, and Alison Bechdel’s Fun Home—through the lens of narrative theory. Each of Scott’s three chapters applies a different approach to narrative—intertextuality, reader-response, and world-making. Scott shows how these approaches can enrich our understanding of the texts, but at the same time he exposes the limitations of each approach, thereby challenging theorists to complicate and enrich their modes of analysis. His superbly researched, written, and argued thesis exemplifies criticism at its best, inspiring his readers to return to his subject texts with renewed and deepened appreciation.

Justin Hanson, B.A., Honors English, Spring 2011

Thesis: “Inside The Body Politic: Examining the Birth of Gay Liberation”

Advisor: Manuel Martinez

Justin’s thesis is a cultural study of The Body Politic, a Toronto-based gay magazine popular in the 1970s and 1980s. The project

weaves together a range of approaches—from careful close readings of the magazine’s articles to personal interviews with its former staff—to recover the significant role of periodical culture in gay social movements. Noted for being provocative, detailed and lucidly written, this thesis is a model of sustained intellectual inquiry deserving of this year’s award.

THE DENNEY AWARD

This \$500 annual award recognizes the Department of English’s outstanding senior English major. This is a nomination-based award, and each nominee is evaluated based on a letter of support prepared by a member of the English faculty and a current transcript.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

2012 Nominees

Charles Healy, B.A., English, Spring 2012

Marianne Manzler, B.A., English with a minor in Creative Writing, Spring 2012

Cody St. Clair, B.A., Honors English and French, Spring 2012

Meagan Winkelman, B.A., English with a minor in Studio Art, Spring 2012

FACULTY AWARDS

EUGO AUXILIARY FACULTY OF THE YEAR EUGO PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

These annual awards recognize, respectively, an auxiliary faculty member and a professor within the English department, each of whom has demonstrated remarkable commitment to students, taught a course in a truly unique way, and/or provided students with an exceptional learning experience. The English Undergraduate Organization (EUGO) invites all English majors to participate in an online voting process and collaborates with the winners of the previous year's awards as necessary to determine the winners.

2012 Winners will be announced during the ceremony

EGO PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

This award, organized by the English Graduate Organization, recognizes a professor in the English department who has demonstrated commitment to graduate student success through excellence in teaching and advising. All English department graduate students are invited to nominate and to vote.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

THE MARLENE LONGENECKER AWARD FOR TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP

This award was originally endowed in 2008 by the English Department Alumni Advisory Board in honor of Marlene Longenecker, on the occasion of her retirement from the faculty. It honors each

year a faculty member selected for his or her combination of distinguished teaching and outstanding Department and University service and citizenship.

2012 Winner will be announced during the ceremony

ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING

This university-level award honors faculty members for superior teaching. Recipients receive a cash award of \$3000—made possible by contributions from the Alumni Association, friends of Ohio State, and the Office of Academic Affairs—and also receive a \$1,200 increase in their base salaries from the Office of Academic Affairs.

2012 English Department Recipient

David Herman

DISTINGUISHED DIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD

This award, sponsored by the University Senate Committee on Diversity in cooperation with the Office of Human Resources, recognizes individuals or groups who have demonstrated a significant commitment to enhancing diversity at Ohio State and to exceeding expectations in implementing the Diversity Action Plan. Recipients are honored with a plaque and a \$1,200 honorarium.

2012 English Department Recipient

Joe Ponce

FACULTY RETIREMENTS, 2011-2012

Lee K. Abbott

Marcia Farr

Les Tannenbaum