Description

The Virginia G. Piper Creative Research Fellowship for MFA Creative Writing students is a merit-based fellowship that is awarded each year to one full-time Master of Fine Arts student in Creative Writing, who is focusing on the completion of a creative manuscript in fiction or poetry. At the time of the application deadline, the applicant must be a 2nd year student; students in their 1st or 3rd year of the program are ineligible to apply.

The Thesis Fellowship provides a summer stipend of $5,000. It will not include tuition or health insurance. This award is intended to provide financial support for a student engaged in the final writing stages of their graduate program, allowing the student to focus on writing. If an applicant intends to work part-time over the summer, reasoning for this must be included in detail in the vision and impact statement. Students who intend to work full-time over the summer will not be considered eligible for this award, though exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

A student cannot receive both a Piper Global Fellowship and a Piper Creative Research Fellowship in the same year, as both fellowships are intended to assist with living expenses while writing during the summer break. If a candidate is highly ranked for both fellowships, he or she will be given the opportunity to choose between the two awards.

To be eligible, the nominee must be:

• In good academic standing
• On track to finish their MFA degree by the end of the Spring 2019 semester.

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Applicants must submit the following:

• Synopsis/abstract (maximum 2 paragraphs, single-spaced)
  o This should be a brief summary of your manuscript project, and the work or research you are planning for it during the fellowship period.

• Vision and impact statement (2-3 pages, single-spaced)
  o This should be a detailed, structured proposal for how this fellowship award would support your manuscript work over the summer.

• 10-page writing sample (poetry or fiction)

• Letter of recommendation (ideally from the students’ faculty advisor, though another committee member can provide this if the advisor is unavailable)

All submissions and references are due by Tuesday, October 17th, 2017.

Submit documentation to amdell@asu.edu in one Word doc. or PDF file no later than 11:59 PM on 10/17/17. Files should be titled “LastName Research Fellowship” (ex: Smith Research Fellowship). Please include “CW THESIS FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION” in the email’s subject line.

Letters of recommendation may be sent via email from the faculty advisor directly to amdell@asu.edu, or may be printed and signed on official letterhead, and included as part of the student’s submission.

Independent judges, external to ASU, will determine the recipient. The fellowship award will be announced by Friday, December 15th, 2017 and the award will be dispersed in summer 2018.