The University of Pittsburgh Department of English Announces the 2025-2026 COMPOSITION PROGRAM WRITING AWARDS

The Composition Program Writing Awards honor excellence in undergraduate writing by offering prizes for thoughtfully crafted essays and digital projects demonstrating ability to explore a subject's complexity. Undergraduates can compete for the **Ossip Award for Excellence in Seminar in Composition** or the **Award for Excellence in Public and Professional Writing Courses**. Winners can receive prizes of up to $300.

Eligible Essays:

- Outstanding essays or digital projects are eligible if they are written for any composition course taken during Summer and Fall 2025 and Spring 2026.
- The judging committee particularly encourages submissions that work directly with texts or sources.
- Each writer may submit only one essay or project from each composition course completed during the designated terms.
- Writing may be revised before submission.

How to Submit: Submissions are on Qualtrics.

The following are required to submit an essay:

1. Fully completing the Qualtrics form, including all attachments per this guide.
2. Anonymized Essay
   - Your essay title should appear at the top of the first page.
   - Remove your name and your instructor's name from the entire essay.
   - .doc, .docx, .pdf, .mp3 or .mp4 documents only. Do not share a link.
   - If you have questions about submitting multimodal or digital projects, please contact Chair of the Composition Awards Committee, Maureen Gallagher, at cmpaward@pitt.edu.
3. An anonymized copy of the Assignment
   - Provide a copy of the assignment for which the paper was written but *remove* the instructor's name.
   - .doc, .docx or .pdf documents only. Do not share a link.

Failure to adhere to submission guidelines may result in a disqualified entry.
If you have questions, please contact Maureen Gallagher at cmpaward@pitt.edu.
The Qualtrics form may be found at:
https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Dy4auYp2cl78jk

Submission Deadlines:

For Summer or Fall 2025 courses: Dec 31, 2025. For Spring 2026 courses: May 31, 2026.
Entries will be judged by a faculty commi7ee. Winners will be notified in December 2026.