

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



2020-21 Awards

Congratulations!



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.

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.

Writing Contests

Winner: Georgia Beatty

"Valley Baptism"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 318)

Runner-up: Melissa Reynolds

"Shadows from Flame"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 318_)

Runner-up: Alexandria Webb

"The Sunfish"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 318)

Judge: Jordan Carter

Undergraduate Division

First-place: Erica Cottrill

"Agency through Narration and Perspective in
'Never Let Me Go'"

Instructor: Lisa Weihman (English 200)

Second-place: Mary Grace Rich

"The interconnections between *Mary Poppins*, P.L. Travers,
and Eastern philosophical views on substance
use for spiritual enlightenment"

Instructor: Marilyn Francus (English 386)

Judges: Kristen Gragg, Andrew Lewis, and Patrick Stahl

102/103 Division

First-place: Armâan Karimpour

"The Performing Arts and COVID-19: How to Live with Both"

Instructor: Kelli Wilhelm (English 103)

Second-place: Linda Ma

"Dumplings and their Stories"

Instructor: Sarah Morris (English 103)

Judges: A.J. DeLauder, Morgan Roediger, Kelli Wilhelm

Graduate Division

First-place: Wenyu Kong

"Exploring Temporality in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*"
Instructor: Michael Germana (English 741)

Second-place: Gabriella Pishotti

"Materializing Grief: The Re-realization of Loss in Kamila
Shamsie's *Home Fire*"

Judges: Erin Brock Carlson, Cari Carpenter,
and Johanna Winant

JON SCOTT NELSON
FIRST-YEAR
WRITING AWARD

In 1992, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Nelson established this
contest for student papers from English 101.

Emily Aman

"A Playlist of Paradoxical Love"

Instructor: Rebecca Thomas (English 103)

Emily Gwaltney

"How Homeschooling Prepares Students for College"

Instructor: Rebecca Thomas (English 103)

Skylar Jenkins

"Soulmate"

Instructor: Anna Schles (English 101)

Armâan Karimpour

"Newsies: A Personal Drama:"

Instructor: Kelli Wilhelm (English 103)

Lauren Layton

"Burnt"

Instructor: Nancy Caronia (English 103)

Natalie Wonsettler

"Bon Appétit"

Instructor: Rebecca Thomas (English 103)

Judges: Vahid Arefi, Liam Wholihan, and Leslie Wilber

JON SCOTT NELSON FRESHMEN CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

This award was established by Dr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Nelson in memory of their son, Jon Scott Nelson. Contributions have been made by friends, relatives, and classmates.

First-place: Jordan Buechler

"Dark, Seductive Thoughts"

Instructors: Vincent Frontero and Jenny Johnson (English 213 & 313)

Second-place: Michael Duong

"Delusion: A Collection of Poems"

Instructor: Michael Green (English 131)

Third-place: Avery Ballard

"Love, Life and Death"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 213)

Judges: Rachael Bradley, Vince Frontero, and Morgan Roediger

PROFESSIONAL WRITING AND EDITING AWARD

This contest is open to all students enrolled in undergraduate Professional Writing and Editing courses. Prizes for these awards come from the James Paul Brawner Endowed Writing Award fund.

First-place: Taylor Miller

"The Computer is Quicker, but the Human is Smarter: Solving Overreliance on Technology for Proofreading:

Instructor: Erin Brock Carlson

Second-place: Lily Wright

"Navigating Theories of Qualitative Research Ethics for Applications on Oral History in West Virginia"

Instructor: Erin Brock Carlson (English 301)

Judges: Brian Ballentine, Erin Brock Carlson, and Catherine Gouge

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

Karen Klein

"Disturbed"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 618)

Nonfiction Division

Storey Clayton

"Glass Houses"

Instructor: Ann Pancake (English 618B)

Honorable-mention:

Rachael Bradley

"What is Felt"

Instructor: Ann Pancake (English 618B)

Poetry Division

Liam Wholihan

cudweed teeth

Instructor: Mary Ann Samyn (English 618)

Honorable-mention:

Gabriel Bass

"Various Poems"

Instructor: Mary Ann Samyn (English 618)

Judges: Charity Gingerich and Rachel King

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 Bawner Endowed Writing Award fund.

Fiction Division

Lauren Pauley

"The Backpack"

Instructor: Mark Brazaitis (English 312)

Honorable-mention

Erica Cottrill

"Dependent/Independent: A Collection of Short Plays"

Instructor: Radhica Ganapathy (Theatre 404)

Nonfiction Division

Macy Kile

"Vignettes From Fall"

Instructor: Christa Parravani (English 314)

Honorable-mention

Ross Liggett

"Hug the Dogs for Me"

Instructor: Christa Parravani (English 314)

Poetry Division

Valerie Browne

"Life, Death, and Somewhere in Between"

Instructors: Ann Pancake and Mark Brazaitis (English 352 & 212)

Honorable-mention:

Lauren Volk

"People and Places that Made me Who I Am"

Instructors: Vincent Frontero and Jenny Johnson (English 212 & 313)

Judges: Rachael Bradley, Vince Frontero, and Morgan Roediger



Faculty Recognition

BENEDUM
DISTINGUISHED
SCHOLAR

Cari Carpenter

PHILIP BORDINAT
AWARD

Johanna Winant
"Walt Whitman's Formalism"

INNOVATION, DESIGN,
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
APPLIED FACULTY
FELLOWSHIP

Krista Sarraf

WEST VIRGINIA
HUMANITIES COUNCIL
FELLOWSHIP

Nancy Caronia
Kirk Hazen
Sarah Morris
Erin Brock Carlson



Graduate Recognition

EBERLY COLLEGE
OUTSTANDING
GRADUATE TEACHING
ASSISTANT

Muhammad Manzur Alam

DEPARTMENT OF
ENGLISH DISTINGUISHED
TEACHING AWARD

April McGinnis

DAVID G. ALLEN
DISSERTATION
FELLOWSHIP

Jennifer Peedin

JOHN C. AND MILDRED W.
LUDLUM DISSERTATION
FELLOWSHIP

April McGinnis

BLAYDES FAMILY SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

Muhammad Manzur Alam

SUMMER HUMANITIES INTERNSHIP

Aaron Rovan
Michael Green
Quazi 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: Miranda Smith
M.F.A Recipient: Liam Wholihan
M.A.P.W.E. Recipient: Devin Lacy

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.

Anna Schles



Undergraduate Recognition

EBERLY COLLEGE
OUTSTANDING SENIOR
ENGLISH MAJOR

Aerianna McClanahan

CAPTAIN WILLIAM NEELY
AWARD FOR
OUTSTANDING
SOPHOMORE

Lauren Volk

2021
ORDER OF AUGUSTA

Amelia Jones

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.

Alicyn Craig
Lauren Lee
Lauren Volk

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.

Sara Money
Megan Swiger

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.

Leah Brennsteiner
Erica Cottrill
Rachel Killough
Jordan Pugh

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.

Tucker Nadeau

ELSIE M. AND ETHEL M. JONES SCHOLARSHIP

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

Kelsey Greene

GEORGE BIRD EVANS LITERARY SCHOLARSHIP

The Old Hemlock Foundation is dedicated to promoting the life and legacy of George and Kay Evans, who lived in Bruceon Mills and cowrote many books and articles about grouse hunting, bird dogs, and life in Appalachia.

Allison Groves

VIRGINIA BUTTS STURM CREATIVE WRITING SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship, established by Albert Lee and Virginia B. Sturm, is awarded to an outstanding undergraduate creative writing major.

Kelsey Greene

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.

Autumn Fitzsimmons
Caitlin Mead

SIGMA TAU DELTA GRADUATES

(International English Honor Society)

Samantha Barney
Georgia Beatty
Lakin Davis
Bailey Evans
Amanda Griffith
Kristen Johnson
Amelia Jones
Malina Judd
Aerianna McClanahan
Taylor Miller
María Pomales
Alexis Ream
Melissa Reynolds
Marisa Watson

SIGMA TAU DELTA INDUCTEES

(International English Honor Society)

Malory Adams
Isabella Correll
Erica Cottrill
Casey Dye
Brandi Hall
Matthew Kasopsky
Erin Langan
Caitlin Mead
Annmarie Miller
Tristen Nichols
Heather O'Brien
Kelsy Robbins
Paris Russell
Kacie Steele
Kristine Waddell
Bryant Young

SIGMA TAU DELTA OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

Marilyn Francus