Lois C. Bruner Creative Nonfiction Award 2018

All Western Illinois University undergraduates are welcome to submit their writing to the Lois C. Bruner Creative Nonfiction contest. Creative nonfiction can include essays about life experiences—though these may fit into any of the following categories: travelogue, memoir, biography, autobiography, nature writing, or cultural critique. Both voice and style will be weighed heavily in the judging. You may submit up an essay up to 5,000 words. Several cash prizes and honorable mentions will be awarded.

Submissions must be emailed to et-wurth@wiu.edu by March 2nd (in .doc or .docx). Entries must be typed, double-spaced. Make sure your name and contact information are printed on every page of your piece. Please also type the exact name of the contest you are entering on the first page. The final judge for the contest will be a professional writer. There will be an awards ceremony held and your work will automatically be published in Elements (the magazine of creative work that WIU’s English Department has been producing for over 50 years). Winning authors will be notified prior to this ceremony. All entrants and their friends and family are invited to participate in the celebration.

Cordell Larner Award in Fiction and Poetry 2018

Fiction writers and poets alike are invited to submit stories and poems for the Cordell Larner Award. All Western Illinois University undergraduates, regardless of major, are invited to submit up to 3 poems and/or one short story of up to 5,000 words to the contest, though the genres will be judged separately, and awarded cash prizes separately.

Submissions must be emailed to et-wurth@wiu.edu by March 2nd (in .doc or .docx). Fiction entries must be typed, double-spaced, poetry submissions single-spaced. Make sure your name and contact information are printed on every page of your piece. Please also type the exact name of the contest you are entering on the first page. The final judges for the contests will be professional writers. There will be an awards ceremony held and your work will automatically be published in Elements (the magazine of creative work that WIU’s English Department has been producing for over 50 years). Winning authors will be notified prior to this ceremony. All entrants and their friends and family are invited to participate in the celebration.