

Pauline B. Adamson Awards

GUIDELINES

**Submission Deadline:
Monday, April 5, 2021, 5:00 PM**

Online at Submittable:

<https://cmuenglish.submittable.com/submit/189065/2021-adamson-awards>

IMPORTANT: PLEASE ATTACH THE NAME OF THE CATEGORY YOU ARE SUBMITTING TO BEFORE THE TITLE OF YOUR PIECE.

FOR EXAMPLE, YOUR ENTRY WOULD SAY:
FICTION: “MIDNIGHT TRAIN” or POETRY: “ACID RAIN AND OTHER POEMS”---

(ETC....DEPENDING ON THE GENRE OF YOUR PIECE.)

See specific guidelines for each category below.

UNDERGRADUATES ONLY

Department of English

Writing Awards

Pauline B. Adamson Award Guidelines 2021

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Department of English

Writing Awards

The Adamson Awards

In 1983, Clarence H. Adamson, a graduate of Carnegie Tech, gave Carnegie Mellon University and the Department of English several gifts in memory of his wife, Pauline, who had died three years earlier. One of these gifts was the Adamson Scholarship for undergraduate women majoring in English. Another was the Adamson Awards for Writing and a fund for the support of an annual series of lectures by distinguished authors. And another was the Pauline B. Adamson Wing in Baker Hall, where the Adamson Awards ceremony is held every spring. The gifts were intended by Mr. Adamson as testimonials to the 35 years of companionship he shared with his wife and to her interest in education, language, and literature.

The Adamson Awards are intended to encourage students to pursue excellence in writing. The awards are open to undergraduate students only.

There are four categories for which you can submit your work:

1. Nonfiction - Essays and articles for popular/literary journals,
2. Fiction
3. Poetry
4. Screenplays

Department of English Writing Awards

The Adamson Awards

Prizes

At the discretion of the judges, monetary awards plus one honorable mention are given in each category to undergraduate students; \$300 is given for first prize, \$100 for second prize and \$50 for third prize.

Judging

Outside judges appointed by the Awards Committee of the English Department evaluate entries and choose the winners.

Eligibility

The Awards are open to all currently enrolled undergraduate students at Carnegie Mellon University.

Restrictions

To be considered for any category your work must be submitted by **Monday, April 4, 2021**. All submissions must be typed and all work must be original. All previous winning submissions for any of the awards offered by the English Department are ineligible. **Only one manuscript from each entrant can be accepted in each category. Entries cannot be returned.**

Presentation

The Adamson Awards presentation ceremony will take place at 4:30 PM on Friday, April 30, 2021 on Zoom. A link will be posted on the English Dept. website, and sent to undergraduate students. Winners are not notified ahead of time, so you should plan to attend the event.

Department of English

Writing Awards

Essays

Guidelines for Preparing Manuscripts for Nonfiction Stories/Essays

Eligibility

Open only to any currently registered undergraduate student at Carnegie Mellon University.

Format

1. Entries should follow style and format guidelines appropriate to the magazine to which the entry might be submitted. Entries should be written for a general audience: well- educated, but not specialist—readers of such magazines as *The New Yorker*, *Tin House*, *Granta*, *Creative Nonfiction*.
2. A title page should accompany the entry. Your name, address, the title of your submission, and the category (e.g. nonfiction) should appear on the title page. Your name should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript.
3. Maximum length is 25 pages. All manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, single-sided, with standard margins.
4. Pages of the entry should not be stapled together (paperclips, folders, and binder clips are acceptable). Pages should be numbered.

Department of English Writing Awards Fiction

Guidelines for Preparing Manuscripts for Fiction

Eligibility

Open to any currently registered undergraduate student at Carnegie Mellon University

Format

Entries for the Fiction category should follow the same guidelines that are followed when submitting such pieces for publication.

1. You may submit one story; entries must be typed, double-spaced, single-sided, with standard margins.
2. Maximum length for entries is 25 pages. Book-length manuscripts will not be considered.
3. A title page should accompany each entry. Your name, address, the title of your submission, and the category (e.g. nonfiction) should appear on the title page. Your name should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript.
4. Pages of the entry should not be stapled together (paperclips, folders, and binder clips are acceptable). Pages should be numbered.

Department of English

Writing Awards

Poetry

Guidelines for Preparing Manuscripts for Poetry

Eligibility

Open to any currently registered undergraduate student at Carnegie Mellon University.

Format

Entries in the Poetry category should follow the same guidelines that are followed when submitting such pieces for publication.

1. All work must be typed, single-spaced, single-sided, with standard margins.
2. The maximum submission is 10 pages of poetry (not 10 poems). No more than one poem per page. Book length manuscripts will not be considered.
3. A title page should accompany each entry (**NOT EACH POEM – EACH ENTRY**). Your name, address, the title(s) of your submission, and the category (e.g. nonfiction) should appear on the title page. Your name should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript.
4. Pages of the entry should not be stapled together (paperclips, folders, and binder clips are acceptable). Pages should be numbered.

**Students who submit a manuscript for poetry will automatically be eligible for the Academy of American Poets Prize.*

Department of English Writing Awards Screenplays

Guidelines for Preparing Manuscripts for Screenplays

Eligibility

Open to any currently registered undergraduate at Carnegie Mellon.

Format

Entries in this category should follow screenplay formatting guidelines.

1. All work must be typed according to the formatting guidelines in the genre in which you are working.
2. Either a complete short screenplay (up to 25 pages) or the first 25 pages of a feature-length screenplay. If you are submitting the first 25 pages of your feature length film you must also include a synopsis of your entire screen story. This should run about a page.
3. A title page should accompany submission. Your name, address, the title of your submission, and the category (e.g. nonfiction) should appear on the title page. Your name should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript.
4. Pages of the manuscript should not be stapled together (paperclips, folders, and binder clips are acceptable). Pages should be numbered.