MU Creative Writing Program
2017-2018 Writing Contest Guidelines

**Deadline: FRIDAY, MARCH 2ND, 2018**

With the exception of the McKinney Short Fiction Award and the Margaret Leong Children’s Poetry Prize (which allow entries from students enrolled at any of the four campuses of the University of Missouri), these competitions are open to students currently enrolled at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Judging is done anonymously by outside writers of national reputation. Manuscripts will not be returned. Winners will be announced in late April.

**General Guidelines:**
- Take note of the specific directions for the prize(s) you are entering.
- Manuscripts must be typed, with a header containing 1) the title of the piece, 2) the contest name and genre (e.g., “McKinney Story Contest,” “Mahan Poetry Contest,” etc.), and 3) author’s student ID number. **The author’s name must not appear on the manuscript. The student ID number should be the only identifying information.**
- Please staple or paperclip poem groupings and individual stories entered for each prize.
- Entries for the McKinney Short Fiction Award should also indicate the author’s gender and whether they are a graduate or undergraduate student on the manuscript header.
- Cover sheet included on page 3 of guidelines. Extra copies are available in Tate Hall 114.
- **One cover sheet should be used per author, not per contest.**
- All entries must be received in 114L Tate Hall no later than 5PM on Friday, March 2nd, 2018. Please note that Tate 114 is closed after 5PM and between 12PM and 1PM daily.

**THE MAHAN WRITING AWARDS**

**Short Story:** No more than **two stories** per person. Stories should not exceed **7,000 words**. Please include word count on manuscript. No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. **Stories submitted for this award may not be submitted for the McKinney Award.**
- 1st place $175, 2nd place $100

**Poetry:** No restrictions on subject matter or literary method. No more than **five poems** may be entered. **Poems submitted for this award may not be submitted for the Academy of American Poets Prize.**
- 1st place $175, 2nd place $100

**English 1000 Essay:** Information available from the composition office (114J Tate Hall or https://english.missouri.edu/class/recognition-and-awards).

**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.
- Maximum of **three poems** may be entered per person.
- **Poems submitted for the Mahan Poetry Award may not be submitted for this award.**
• No restrictions on subject matter or literary method.
• One $100 first prize

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.
• Include the author’s gender and whether they are a graduate or undergraduate student on the manuscript.
• Story should not exceed 7,000 words. Please include word count on manuscript.
• No restrictions on subject matter or literary method.
• No more than one story per person. Stories submitted for this award may not be submitted for the Mahan Short Fiction Award.
• Two $250 prizes

THE SIBYL POMMER FRESHMAN POETRY AWARD

This award was established in 1961 by Sybil Pommer of Columbia, Missouri. The competition is RESTRICTED TO FRESHMEN currently enrolled at MU.
• No more than four poems per person.
• One $200 first prize

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.
• $350 first prize, $250 second place prize, $150 third place prize

THE CWP AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION

The Creative Writing Program sponsors prizes in creative nonfiction submitted by students currently enrolled at MU.
• No restrictions on subject matter or style, though all submissions must fit within the general descriptions of creative nonfiction.
• $200 first prize, $100 second prize
MU Creative Writing Awards Cover Sheet

Please double-check the guidelines (general and prize-specific) before submitting your entries!

One cover sheet per author (i.e., can have multiple entries per sheet).
Print clearly or type. Clip (do not staple) to your entry/entries.

Student ID Number __________________ Student Name ________________________________

Student Email ________________________________ Student Phone ______________________

Student Address ___________________________________________________________________

Circle One:  Graduate  Undergraduate  Gender (for McKinney Award only): ______________

Nominating Instructor (for Kerr Awards only) __________________________________________

Nominating Instructor Email (for Kerr Awards only) _________________________________

Name and Genre of Award 1 _______________________________________________________

Title(s) Entered __________________________________________________________________
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Name and Genre of Award 2 _______________________________________________________

Title(s) Entered __________________________________________________________________
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Name and Genre of Award 3 _______________________________________________________

Title(s) Entered __________________________________________________________________
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Name and Genre of Award 4 _______________________________________________________

Title(s) Entered __________________________________________________________________
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