The Ohio State University Department of English

2020 Creative Writing Awards

Awards for Undergraduate Students

THE REBA ELAINE PEARL BURKHARDT ROORBACH AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION - $100 for the best essay or nonfiction chapter by an undergraduate

THE JACOBSON SHORT STORY AWARD - 1st place $600; 2nd place $300; 3rd place $150 for the best story by an undergraduate

THE GERTRUDE LUCILLE ROBINSON AWARD - 1st place $750; 2nd place $350; 3rd place $200 for the best piece of creative writing (any genre) by an undergraduate woman

THE CITINO UNDERGRADUATE POETRY AWARD - $1,500 for the best group of poems, not to exceed 10 single-spaced pages, by any Ohio State English major

Awards for Graduate Students

THE HAIDEE FORSYTH BURKHARDT AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION - $100 for the best essay or nonfiction book chapter by a graduate student

THE TARA M. KROGER AWARD - $1,000 for the best short story by a student in the MFA Program in Creative Writing

THE VANDEWATER POETRY AWARD - $1,000 for the best poem or group of no more than three poems by a graduate student

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY CREATIVE WRITING FELLOWSHIP AWARD IN PROSE - $900 for the best body of fiction or nonfiction (multiple stories or essays, or an excerpt of a book-length work -- totaling at least 40 pages and not to exceed 70 pages) by a student in the MFA Program in Creative Writing

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY CREATIVE WRITING FELLOWSHIP AWARD IN POETRY - $900 for the best body of poetry (of at least 20 pages and not to exceed 30 pages) by a student in the MFA Program in Creative Writing

Award for Undergraduate and Graduate Students

THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS AWARD (THE ARTHUR RENSE PRIZE) - $100 for the best poem or group of no more than three poems (open to graduate and undergraduate students)
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Guidelines

We do not accept paper submissions. Please submit entries in Word format (.doc or .docx) to: cwMFA@osu.edu.

In the email message, include:
1.) Contest for which the submission is to be entered
2.) Your first and last name
3.) Your name.
4.) Title of work in MLA format (for proper crediting)
5.) Genre (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc.)
6.) Class Rank (sophomore, MFA 1st year, etc.)
7.) Major

DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME on the pages of your entries.

Submissions should be attached in Word format. You may submit in another format ONLY if you are unable to use Word. If you are entering more than one contest, please send a separate email for each contest entered. If entering a contest for which multiple poems or stories are being considered together (i.e. up to 10 poems, a collection of stories, a body of work), please send all pieces together in one email. In other words, do not attach 10 separate files for 10 separate poems that are being submitted to the same contest.

NO STORY OR POEM OR NONFICTION PIECE MAY BE ENTERED IN MORE THAN ONE CONTEST. ONLY ONE SUBMISSION PER PERSON PER CONTEST IS PERMITTED. ENTRANTS MUST SPECIFY THE CONTEST FOR WHICH THEY WISH THEIR WORK TO BE CONSIDERED. YOU MAY ENTER AS MANY CONTESTS AS YOU LIKE, AS LONG AS YOU SUBMIT DIFFERENT WORK FOR EACH.

DEADLINE: All entries must be submitted to cwMFA@osu.edu by 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 3, 2020. Late submissions will not be accepted.

NOTE: Graduate students enrolled in undergraduate classes are not eligible for any undergraduate prizes but are eligible for prizes available to both graduate and undergraduate students. These contests are open only to Ohio State students enrolled in a degree-granting program. The winners will be announced at the English Department Awards Celebration on Monday, April 20 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Questions? Please contact the Creative Writing Program at cwMFA@osu.edu or 614-292-4363.