

C.J. FUND FOR GRADUATE CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM STUDENT GRANTS

Award Amount/Method:

The amount of funding will vary significantly from support for student recruiting to support of students in the later phases of graduate study, especially when such support will aid them in the completion of their theses by freeing up time to write.

Eligibility:

Fellowship recipient must be a full-time graduate degree-seeking student in good standing at the University of Houston and must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better.

Must be enrolled in at least 3 hours of classes per semester

Criteria:

Recruiting Fellowships:

- The quality of the student's creative writing—this is based on the evaluation of the creative writing sample that was submitted as part of the application for admission.
- The potential of the student to contribute to the graduate creative writing community at the University of Houston.
- The need of the Creative Writing Program to make an offer to valued student who has received a significant offer from a competing program.

Fellowships for Advanced Students:

- The quality of a student's creative work—serious weight will be given to the work in progress that is intended to be the student's Masters or Doctoral thesis.
- The probability that the student, with the support of a fellowship, will complete the project for which the fellowship was awarded.
- Priority will be given to students who are nearing the completion of their degree.

Procedure for the Award:

- In the case of incoming students, the faculty committee will take into consideration a student's background, including but not limited to, first generation college students, those from impoverished backgrounds, those who were raised in challenging circumstances, those with fluency in a second language and students with unique backgrounds that can bring varied perspectives to the program.

- Any fellowship recipient may accept other scholarships, fellowships and grants in conjunction with the C.J. Fund.
- Funds can be used for stipends and to cover expenses for tuition, books, fees, and/or supplies for the coming academic year. Any expenses of a recipient in excess of the amount of the fellowship must be borne by the student.

Awards:

Those selected for fellowships are notified by the Director of Creative Writing either by letter or by email. In the case of fellowships for professional enhancement and, possibly for completing a manuscript, the fellowship may take the form of course release from the student's teaching assistantship, in which case the fellowship funding would be used to purchase the course release for the Department of English.

Fellowship Committees:

The fellowship committees for the Creative Writing Program are composed of all the Creative Writing faculty members in a particular genre. The 3 genres are poetry, fiction and non-fiction. The faculty in each of the genres meets and discusses candidates for fellowships, and then transmits its decisions on the awarding of the fellowships to the Director of the Creative Writing Program. If a fellowship can only be awarded in one genre, the creative writing faculty meet as a whole and decide in which genre the fellowship should be awarded.