Scholarships & Awards – 2012

The English department at NMSU awards a number of scholarships and prizes to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in our programs.

The following are the 2012 award winners:

Undergraduate Awards

Paideia Documented Argument Contest

*Students enrolled in ENGL 111 in the summer or fall of the year the award is given are eligible to win. Three Documented Arguments will be selected as winners with a monetary prize and will have the opportunity to be published in the upcoming Paideia issue. Awards will be decided by the Writing Program Administrators.*

Spring 2012

- 1st place: Bradley Nash, “Flush it Down the Toilet, not on my Church” (Dylan Retzinger, instructor)
- 2nd place: Danielle Pellegrino, “Leaving Children Behind” (Niki Mott, instructor)
- 3rd place: D. John Young, “Keep the Twenty-Five! Keep New Mexico Film Alive! (Dan Peterman, instructor)
- Honorable Mention: Ryan Buchanan, “Education: The Backside of the Badge” (Chris Rosenbluth, instructor)

Fall 2012

- 1st place: Jon Garcia
- 2nd place: Eleanor Blake
- 3rd place: Thomas Olson

Robert A. Wichert Endowed Memorial Award for Creative Writing

*Two awards will be given to undergraduate students who have written an outstanding piece of fiction, poetry, or drama in an English class. The winners of this award are determined by the Creative Writing faculty.*

- Josephy Otero, fiction
- Shelbi Meissner, poetry
- Matthew Hopper (honorable mention)
Lizette “Eve” Price (honorable mention)

Dr. Larry L. Wilson Endowed Memorial Scholarship

This award is given to a New Mexico resident majoring in English with a GPA of 3.0 or better who demonstrates financial need, but does not qualify for aid. Determined by the Department Head in consultation with Financial Aid. Preference is to returning students.

- Francisca Zimmerman-Hakes

Joseph H. Forsyth Endowed Memorial Scholarship

One or more native New Mexican juniors majoring in English with a 3.5 GPA or better can be awarded this scholarship. The Department Head determines the winner.

- Cassandra Taylor

Marion P. Hardman Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Two awards will be given to outstanding juniors or seniors majoring in English. Students must have completed 80 credits to be eligible. The Undergraduate Studies Committee determines the winners.

- Shelbi Meissner
- Anthony Tome

Mary Powell Ambrose Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Award to an outstanding junior or senior English major, the winner of this scholarship is selected by the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

- Lizette “Eve” Price

Sutherland-McManus Memorial English Scholarships

Two awards are given to undergraduate students who have submitted a piece of work that was originally written for an English class. The categories are: 1) the best literary critical essay and 2) the best work of nonfiction prose (including essays, reports, and electronic documents). This award is decided by the Undergraduate Studies Committee. From these two winners, the Emerson Award winner will be determined.

- Miranda Flores
- Jordan Gillespie

Emerson Award

Selected from the Sutherland-McManus Memorial English Scholarship winners, this award recognizes outstanding writing by an undergraduate student in English. This award is decided by the Undergraduate Studies Committee. No applications accepted.
• Jordan Gillespie

Verna Newman Rule Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Determined by the Department Head, this award is given to a junior or senior student with the highest GPA. If there is a GPA tie, the number of credit hours will be used as a criterion. No applications accepted.

• Claire Koleske (junior)
• Miranda Flores (senior)

Lucille Earnhart Roney Endowed Scholarship

• Jessica Gobble

Graduate Awards

Frank Waters Fiction Lectureships

Awarded to three outstanding graduate students enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program. This award is decided by an outside judge and the Creative Writing faculty.

• 1st place: Emily Haymans
• 2nd place: Barry Pearce
• 3rd place: Paul French
• Honorable Mentions: Gautam Emani, Sessily Watt, Philip Johnson, Christopher Rosenbluth

Harris-Kunz Endowed Award in Poetry

• Megan Wong

Keith Wilson & Joe Somoza Poetry Prize

In honor of retired NMSU faculty members Keith Wilson and Joe Somoza. Three awards are decided by an outside judge in cooperation with the Creative Writing faculty, and are awarded to outstanding graduate students enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program.

• 1st place: Jacqueline Wang
• 2nd place: Laura Terry
• 3rd place: Robert Houghton

Ruth Scott Academy of American Poets Prize

A graduate student poet enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program is awarded this prize which is decided by an outside judge and the Creative Writing faculty. For more information, contact the Creative Writing faculty chair.

• Nathan Taylor
Charles & Pamela Sphar Scholarship

For an outstanding female English Department graduate student with a GPA of 3.0 or better in need of financial assistance, this scholarship is selected by the English Department Head in consultation with the Graduate Studies Committee and Financial Aid Office.

- Carrie Tafoya

Emerson Award

Selected from the Sutherland-McManus Memorial English Scholarship winners, this award recognizes outstanding writing by a graduate student in English. This award is decided by the Graduate Studies Committee. No applications accepted

- Paul French

English Department Research & Creative Activities Award

One or more small awards will be awarded in support of expenses related to their academic research or creative activities. The Graduate Studies Committee makes recommendations to the Department Head.

- Lauren Goldstein
- Kelsie Hahn

Stuart C. Brown Award for Excellence in Writing and Teaching

Awarded annually to one or more outstanding graduate students in Rhetoric and Professional Communication.

- Jennifer Bracken Scott

Sutherland-McManus Scholarships

Two awards are given to graduate students who have submitted a piece of work that was originally written for an English class. The categories are: 1) the best literary critical essay and 2) the best work of nonfiction prose (including essays, reports, and electronic documents). This award is decided by the Graduate Studies Committee. From these two winners, the Emerson Award winner will be determined.

- Sessily Watt (nonfiction)
- Paul French (literature criticism)

Verna Newman Rule Scholarship

Determined by the Department Head, this award is given to an outstanding master’s and doctoral student with the highest GPA. No applications accepted.

- Rebecca Berkson
- Amy Dalzell
• Kandida Gendron
• Meg McGuire
• Seth Myers

LOLA Awards

• Italy Fellowship Award: Floydd Elliott
• Italy Fellowship Award: Angela Simental
• Italy Fellowship Award: Sessily Watt

Kevin McIlvoy Endowed Fellowship

• Kelsie Hahn, fiction

Writing Program Professional Development Travel Awards

• Lauren Goldstein, Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference
• Matthew Moberly, Conference on College Composition and Communication
• Rebecca Powell, Conference on College Composition and Communication

Best Assignment Aligning with Learning Objectives

• Adam Crittenden
• Jennifer England
• Lauren Goldstein
• Rachel Milloy

Outstanding Writing Center Consultant Award

• Heather Lang
• Omar Montoya

Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award

• Cathilia Flores
• Meg McGuire

NM Higher Education Department Fellowship Award

• Kelly Medina
• Jeannette Monsivais

Diversity Graduate Assistantships

• Kelly Medina
• Jeannette Monsivais

Graduate School's Tuition Fellowship

• Erin Easley
• Kelly Medina
• Jeannette Monsivais
• Barry Pearce

Graduate School's Merit-Based Enhancement Fellowship

• Kandida Gendron
• Seth Myers
• Chris Rosenbluth

Preparing Future Faculty Graduate Assistantship

• Phillip Johnson
• Electra Rich
• Karen Trujillo