

Call for Spring 2025 Creative Knights Awards Submissions

AWARD ELIGIBILITY AND DETAILS

The Creative Knights Awards (previously, the Arts and Media Awards) are a series of awards honoring the best creative producers throughout the MU campus.

All Marian, St. Joe, and Ancilla undergraduate students are welcome to apply for the awards below, regardless of major.

Applicants retain all rights to their work. Winning works are not published, so students are welcome to submit pieces under consideration for publication or circulation elsewhere (or that they intend to publish or circulate in the future).

Questions about awards should be directed to Dr. Jackie Liu (pliu@marian.edu).

SPRING 2025 AWARD INSTRUCTIONS

1. Email all entries to mdcawards@marian.edu by **11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 23, 2025**.
2. Identify the award category you're applying for in your email's subject line (for example, "Creative Knights Poetry Award Entry").
3. **Only one entry per category is allowed per person.** If applying for multiple contests, submit each entry as a separate email, such as one email for the poetry award and one email for the photography award.
4. Award finalists will be notified in April and invited to the Arts and Media Showcase award ceremony.

SPRING 2025 AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

Writing Awards

Award in Critical Essay Writing: Submit up to twenty pages (not including the Works Cited pages) of literary, archival, linguistic, cultural, social, musical, artistic, and/or historical analysis. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Poetry: Submit up to ten pages of poetry in any style. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. Entries will be ranked by a Marian University faculty member or a published author outside Marian University.

Award in Short Fiction: Submit up to ten pages of short fiction. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. Entries will be ranked by a Marian University faculty member or a published author outside Marian University.

Award in Nonfiction: Submit up to ten pages of creative nonfiction or journalism. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. Entries will be ranked by a Marian University faculty member or a published author outside Marian University.

Media Production Awards

Award in Photography: Submit a zip file that contains 1) a series of up to five photographs that explore a specific theme/topic and 2) a Microsoft Word document (1-2 pages) explaining the concepts/emotions behind the photography series. The contestant must create all materials. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Podcasting: Submit a zip file that includes 1) a .mp3 file of one podcast episode of a podcast show (up to 20 minutes in length) and 2) a Microsoft Word essay (1-2 pages) that summarizes the episode's content and explains its overall goal, purpose, or inspiration. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Video Production: Submit a zip file that contains the following items: 1) A video in the format of .mp4. The length of the video should range from 30 seconds (00:30:00) to 15 minutes (15:00:00). The genre of the video can range from PSA, advertisement, vlog, documentary, newsreels, short films, and so on. 2) A Microsoft Word document (1-2 pages) that explains the video's background, purpose, and intention. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A review panel of Marian University faculty members will rank entries.

Art and Design Awards

Award in 2D Art: Submit a zip file that contains 1) a series of up to five images of paintings, drawings, collages, sketches, mixed media, etc., that explore a specific theme/topic and 2) a Microsoft Word essay (1-2 pages) that interprets the concepts/emotions behind the 2D art series. The contestant must create all materials. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in 3D Art: Submit a zip file that contains 1) a series of up to five images of sculptures, reliefs, ceramics pieces/pottery, papercrafts, glasswork, installations, etc., that explore a specific theme/topic and 2) a Microsoft Word essay (1-2 pages) that interprets the concepts/emotions behind the 3D art series. The contestant must create all materials. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Graphic Design: Submit a zip file that contains 1) a series of up to five images of digital media such as posters, logos, icons, illustration, animation, etc. that explore a specific theme/topic and 2) a Microsoft Word essay (1-2 pages) that interprets the concepts/designs behind the series. The contestant must create all materials. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank the entries.

Theater Awards

Award in Acting: Submit a two-minute video recording of yourself performing two contrasting monologues or one monologue and 16 measures of a song. Be sure to introduce yourself, the name of the show and its author, and the name of the character you will be portraying. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Technical Theatre & Design: Submit a digital portfolio/ slideshow of your work. For stage management, submit a digital version of a prompt book including a written statement explaining the contents along with a bibliography of contents. For design and other technical arts including sound design, submit a digital portfolio/ slideshow of a real or hypothetical design for a production and include an introduction and explanation of contents, concept statement, research, sketches, renderings/ drafting/ paperwork, and pictures of the final designs (if applicable). Sound designs should have links to external sound files stored in OneDrive or Google Drive. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Music Awards

Award in Instrumental Performance: Submit a 2-3 minute video recording of yourself performing one song in a solo setting. (You may use accompaniment, such as a piano, recorded accompaniment, or a small ensemble.) The video should include an introduction slide that includes your NAME, YEAR IN SCHOOL, INSTRUMENT, NAME OF THE SONG, AND COMPOSER. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.

Award in Vocal Performance: Submit a 2-3 minute video recording of yourself performing one song in a solo setting. (You may use accompaniment, such as a piano, recorded accompaniment, or a small ensemble.) The video should include an introduction slide that includes your NAME, YEAR IN SCHOOL, VOCAL RANGE, NAME OF THE SONG, AND COMPOSER. First place will receive \$75, second place will receive \$50, and third place will receive \$25. A Marian University faculty member will rank entries.