

English Department Scholarships

 csus.edu/engl/scholarships.html

The English department sponsors a number of scholarships for its students. Applications for these awards are accepted--and winners are announced--each Spring semester; the scholarships are then awarded the following Fall semester. To be eligible to win one of these scholarships, applicants must be active students and meet that scholarship's eligibility requirements during the semester the money will be awarded. The application deadline for all open scholarship applications is **April 12, 2019 at 4pm in Calaveras 103**.

John F. Wilhelm Memorial Scholarship

Professor John F. Wilhelm was a professor in the English department for over thirty years. This scholarship was established to commemorate Professor Wilhelm's dedication to teaching and his deep interest in educating future teachers. The scholarship is designed to recognize and encourage a senior English major who plans to teach English and/or American Studies at the high school or community college level.

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by the [deadline](#).

Award

\$500

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- Must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and 3.3 in major coursework
- Must be undergraduate English or American Studies majors with a minimum of 90 units completed toward graduation (senior standing)
- Must be enrolled at least half-time (6+ units)

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the [department deadline](#):

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- [Wilhelm Memorial Scholarship Application Form](#)
- A double-spaced statement of purpose describing candidate's career objectives and reasons for choosing teaching as a profession
- At least two (but no more than four) recommendation letters from CSUS English professors
- A brief resume outlining accomplishments at CSUS; relevant activities and services to the English department, classmates, and community; and any work in progress
- Official transcripts for all college coursework
- A list of any coursework in progress

Katherine Hohlwein Poetry Award of Merit

The purpose of this award is to honor Professor Kathryn Hohlwein's distinguished 30-year teaching career at Sacramento State and to encourage students in their poetry writing.

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by the deadline.

Award

\$400 toward tuition

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 for undergraduates, 2.5 for unclassified graduate students, and 3.0 for classified graduate students
- must be English majors or minors or be enrolled in an English graduate program
- must be enrolled as full-time students (12+ units for undergraduates or 8+ units for graduates) for the current academic year (previous Fall semester and current Spring semester)

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department Scholarship Applicant Information Form
- **Two copies of three poems** representative of the poet's body of work must be submitted. Each copy may not exceed **five** pages.
- Poems submitted may not have been previous winners of any other English department literary contest.
- Entries must be typed in a standard font on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. There shall be no form restrictions.
In order to maintain anonymity, **do not include your name on poem pages.**
- Each entry must have a cover page with the name, address, phone number, and social security number of the poet and the name or first line of the poem(s).

No discrimination shall be made on the basis of sex or ethnicity.

Karen Lee Warmdahl Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Karen Lee Warmdahl's family in memory of their daughter, a former Sacramento State English major who "had a great love of words" and pursued a career in publishing and writing before her untimely death. The scholarship is intended to "recognize and encourage an English major who shows special talent in creative writing, poetry, and/or literature."

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by the deadline.

Award

\$500

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum GPA of 3.0
- must be undergraduate English majors with a minimum of 90 units completed toward graduation (senior standing)

- must be enrolled at least half time (6+ units)

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- a brief writing sample (no more than 10 pages) including at least two pieces of prose and/or poetry
- a one-page statement explaining "why the student has chosen English as his or her major and how the applicant hopes to use the English degree once he or she graduates"
- two letters of recommendation from Sacramento State English professors
- official transcripts for all college coursework

Elizabeth Keith Olmstead & John and Kathryn von Saltza Memorial Scholarship in English

Professor Robert Olmstead and Chris von Saltza Olmstead founded this award to honor the memory of their parents--Elizabeth Keith Olmstead and John and Kathryn von Saltza--by providing support for students who are majoring in English in their Junior and/or Senior years.

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by the deadline.

Award

Up to \$500 per semester for up to two semesters (eligibility criteria must be met for second semester distribution). Student recipients may reapply and may receive the scholarship for another year--up to a total of four semesters.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- English major enrolled in 9 units or more at the time of application.
- Eligible class levels: Junior or Senior. Must have completed a minimum of 60 units at the time of application.
- Grade Point Average: Minimum GPA of 3.3 in the major.
- Criteria must be met to be eligible for second semester distribution.
- Financial need is not required.
- Consideration shall be made for applicants who have been continuously enrolled at CSUS since their freshman year.
- Student recipients may reapply and may receive the scholarship for another year--up to a total of four semesters. In this case, the student's application will be considered as part of the entire applicant pool.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- a statement of purpose of no more than 500 words

Literary Insight Award

"The Literary Insight Award is designed to encourage students to explore literature in translation in the hope they might discover the extraordinary richness of literature written in another country and in another time. It invites them to discover how, despite historical and cultural differences, such literature addresses enduring questions that remain a part of our contemporary human condition."

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by [the deadline](#).

Award

\$350 for first place and \$150 for honorable mention to be used toward tuition

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for undergraduates and 3.5 for graduate students
- must be junior or senior English majors or minors; or must be enrolled in an English graduate program
- must be enrolled full time (12+ units for undergraduates or 8+ units for graduates)

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by [the department deadline](#):

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- [Literary Insight Award application form](#)
- A 1,200-1,500 word essay on one of the following novels:
 - Homer: *Iliad* (Classical Greece)
 - Cervantes: *Don Quixote* (Spain)
 - de Lafayette: *The Princess of Cleves* (France)
 - Goethe: *Faust* (Germany)
 - Stendhal: *The Red and the Black* (France)
 - Turgenev: *Fathers and Sons* (Russia)
 - Dostoevsky: *The Idiot* or *The Brothers Karamazov* (Russia)
 - Tolstoy: *Anna Karenina* or *The Death of Ivan Ilych* (Russia)
 - Gide: *The Immoralist* (France)
 - Proust: *Swan's Way* (France)
 - Kafka: *The Trial* or *The Castle* or *The Metamorphosis* (Czechoslovakia)
 - Mann: *Death in Venice* (Germany)
 - Hesse: *Steppenwolf* (Germany)
 - Unamuno: *Saint Manuel El Bueno* (Spain)
 - Kazantzakis: *The Last Temptation of Christ* (Greece)
 - Marquez: *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (Columbia)
 - Solzhenitsen: *The First Circle* (Russia)
 - Kundera: *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* (Czechoslovakia)

Patrick Michael Ewing Memorial Scholarship

The Patrick Michael Ewing Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of Patrick Ewing, a 2007 graduate of the Masters in English program at Sacramento State. Patrick went on to teach at a community college and UC Santa Barbara while pursuing a Ph. D. Patrick had planned to complete his doctoral work and teach at UC Davis at the time of his passing in August of 2012.

Award

One \$2,500 scholarship awarded annually.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0
- must be a classified graduate student in an English graduate program
- must be enrolled full-time (8+ units)

Please note:

- Scholarship may be renewable for up to two additional years; thus, fellowship winners may reapply in subsequent years. The student's application will be considered by the scholarship committee as part of the entire applicant pool.
- Financial need will be strongly considered in awarding this fellowship.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- a two-page (not to exceed 500 words) biographical statement in which the candidate describes his or her commitment to graduate study in English and any obstacles (including financial hardship) he or she has overcome in order to pursue his/her studies
- a one-page statement of financial need (not to exceed 250 words)
- two letters of recommendation from Sacramento State English department faculty in signed and sealed envelopes
- official transcripts of all graduate-level coursework

Hortense Simmons Study Abroad Scholarship

Professor emeritus Hortense Simmons started this scholarship to encourage undergraduate and graduate English department students to study world literature by providing support for study abroad experiences through the office of International Programs and Global Engagement.

Award

\$500

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0
- must be a sophomore, junior, or senior undergraduate English major; or must be a classified graduate student in an English graduate program
- must be enrolled full time (12+ units for undergraduates or 8+ units for graduates)

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- a copy of your application to the office of International Programs and Global Engagement study abroad program
- a brief statement (250 words maximum) describing how the study of literature abroad will affect your academic plans for the future
- two letters of recommendation from Sac State English department faculty members

In addition, successful applicants must be accepted to the International Programs and Global Engagement study abroad program.

Robert G. Mino Memorial Writing Contest Prize

The Robert G. Mino Memorial Writing Competition is an opportunity for freshmen writers to be recognized for their writing.

Award

\$150

Eligibility

At time of application, applicants must be freshmen or sophomores who are currently enrolled in, or completed the previous semester, any freshmen English composition course (i.e., ENGL 1, ENGL 10/11, ENGL 10M/11M, ENGL 5, ENGL 5M).

Award winner must be active, enrolled students for Fall 2019 to receive their awards.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- three (3) copies of each of the following (please include your student ID number but not your name on all documents):
 - an essay written as part of a class assignment for a Freshman English composition course (i.e., ENGL 1, ENGL 10/11, ENGL 10M/11M, ENGL 5, ENGL 5M)
 - a copy of the instructions your instructor gave you for that assignment, or the course instructor's signature verifying that the essay was assigned in a freshman writing class
 - a cover letter that briefly explains the context of the assignment and the method (i.e., writing process) and means (e.g., previous knowledge, course content, etc.) which you used to formulate your response to the assignment

Evaluation Criteria

Each of the following criteria holds equal weight in the evaluation process:

- purpose identified and met (connection between cover letter and submission)
- identifies and articulates a focus
- organization serves the portrayed purpose
- evidence of knowledge regarding uses of language

Ray Brankline and Paulette Gray English Scholarship

This scholarship is intended to support students studying English in the College of Arts and Letters.

Availability

Applications are being accepted for this scholarship, apply by the [deadline](#).

Award

\$1,000

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0
- must be a sophomore, junior, or senior undergraduate English major; or must be a classified graduate student in an English graduate program
- must be enrolled full time (12+ units for undergraduates or 8+ units for graduates)

Please note:

- Student recipients are eligible to reapply for this scholarship and may receive the scholarship up to 4 years. The student's application will be considered as part of the entire applicant pool.
- Financial need may be considered, but is not required to be awarded this scholarship.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the [department deadline](#):

- English department [Scholarship Applicant Information Form](#)
- a statement of purpose of no more than 500 words

Theresa Mary McCourt Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was created in honor of Ms. Theresa Mary McCourt, an accomplished writer, teacher, business woman, athlete, gardener, wife, mother, and friend. She graduated with her Master's Degree in English from Sacramento State in 1989.

A biography, photos and samples of Theresa Mary McCourts work can be viewed [here](#).

Availability

Applications are not currently not being accepted for this scholarship.

Award

\$2,000

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria the semester the scholarship is awarded:

- Open to classified English Graduate students. (preferred interest in poetry and/or creative writing)
- Must be enrolled, part time or full time, at Sacramento State.
- Must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 and be in Good Academic Standing with the University.
- Recipients may receive the scholarship for up to two years. The student must reapply for consideration each year and must meet the specified eligibility criteria.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit all of the following materials to Calaveras 103 by the department deadline:

- English department Scholarship Applicant Information Form
- A double-spaced statement (1-2 paragraphs) on "What writing means to them?"
- A brief resume outlining accomplishments at CSUS; relevant activities and services to the English department, classmates, and community; and any work in progress
- Official transcripts for all college coursework

Bazzanella Literary Awards

The English department has hosted the Dominic J. Bazzanella Writing Competition each Spring semester since 1981. Each year, undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit their best poetry, critical analysis, short fiction, and/or creative nonfiction for the chance to win cash prizes and publication.

Availability

This competition is held each year during Spring semester.

Award

The competition will be separated between graduate and undergraduate students as determined by their Spring semester class standing. The first place graduate and undergraduate winners in each category will be awarded \$200. The second place graduate and undergraduate winners in each category will win \$100. All winning entries will be published in the Bazzanella Literary Awards Book, to be handed out at the awards ceremony.

The awards committee reserves the right to not award all prizes in all categories.

Eligibility

All students currently enrolled at Sacramento State (not including audited courses) are eligible to enter.

Submission Guidelines

The competition is divided into **four categories**:

- **Critical Analysis:** Restricted to essays which analyze a work of art, such as novels, poetry, essays, film, music, or some other aesthetic medium. Essays not analyzing an art work should be submitted under the creative nonfiction category. 5,000 words maximum, non including bibliography or footnotes.
- **Creative Nonfiction:** 5,000 words maximum.
- **Poetry:** 1 poem only. Submissions of "prose poetry" or "flash fiction" may be entered in one category only.
- **Short Fiction:** 6,000 words maximum.

Submitted manuscripts must be original work by the author and may not have been published or won a prize in a previous literary contest. Students may enter more than one category, but may submit only one entry per category. The coordinator reserves the right to change to a different category an entry which, in his opinion, has been submitted incorrectly. Manuscripts which exceed the maximum length for the category will not be submitted to the judges.

Students must submit four things with each entry (students submitting entries in more than one category must submit a separate packet for each):

- a **manuscript** which conforms to the following formatting guidelines:
 - typed
 - double-spaced
 - 1" margins
 - 12pt. Times New Roman font
 - title at the top of the first page
 - does NOT include the author's name
 - pages numbered
 - stapled
- an **information sheet** with the following information:
 - full name
 - address
 - telephone number
 - graduate or undergraduate level
 - title of manuscript
 - category
 - the file format used to save the manuscript
- a **manila envelope** with the following information written on the front:
 - title of the manuscript
 - category
 - graduate or undergraduate level
- a **flash drive or CD-ROM** with a digital copy of your entry (preferably saved as a Word document)

Seal the information sheet and flash drive inside the envelope, then paper clip the manuscript to the front of the envelope. Submit the whole packet to the English department office (CLV 103) by the submission deadline. **Late entries will NOT be accepted.**

Please Note

- There is a separate judge for each of the four categories. These judges are not currently working as staff or faculty at Sacramento State.
- The judges' decisions are final.
- Winners will be notified by phone, and the results will be announced publicly after all winners have been contacted.
- We will publish the first and second place graduate and undergraduate winning entries in the Bazzanella Awards booklet. If you do not want your entry published, you should not enter this contest.
- Flash drives and CD-ROMs will be available for contestants to pick up after winners have been announced. They will be kept in CLV 103 until the following September, and then discarded.

Questions?

If you have further questions regarding the Bazzanella Literary Awards, please contact Dr. Joshua McKinney (jmckinney@csus.edu).