

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



2023-24 Awards

Congratulations!



Writing Contests

APPALACHIAN WRITING AWARD

This contest is open to all WVU undergraduate students who grew up in Appalachia, including all of West Virginia, and whose work is set in Appalachia. The student will receive a scholarship to the West Virginia Writers' Workshop, which features writers of national reputation. This contest is funded by writer Dwight Harshbarger.

Ethan Prichard

"Milton, WV"

Instructor:

Lisa Weihman

(English 337)

JAMES PAUL BRAWNER EXPOSITORY WRITING CONTEST

Upon Dr. Brawner's retirement in 1972, the Department established this award in his honor. Dr. Brawner served as department chair for 18 years.

Undergraduate Division

First-place: Newton Sweeney

"Compliance and Resistance: Nervous Conditions as Examination of Autonomy"

Second-place: Chase Mikles

"Being and Nothing: An Analysis of Becoming within 'The Doctrine of Being'"

Judges: Kacie Allen, Kaytely Carpenter, Emily Yandel

102/103 Division

First-place: Helen Knight

"Unveiling the Taboo: Examining the Influence of Cultural, Social Norms, and Educational Factors on Menstrual Product Accessibility in Ethiopia"

Second-place: Cody Matorin

"The Diversity of Consciousness: Humans Vs. Animals"

Judges: Abigail Faith Clarke, John Kurpiel, Molly Marody

Graduate Division

First-place: Destinee Harper

"A Trick of the Mind: Personifications of Despair in The Faerie Queene and Depression Medication Advertisements"

Second-place: Rojda Idil Arslan

"Crossroads of Identity: Interpellation of Mixed-Race Subjects in Nella Larsen's Passing"

Judges: Cari Carpenter, Rosemary Hathaway, and Nathalie Singh-Corcoran

RUSSELL MACDONALD CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

This contest was established in 1991 to honor Russ MacDonald upon his retirement. Prizes for these awards come from the James Paul Brawner Endowed Writing Award fund.

Fiction Division

Kelly Ward

"Hilltop Acres"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 618A)

Honorable Mention:

Camille Gazoul

"Any you will only know this as love"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 618A)

Honorable Mention:

Brent Cronin

"The Greatest Generation"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 618A)

Judge: Jake Maynard. WVU MFA graduate Jake Maynard's debut novel [*Slime Line*](#) is forthcoming from WVU Press in 2024. His stories and essays appear in *Gulf Coast*, *Guernica*, *Southern Review*, *Electric Lit*, *The Baffler*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Times*, and others. He lives in Pittsburgh, where he works in a greenhouse.

Nonfiction Division

Oliver Brown

"The Gambler"

Instructor: Christa Paravani's English 618B &
Brian Broome's 618B

Judge: Rachel King. WVU MFA graduate **Rachel King** is the author of the novel *"People Along the Sand,"* the linked short story collection *"Bratwurst Haven"* and two poetry chapbooks. After residing in the eastern United States for several years, she lived in Colorado from 2012 to 2016. She currently lives in her hometown of Portland, Oregon.

Poetry Division

Matthew Powney

"Fluorocarbon Bonds"

Instructor: Mary Ann Samyn (English 618)

Honorable Mention:

Ella Wisniewski

“Where’s the Beef’: notes from communing with the
ghost of Clara Peller”

Instructor: Jenny Johnson (English618)

Judge: Natalie Homer. WVU MFA graduate

Natalie Homer is the author of the poetry collection *Under the Broom Tree* (Autumn House Press, 2021), and of a chapbook, *Attic of the Skull* (dancing girl press, 2018). Her poetry has been published in *American Literary Review*, *Puerto del Sol*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Meridian*, *The Journal*, *Blue Earth Review*, *The Pinch*, *The Lascaux Review*, *Ruminate*, *the minnesota review*, *Salamander*, and others

WAITMAN BARBE CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

This contest honors former English faculty member Waitman Barbe, a published writer and poet who served on the faculty from 1895 until his death in 1925. Prizes for these awards come from the James Paul Brawner Endowed Writing Award fund.

Fiction Division

Aiden Barnette

"L'accompagnatrice"

Instructor: Mary Ann Samyn
(English 318)

Honorable mention:

Malory Adams

"All the Names I've
Known"

Instructor: Glenn Taylor's
(English 312)

Judge: Elise Zukowski

Nonfiction Division

Cody Matorin

"The Ghost of 137 Hoover Road"

Instructor: Brian Broome (English 314)

Honorable mention:

Helen Knight

"Profile of Erika Pallie"

Instructor: Rachel Green (Sociology 360)

Judge: Brent Cronin



Faculty Recognition

2024 Excellence in
Community Engagement
Award

Mark Brazaitis

PHILIP BORDINAT AWARD

Christine Hoffmann
"Early Modern Special
Snowflakes"

West Virginia Humanities
Pedagogy Innovations
Grant

Adam Komisaruk

WVU HONORS COLLEGE
FACULTY FELLOW

Adam Komisaruk

HUMANITIES CENTER
FELLOWSHIP

Gwen Bergener

Erin Brock Carlson

Johanna Winant



Graduate Recognition

EBERLY COLLEGE OUTSTANDING GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

Qazi Arka Rahman

REBECCA MASON PERRY AWARD

The late Kermit and Rebecca Mason established this award in memory of their daughter, Rebecca Mason Perry, who received her B.A. and M.A. degrees in English from WVU. The award is given every May to the outstanding first-year graduate student.

M. A. Recipient
Marvellous Taiwo

M.F.A. Recipient
Ella Wisnewski

M.A. PWE Recipient
Erin Langan

ZIEROLD CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

This endowment provides resources for graduate students enrolled in the Masters of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing. Recipients of this award are West Virginia residents.

John Fox

BLAYDES FAMILY SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

Wenyu "Catherine"
Kong

DAVID G. ALLEN
DISSERTATION
FELLOWSHIP

Sarah Trautwein
Olivia Wertz

JOHN C. & MILDRED W.
LUDLUM DOCTORAL
FELLOWSHIP

Nicole Stahl

SUMMER HUMANITIES
INTERNSHIP

Mary Rose Manspeaker
Qazi Arka Rahman
Tara Salvati



Undergraduate Recognition

EBERLY COLLEGE OUTSTANDING SENIOR ENGLISH MAJOR

Colleen Benison

BLANCHE HASKINS LOUGH CAPICOLA SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established to recognize outstanding students who are English majors in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences.

Autumn Aliff
Flynn Basile
Hayden Bradley
Layne Butturff
Bria Cantwell
Paige Coen
Lauren Dean
Karlee Domenico
Abigail Ebert
Emma Fleming
Megan Gibson
Alexandra Hagood
Aubrey Lackey
Joey Lafferty
Kathryn Lemley

Dillon Miller
Camron Morgan
Olivia Nestor
Olivia Noonan
Colin O'Kelley
Amelia Pauley
Ethan Prichard
Destinney Ringer
Alexis Scott
Bella Smith
Katie Stewart
Abigail Stout
Carley Turner
Olivia Ware
Sophia Weihman
Hannah Woods

CARTER BISHOP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established, in honor of Professor Carter Bishop, to recognize outstanding sophomores, juniors, and seniors who are majors in English, in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, and are planning to be English teachers on the secondary or post-secondary level.

Sal Barret
Karissa Collet
Alexandra Miranda
Daunte Penn
Justin Roberts
Sarah Rogalcheck
Madelynn Saul
Makena Smith
Alyssa Turley
Emma West

ELEANOR TUCKER DONLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship, awarded since 1965 to the Department's outstanding junior, was established by the late Robert T. Donley and his daughter, Demain Donley Whitesides, to honor Mr. Donley's mother.

Liam Miller
Katie West
Paige Harrington
Katherine Ball
Jordan Anderson

ELENA ILLA GRAHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship, awarded since 1980 to West Virginia residents who are majoring in English, was established by the late William L. Graham in memory of his wife, Elena Illa Graham.

Colin Doyle
Miranda Wright
Amelia Ottenstroer
Madison Fischer
Luke Faller
Alice Cruz

ELSIE M. AND ETHEL M. JONES SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established to recognize an outstanding undergraduate student majoring in English.

Peyton Bolyard
Glanna Howard

VIRGINIA BUTTS STURM ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship, established by Albert Lee and Virginia B. Sturm, has been awarded since 1995 to an outstanding undergraduate major in English language and literature.

Delaney Malloy
Olivia Martin
Sydney Vincent
Lisa Wood

SIGMA TAU DELTA INDUCTEES

(International English Honor Society.)

Ellie Appleton
Karissa Collett
Melinda Curtain
Colin Doyle
Gabriele Frazier
Alexandra Hagood
Paige Harrington

Kerrigan Hawthorne
Talia Jordan
Chase Mikles
Jenna Miller
Abigail Stout
Newton Sweeney
Ellis Walker

SIGMA TAU DELTA
OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD

Rose Casey