

Mizzou Creative Writing Awards

Every year, the English Department gives over **\$3,000** in creative writing prizes to students! These awards come from funds set aside by generous donors who want to encourage creative writers at Mizzou.

That means you! Send us your poems, fiction, and nonfiction for the chance to win one of these awards:

<u>Type of Award</u>	<u>Judge</u>	<u>Amounts</u>	<u>Your Deadline</u>
Fiction			
Mahan Short Story Award	Gary Fincke	\$175, \$100	March 15
Margery McKinney Short Fiction Award	Ted Wheeler	\$250, \$250	March 15
Kerr Award in Fiction	Carely Gomez	\$250, \$150, \$100	March 15
Poetry			
Mahan Poetry Award	Gary Fincke	\$175, \$100	March 15
Academy of American Poets	Traci Brimhall	\$100	March 15
Kerr Award in Poetry	Jake Young	\$250, \$150, \$100	March 15
Margaret Leong Children's Poetry Award	Traci Brimhall	\$350, \$250, \$150	April 1
Sibyl Pommer Freshman Poetry Award	Frances Dickey	\$200	April 1
Creative Nonfiction			
Creative Writing Program Award	Sonya Bilocerkowycz	\$200, \$100	March 15
Kerr Award in Creative Nonfiction	Traci Cox	\$250, \$150, \$100	March 15
Drama			
Kerr Award in Playwriting	Gwendolyn Edward	\$250, \$150, \$100	March 15
All Genres			
The Hien & Emily Nguyen Award in Creative Writing	Phong Nguyen	\$500	April 1

How to apply:

- All submissions should be emailed to the Assistant to the Director of Creative Writing, Gwendolyn Edward, at gcewyb@mail.missouri.edu. When you submit your work, include the contest you are submitting to in the subject line: ex: "Mahan Short Story Submission."
- You may submit to multiple awards but send a separate email for each award you submit to (Ex: if you submit to the Mahan Short Story Award and the CWP Award in Creative Nonfiction, these submissions should be sent with two separate emails). If you are submitting more than one entry for a single contest, you can send all entries in a single email.
- Read the instructions below and the individual award guidelines on the next page to check the rules for submitting and for exclusions in submitting the same work for multiple awards. Failing to adhere to instruction and award rules may result in your disqualification.
- In the body of your submission email include:
 - your name, student ID number, email, phone number, permanent mailing address, and whether you are an undergrad or grad student
 - The title of the work(s) you are submitting **and** which award the work(s) should be considered for.
- Attach your submission as a PDF file.
 - The file(s) should be saved with the contest name and the title of your work or a group name for your poems. (Ex: "Mahan Poetry Award Poems about Loss" or "Kerr Fiction Award Robot Dreams"). **The author's name and/or student number must not appear on the manuscript or the file name.**
 - Each submission should have a header that includes the name of the contest you are applying to, the title of the submitted piece, and page numbers.

Due March 15:

Mahan Short Story Award: No more than two stories per person. Stories should not exceed 7,000 words. Please include word count at the top of the first page of the manuscript. No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. Stories submitted for this award may not be submitted for the McKinney Award.

The Margery McKinney Short Fiction Award: Although some preference will be given to women and undergraduates, this competition is open to any student currently enrolled at any of the four campuses of the University of Missouri. No more than one story per person. Story should not exceed 7,000 words. Please include word count at the top of the first page of the manuscript. No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. Stories submitted for this award may not be submitted for the Mahan Short Fiction Award.

Mahan Poetry Award: No more than five poems per person. No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. Poems submitted for this award may not be submitted for the Academy of American Poets Prize.

The Academy of American Poets Prize: The Academy of American Poets sponsors a prize for the best poem by a student currently enrolled at MU. No more than three poems per person. No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. Poems submitted for the Mahan Poetry Award may not be submitted for this award.

The CWP Award in Creative Nonfiction: The Creative Writing Program sponsors prizes in creative nonfiction submitted by students currently enrolled at MU. No more than two essays per person. No restrictions on subject matter or style, though all submissions must fit within the general descriptions of creative nonfiction.

Kerr Awards in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Playwriting: For students: Ask your current or past instructor to nominate you for one or more of these awards by March 15th (so that they can respond to you before the April 1st deadline). Send an email to your instructor explaining what contest you would like to be nominated for and attach the work(s) you would like them to nominate; instructors can nominate two works from any class and can devise their own system for determining what will be submitted. If the course has concluded, remind your instructor which class and in what term you studied with them. If your instructor approves your submission, follow the instructions on the first page of this flyer, and please note which instructor approved the submission and for which class/term you had the instructor.

Due April 1:

The Sibyl Pommer Freshman Poetry Award: This award was established in 1961 by Sibyl Pommer of Columbia, Missouri. The competition is restricted to freshman currently enrolled at MU. No more than four poems per person.

The Margaret Leong Children's Poetry Prize: This award was established in 2000 by Margaret Leong of Columbia, Missouri. The competition is open to all students currently enrolled at any of the University of Missouri campuses. Competition limited to poems which are either addressed to children, or written in collaboration with children, or which incorporate children's thoughts and emotions. No more than three poems per person.

Kerr Awards in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Playwriting: For Instructors: Creative writing instructors may nominate outstanding work by undergraduate students for prizes in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and playwriting. First place (\$250), second place (\$150), and third place (\$100) will be awarded annually to undergraduates in each genre. Each instructor of 1500-, 2500-, and 4500-level undergraduate workshops will be allowed to make nominations. The nominations per section will be limited as follows: Fiction: 2 stories per section taught; Poetry: 2 poems from one student in each section taught; Nonfiction: 2 nonfiction pieces per section taught. Instructors may nominate student work from fall, summer, and/or spring semester. Please forward the names of the approved writers to the Assistant to the Director of Creative Writing; students will send their own pieces.

The Hien & Emily Nguyen Award in Creative Writing: Although preference is given to graduate students, this competition is open to any University of Missouri student and is meant to support a student who pursues a summer workshop, conference, institute, or residency. To apply, please submit proof of the summer workshop, conference, institute, or residency application as well as a brief (1 page maximum) statement about how the program will benefit the student as a writer.

Awards will be announced mid-April
For Additional Updates to Awards Check <https://english.missouri.edu/area/creative-writing>