The annual Composition Program Writing Contest honors excellence in undergraduate writing by offering awards for thoughtfully crafted essays demonstrating ability to explore a subject’s complexity. Winners can receive prizes of up to $300.

Eligible essays:

Outstanding essays written for any composition course taken during Summer and Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 are eligible. Each writer may submit only one essay from each composition course completed during those designated terms. Writing may be revised before submission.

How to Prepare Your Essay for Submission:

Your essay title must appear at the top of your first page and also on your cover sheet. A copy of the assignment for which the paper was written must be attached to your submission. Neither your name nor that of your instructor may appear anywhere in your submission other than its cover sheet. That cover sheet must provide:

your essay’s title
your name, permanent mailing address, email address, home phone number, and student ID #
your instructor’s name and the name and CRN of the course for which the essay was written

How to Submit Your Work:

Two Forms of Submission are Required

1. Deliver one cover sheet, one signed permission form (copy below), and six “clean” hard copies (no instructor’s comments) of your essay, with the assignment attached to each hardcopy to the English Department, 526 CL (or by mail to the address below.) For multimodal compositions, deliver or mail one cover sheet, copy of assignment, and the signed permission sheet to the English Department. You may submit multimodal compositions via the most appropriate form of digital media: DVD, CD, flash drive, URL or electronic copy. For the first three of these media, provide six copies; for the latter two, follow step two below, including a note that this is the shareable copy of your submission.

   The Composition Program Writing Contest
   Department of English
   University of Pittsburgh
   Pittsburgh, PA 15260

2. Also submit one electronic copy of your essay, assignment, and cover sheet via a Word attachment sent to the Composition Program Administrative Assistant, Joseph Kluchurosky at jbk35@pitt.edu.

The submission deadline for Summer or Fall Term courses is January 30, 2015; for Spring Term courses, May 29, 2015. Entries for Summer, Fall, and Spring will be judged by a committee of Composition Program faculty, and winners will be notified in November 2015.

If you have questions, please contact Paul Kameen at pkameen@pitt.edu
Your entry to the Composition Program’s Writing Contest must be accompanied by this signed permission form.

The choices below involve several types of permission; in each situation you would be named as the essay’s author and retain copyright to your work. Please check all appropriate items and submit the form with your essay:

If the essay I’m submitting to the 2014-2015 Composition Contest receives an award or honorable mention, the Composition Program may use my writing in all the ways I have checked below:

___ My entire essay or praiseworthy excerpts may appear on the Composition Program’s website, along with commentary on the writing’s strengths by the Awards Subcommittee.

___ My entire essay may be made available to Composition Program faculty, either in print form or in a password-protected online faculty-development site.

___ My entire essay may be used as basis for class discussion or writing assignments in Composition Program courses.

___ I would prefer that my essay not be used by the Composition Program, either online or in print.

Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Print Your Name Here _______________________________________________________________________

Permanent Address and Telephone Number:
_________________________________________________________________________________________
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Although the Composition Program obviously welcomes the opportunity to celebrate award-winning undergraduate writing on its website and to make such essays available for teacher-development and classroom use, please be assured that your choices on this form will not affect contest outcomes. All permission forms will be retained by the Program’s Administrative Assistant until the judging process has been completed.