

Writing Prizes

The Chesler Prize for Excellence in Writing was established by Alan Chesler BS '85 (English & Economics) and MS '87 (Real Estate Appraisal & Investment Analysis) who credits much of his career success in investment banking to the writing and communication skills he learned as an English major. An award of \$1,000 is given to one student for a senior thesis chapter, or split between two students for senior thesis chapters, that demonstrates exceptional writing and analytical skills.

The James T. Lewis Prizes were established in 1968 and awarded annually for the two best essays written by first-year students in an English Department course (creative writing courses excluded.)

The William F. Vilas Prizes were established by Anna M. Vilas in 1912 and are awarded each year for the two best expository essays written by undergraduates in an upper-level English course.

The Standish Henning Shakespeare Prize was established by Professor Andrew Weiner (emeritus) in recognition of his teacher and colleague Professor Standish Henning (emeritus). The prize is awarded for the best essay written by an undergraduate in one of the English Department's upper-level Shakespeare courses, 431 or 432.

The Data Analysis Prize is awarded for an outstanding written project based on the collection and analysis of original data in an upper-level English major course.



April 28, 2019

*English Majors
Awards Ceremony
&
Reception*

Scholarships & Awards

The Lila Hicks Furber Scholarship was established in 1995 by Lila Hicks Furber, who graduated with a degree in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1926. After graduation, Lila became a teacher.

The Helen Black Bennett Memorial Scholarship was established by the donor, Penelope G. Sticha, in honor of her mother, in 1994.

The McMynn Williams Scholarship was established in 1997 to honor the transformative force of education for worthy students. Students who show academic promise will be chosen by the English Department.



Scholarships & Awards

The Ineva Baldwin-Helen C. White Award is presented to senior women majoring in the Humanities who exemplify the sterling character of Helen C. White, a great teacher and scholar in the Department of English at the University of Wisconsin, on the basis of academic standing and a deep interest in the life of the community. Donor Ineva Baldwin felt that recipients should have demonstrated their interest in sharing their humanistic culture with their families and community.

The Dorothy Classen Urish Scholarship was established by Jack Urish, a former English major at UW-Madison, in honor of his mother Dorothy, who was an English teacher in Stoughton, WI. The donor wishes to offer financial support toward the academic success of a senior English major.

The English Undergraduate Scholarship was established by Thomas J. and Barbara A. Johnson. It is awarded to an undergraduate English major who has shown how this award can support his or her academic success.

The Mary Brabyn Wackman Scholarships were established by Charline M. Wackman, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin in 1961, in honor of her mother, Mary Brabyn Wackman. Awards are based on academic merit and given to English majors who are Wisconsin residents specializing in literature.

The Vivian Mowry English Scholarships are funded through a trust established in 1963 by Vivian Mowry, a 1910 graduate of the University of Wisconsin. Awards are made to English majors on the basis of “scholastic proficiency and active participation in campus activities.”

✧ **Welcome & Opening Remarks** ✧

Russ Castronovo

Professor & English Department Chair

✧ **Director of Ceremonies** ✧

David Zimmerman

Professor & Undergraduate Director

✧ **Writing Prizes** ✧

✧ **Chesler Prize for Excellence in Writing** ✧

Monique Allewaert, Professor

Grace M. Hayes

“Active Absence: How Blank Space Adds to the Story”

Dr. Ronald Harris

Matthew A. Shelver

“Pursing Ascendancy: An Investigation of Arundhati Roy’s Commentary on the Organization of Power in the *God of Small Things*”

✧ **William F. Vilas Prizes** ✧

Richard Begam, Professor

Andrew C. Kressin

“On Gerald Cr(eye)ch: The Origin and Utilities of Will to Power”

Dr. Tracy Lemaster

Ana J. Komro

“Death, Regeneration, and the Bildungsroman”

✧ **James T. Lewis Prizes** ✧

Joshua Calhoun, Professor

Grant J. Jensen

“His Cruel Hand God, Death, and the English Sonnet Form”

Jordan Zweck, Professor; Leah Parker, TA

William McKinley

“The Lost City”

✧ **English Board of Visitors** ✧

Patricia A. Brady

Emily Brix

Alec Y. Chang

Alan Chesler

Peter Connor

Robert N. Eccles

Elissa R. Federoff

Robert S. Grossman

Sigurd B. Gundersen III

John H. Jankoff

Thomas J. Johnson III

Jane I. Katims

Ward A. Katz

Maurice A. Lee

Lester G. Lennon

Nancy Woolridge Oltman

William W. Reed

Nan F. Rubin

Jenna Smith

Peter Zeughauser

✧ **Closing Remarks** ✧

David Zimmerman, Professor and Undergraduate Director

With Gratitude

The Department of English wishes to recognize and thank the benefactors of the scholarships and awards we have granted today. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated. Private gifts of all sizes provide us with resources for meaningful enhancements to our program and support of our outstanding students. For more information on making a gift or including the Department in your estate plans, please contact:

Jill Way

University of Wisconsin Foundation

1848 University Avenue

Madison, WI 53708-8860

jill.way@supportuw.org

✧ **Department of English Distinguished Alumni Award** ✧

Ward A. Katz, Department of English Board of Visitors



Gillian Laub

The 2019 recipient of the University of Wisconsin English Department Distinguished Alumni Award is Gillian Laub.

Laub is a photographer and filmmaker based in New York. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1997 with a degree in comparative literature before studying photography at the International Center of Photography, where her love of and career in visual storytelling and family narratives began.

Laub has spent the last two decades investigating political conflicts, exploring family relationships, and challenging assumptions about cultural identity. Her work frequently addresses the experiences of adolescents and young adults in transition who struggle to understand their present moment and collective past.

Her first monograph, *Testimony* (Aperture 2007), began as a response to the media coverage during the second intifada in the Middle East, and a desire to create a dialogue between apparent enemies. Laub spent over a decade working in Georgia exploring issues of lingering racism in the American South. This work became Laub's first feature-length, directed and produced, documentary film, *Southern Rites* that premiered on HBO in May 2015. A New York Times review stated, "In a calm, understated tone, *Southern Rites* digs deep to expose the roots that have made segregated proms and other affronts possible. *Southern Rites* is a portrait of the inequities that lead to disaster on the streets of cities like Baltimore and Ferguson, Mo." Her monograph, *Southern Rites* (Damiani, 2015) and travelling exhibition by the same title came out in conjunction with the film and are being used for an educational outreach campaign in schools and institutions across the country. *Southern Rites* has been on display at UW's Chazen Museum of Art since January and will run through May 22. Laub participated in a discussion on campus in conjunction with a screening of *Southern Rites* on April 16th and will be giving a class at the Chazen to Dr. Sarah Wood's undergraduate literature students.

Laub and her work have been widely honored, interviewed, reported on, published and collected. She and her husband and two children reside in New York. <http://www.gillianlaub.com>. <https://www.icp.org/exhibitions/>

✧ **Writing Prizes** ✧

✧ **Standish Henning Shakespeare Prize** ✧

Dr. Joseph Bowling

Jennifer A. Sligh

"Voicing Lavinia: Transforming Pain and Restoring Eloquence in *Titus Andronicus*"

✧ **Data Analysis Prize** ✧

Anja Wanner, Professor

Lorelei M. Caylor

"Use of Formal Singular They/Their"

✧ **International Student Writing Awards** ✧

Shauna Crowther, Program in ESL

Cheng-Yu Liu (Direction of: Mary Wang)

Siqi (Suzy) Wu (Direction of: Shauna Crowther)

Taijing Chen (Direction of: Kristin Dalby)

Tzu-Hsuan (Ariel) Yang (Direction of: Mary Wang)



✧ Scholarships & Awards ✧

✧ The Helen C. White Award ✧

Dr. Karen Redfield, Undergraduate Advisor

Jessica K. Williams-Sullivan

✧ Dorothy Classen Urish Award ✧

Dr. Karen Redfield, Undergraduate Advisor

Ryan J. Mulrooney

✧ English Undergraduate Scholarship ✧

Dr. Karen Redfield, Undergraduate Advisor

Alexandra Pleasant

✧ Mary Brabyn Wackman Scholarships ✧

Martin Foys, Professor

Margaret A. Johnson

Emma J. Hinker

Patricia N. Oden

Julia C. Knecht

✧ Scholarships & Awards ✧

✧ Vivian Mowry English Scholarships ✧

Dr. Emily Hall, Writing Fellows Program

Alana Shabez

Zhiyun Zhao

Lauren E. Hartman

Erica Gelman

✧ Lila Hicks Furber Scholarship ✧

David Zimmerman, Professor & Undergraduate Director

Miranda P. Hogan

✧ Helen Black Bennett Memorial Scholarship ✧

David Zimmerman, Professor & Undergraduate Director

Karlee A Cholka

✧ McMynn Williams Scholarship ✧

David Zimmerman, Professor & Undergraduate Director

Sierra J. Bychowski

Mackenzie R. Berry

Mick T. Borchert