The Ohio State University Department of English

2016 Creative Writing Awards

Awards for Undergraduate Students

THE REBA ELAINE PEARL BURKHAARDT ROORBACH AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION—$100
for the best essay or nonfiction book chapter by an undergraduate
Judged by: Bill Roorbach

WINNER: LAUREN MOLITENO, “Expectations: A Guide on How to Braid Traditional Italian Easter Bread”

THE JACOBSON SHORT STORY AWARD—1st place $500; 2nd place $250; 3rd place $125
for the best short story by an undergraduate
Judged by: Shari Goldhagen

1st PLACE: ALEX TURISSINI, “The Real Deal”
2nd PLACE: LINDSEY MCHENRY, “Dubble Trubble”
3rd PLACE: NANKI HURA, “Crossing Borders”

THE GERTRUDE LUCILLE ROBINSON AWARD—1st place $750; 2nd place $350
for the best piece of creative writing (any genre) by an undergraduate woman
Judged by: Letitia Trent

1st PLACE: RACHEL BENTON, “Cherry Popsicles”
2nd PLACE: LAURA ESPOSTO, “For Spring”
Honorable Mentions: Katie Catipon, “In Her Little Yellow Kitchen”; Elizabeth Coyle, “Goodbye, Kid”; Katherine Isabella, “Paintings”; and Jessica Wong, “Home”

THE CITINO UNDERGRADUATE POETRY AWARD—$1,500
for the best group of poems, not to exceed 10 single-spaced pages, by any OSU English major
Judged by: Rochelle Hurt

WINNER: LAURA ESPOSTO, Collection of Poems for the Dead
Honorable Mentions: Dylan Ecker, “First Date” and other poems; and Lauren Ubbing, Game of Fuck-Marry-Kill

Award for Undergraduate and Graduate Students

THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS AWARD (THE ARTHUR RENSE PRIZE) —$400
for the best poem or group of no more than three poems (open to graduate and undergraduate students)
Judged by: Lo Kwa Mei-en

WINNER: LOUIS MARAJ, “A geriatric Bukowski” and other poems
Honorable Mention: Cait Weiss, “Ode to the Small Black” and other poems
THE HAIDEE FORSYTH BURKHARDT AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION—$100
for the best essay or nonfiction book chapter by a graduate student
Judged by:  Bill Roebbch
WINNER:  CADE LEEBRON, “Instructions On Your Decay”

THE TARA M. KROGER AWARD—$500
for the best short story by an MFA student
Judged by:  Doug Watson
WINNER:  GWEN CULLEN, “The Little Sisters of Dissent”

THE VANDEWATER POETRY AWARD—1st place $650; 2nd place $400
for the best poem or group of no more than three poems
Judged by:  Yona Harvey
1st PLACE:  DAN O’BRIEN, “Still Arriving” and other poems
2nd PLACE:  LIZ ROSE-COHEN, “On collections to cover the cost of defending the lynching of Emmett Till”
Honorable Mention:  Cait Weiss, “Portrait of Family” and other poems

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY CREATIVE WRITING FELLOWSHIP AWARD
IN FICTION — $1,000
for the best body of fiction (multiple stories or an excerpt of a novel of at least 40 pages and not to exceed 70 pages) by a graduate student
Judged by:  Christopher Coake
WINNER:  MOLLY OLGUIN, The Sea Gives Up The Dead
Honorable Mentions:  David Bukszpan, Caring Only Makes It Worse—Stories; and David Yee, “Fontanelle” and other stories

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY CREATIVE WRITING FELLOWSHIP AWARD
IN POETRY — $1,000
for the best body of poetry (of at least 20 pages and not to exceed 30 pages) by a graduate student
Judged by:  Natalie Shapero
WINNER:  MIKKO HARVEY, “Sick Goat” and other poems
Honorable Mention:  Suzannah Showler, Thing Is

THE HELEN EARNHART HARLEY CREATIVE WRITING FELLOWSHIP AWARD
IN CREATIVE NONFICTION — $1,000
for the best body of nonfiction (multiple essays or an excerpt of a book-length work of at least 40 pages and not to exceed 70 pages) by a graduate student
Judged by:  Joe Oestreich
WINNER:  ALESSANDRA WOLLNER, Gender, Language, Power: Assorted Essays
Honorable Mentions:  Samantha Tucker Iacovetto, The American Dream Starts Here; and Rachel Toliver, “Discipline” and other essays