The Cécile E. Mactaggart Travel Award for Narrative Writing
FAQs
Undergraduate Students – 2019

General:

When will the winners be notified?
The winners will be notified before May 1, 2020. Please do not call the Dean’s Office to check if you have won. Every entrant will receive an e-mail, letter or phone call, indicating whether his/her entry was selected as the winner.

If I win, will my entry be published anywhere?
The winner of the Cécile E. Mactaggart Travel Award for Narrative Writing will be displayed on the Faculty of Arts website.

Will the judges know who wrote each entry?
No, all identifying information (e.g. name, ID number) is removed from the entries before they are submitted to the judges. The only part of the application form that the judges will see is your description of travel plans. Nevertheless, the application form MUST be fully completed and included with your entry.

Eligibility:

If I am in an Arts class, but I am registered in a Faculty other than Arts (i.e. Arts is not my home Faculty), can I enter the competition?
No. This competition is available strictly to undergraduate students registered in the Faculty of Arts.

Entrants must be full-time undergraduate students. What is the definition of “full time”?
“Full time” means you will complete at least 9 credits of course weight (*) in the Fall Term of the competition year or that you were registered in a work experience program through the Faculty of Arts during the competition term.

Can I enter the competition if I am graduating this December?
Yes. You can enter if you are registered as a full-time student in the Faculty of Arts, in the current semester (Fall).

If am working on an after-degree, can I enter the competition?
Yes.

If I am a special student, a visiting student or a graduate student, can I enter the competition?
No. Special students, visiting students and graduate student are not eligible to enter the competition.

If I have previously won this competition, am I eligible?
No.
Entries:

Are there any limitations about the topic of my submission?
There are no limitations – you may write on any topic; however, it is your responsibility to ensure that information is properly referenced.

Can I write a play, screenplay, or any other type of script?
No. This is strictly a short-story composition competition.

Can I write my submission in a language other than English?
No. Submissions must be written in English.

Does my submission have to be written specifically for this competition?
Yes.

Will I be able to submit my entry to publications, following the competition?
If you are selected as the winner of the competition, the Faculty of Arts reserves the first right of refusal to publish your submission. If you are not the winner, you are free to do as you wish with your writing, once the winner has been selected.

Can two people submit a co-authored piece?
No. Each submission must be authored by a single person with no outside input.

Can I provide you with artwork, video or recordings as a complement to my writing?
No. This is solely a writing competition.

What if my word count isn’t between 2,500 and 3,500 words?
Your entry will be disqualified. There are no exceptions to this rule, no matter how close you are to the word count limitations.

Which parts of my entry should count towards the word count?
Word count should NOT include the title, author’s name or information from the application form. Footnotes SHOULD be included in the word count; however, please note you are not obligated to include footnotes if your submission does not warrant them.

The Winner’s Trip:

What types of travel expenses are covered by the prize money?
This award is intended to reimburse expenses related to travel up to $12,000. If you are the winner you will receive an advance but will be required to provide receipts and evidence of travel. Typical travel expenses include flights, accommodations, tours and food. Items such as cameras, souvenirs and communication devices (e.g. cell phones or laptops) will not be covered by the prize money.
Can I use the prize money to pay for someone to accompany me on my trip?
Yes, but you must indicate this in your travel plans on your application letter. You cannot add a travelling companion once the application has been submitted.

Where can I travel with the prize money?
You may use the prize money to travel anywhere in the world, as long as it is outside of Canada and the United States (with the exception of travel above the tree line or to Antarctica).

Are there tax implications for my Award?
Potentially. The University will issue a T4A based on the calendar year the award is paid. Applicable income taxes may be applied by Canada Revenue Agency as per the Income Tax Act.

When does my travel need to take place?
Recipients have two years from the date the award has been announced to complete their travel.