

MU Creative Writing Program Contest Guidelines

Call for Nominations

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 both outside writers of national reputation and internal Creative Writing faculty. Winners will be announced in late April.

General Guidelines: Take note of the specific directions for the prize(s) you are entering and format according to the Awards Flyer located on the right-hand side of this page.

March 15th Deadline:

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/undergrad/student-awards-and-opportunities>).

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.

- 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 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

April 1st Deadline:

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

Frances W. Kerr Awards for Excellence in Writing in Fiction, Poetry, Nonfiction, and Drama

**FRANCIS W. KERR AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FICTION, POETRY,
NONFICTION, and DRAMA**

First place (\$250), second place (\$150), and third place (\$100) will be awarded annually to undergraduates in each genre.

- 1) Each student may submit up to 2 pieces in each genre.
- 2) This contest will be judged anonymously.
- 3) Judges will be appointed by the Director of the Creative Writing Program.

HIEN & EMILY NGUYEN AWARD IN CREATIVE WRITING

\$500 will be awarded annually to a student applying for study in a summer workshop or residency.

- 1) Each student may submit a one-page proposal for a plan of study in a summer workshop or residency.
- 2) The winner(s) will be selected by the Director of the Creative Writing Program.

Don't miss this opportunity to get your undergraduate students' best work recognized!