



MAIER AWARDS CEREMONY



APRIL 22 | 2021



2021
MAIER AWARDS PROGRAM

WELCOME & REMARKS ABOUT THE MAIER AWARDS
Dean Robert Bookwalter

PRESENTATION OF THE MAIER LATIN AWARDS
Dr. Del Chrol

PRESENTATION OF THE MAIER WRITING AWARDS
Dr. Allison Carey

WILLIAM J. MAIER, JR. AND THE LEGACY OF PHILANTHROPY



William J. Maier, Jr.

“Live frugally and accumulate fortune honestly as rapidly as you can. When you have enough to provide a modest standard of living... turn to the world around you and seek diligently to find where you can invest the surplus of time and fortune to do the most good.” These are the words of advice of William J. Maier, Jr., a lesson of philanthropy he learned from his parents and has instilled in his family. Mr. Maier was extremely generous to the College of Liberal Arts through his support of the Writing and Latin awards. His son, Ed, and his family have maintained the tradition of patronage through the work of the Maier Foundation. Indeed, many people in the great state of West Virginia have benefited from the selfless support of this tireless family.

Born in 1903 in Harrison County, West Virginia, Mr. Maier enjoyed the guidance of a family who valued education. Indeed, he proved himself to be an able student, graduating from Huntington High School in 1919 at the age of 16. Before continuing his education at college, he spent time with a tutor perfecting his command of Latin. When satisfied with his accomplishment, he applied to and received admittance with a full scholarship to Harvard, where he continued to excel as a student. His work at Harvard led to a Rhodes scholarship that allowed him to study at Oxford University. Mr. Maier then taught undergraduate courses at Harvard while completing a law degree at the school.

Returning to his native West Virginia, Mr. Maier used his quick wit, knowledge of law, and business sense to develop a notable business portfolio.

Living by his own advice, he created a charitable foundation that bears his name and turned his attention to using his wealth for the benefit of others. A graduate of Marshall University, Ed Maier often notes that “My father had nine years of the finest education money could buy ... and he did it on other people’s money.” The observation is a testimonial to the value of the financial contributions made by the Maier Foundation to our students. The support they give helps another generation realize the value of higher education, in particular the study of language and the necessity of writing well. Marshall University and the College of Liberal Arts are proud to be a part of the great legacy of the Maier family. Until his recent retirement, Ed attended each of these annual ceremonies to present the awards himself.



Ed Maier



THE MAIER LATIN SIGHT-TRANSLATION CONTEST

The Maier Latin Sight-Translation Contest was created in 1992. Students from each of the four levels of Latin secondary instruction compete by translating at sight passages of Latin appropriate to their levels of instruction.

Each high school may select one student to compete at each level. Winners are determined on the basis of fluency and accuracy.

MAIER LATIN SIGHT-TRANSLATION CONTEST WINNERS

LATIN I

FIRST PLACE

Caroline Martin
The Linsly School

Teacher: Rebecca Brogan-Johnson

SECOND PLACE

Gabriella Lewis
Huntington High School
Teacher: Amy McElroy

THIRD PLACE

Jacob Brown
Charleston Catholic
Teacher: Matthew Hale

LATIN III

FIRST PLACE

Xavier Fankhouser
The Linsly School
Teacher: Tyler Bickford

SECOND PLACE

Hayden Carriger
Charleston Catholic High School
Teacher: Matthew Hale

THIRD PLACE

Alexandra Biddle
Huntington High School
Teacher: Amy McElroy

LATIN II

FIRST PLACE

Katherine Kastelic
The Linsly School
Teacher: Tyler Bickford

SECOND PLACE

Samara Harrison
Charleston Catholic High School
Teacher: Matthew Hale

THIRD PLACE

Grace Shaffer
Covenant School
Teacher: Franklin Norton

LATIN IV

FIRST PLACE

Liam Gue
Classical Conversations
Teacher: Lois Merritt

SECOND PLACE

Marlee Johns
The Linsly School
Teacher: Tyler Bickford

THIRD PLACE

Ben McElroy
Huntington High School
Teacher: Amy McElroy

THE MAIER LATIN SCHOLARSHIP

The Department of Classics at Marshall University sponsors the Maier Latin Scholarship, generously underwritten by the Maier Foundation. The scholarship is intended to support the work of a student presently pursuing a Latin major and enrolled in advanced Latin classes.

2021 MAIER LATIN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Celeste Maddy

Celeste is the Latin Major with the most outstanding academic record for the 2020-2021 academic year.





THE MAIER LATIN CUP AWARDS COMPETITION

For the past 43 years, the Maier Foundation has graciously funded the Maier Latin Cup Awards Competition, which is administered by the Department of Classics at Marshall University. These awards have three purposes: 1) celebrating publicly the best high-school Latin students in the state of West Virginia, 2) recognizing the effective teaching being carried out by high school Latin teachers in the state in a difficult academic subject, and 3) emphasizing the importance of Latin and Roman Studies in the current curriculum in secondary education. As far as can be ascertained, this contest is unique among Classics departments across the country.

The Maier Latin Cup Awards were established by William J. Maier, Jr., in 1979 to repay in some way the special attention his Latin teacher at Huntington High School showed him, for it was this extra devotion to Latin and Latin students on the part of his teacher that helped him secure a scholarship to Harvard University. Each high school that offers Latin in the state, public as well as private, is encouraged to select two students currently enrolled in Second-Year Latin to take the College Board Latin Achievement Examination in December each year. Upon the basis of scores earned on this test, cash prizes are awarded to three place-holders. The first-place winner receives the additional honor of having his/her name engraved on the Marshall University Latin Cup, displayed the following academic year at the winner's high school, and these names are posted in perpetuity in the Classics Seminar Room.

THE MAIER LATIN CUP AWARDS COMPETITION

WINNER

Andrew Boggess
St. Albans High School
Teacher: Melissa Agee

RUNNER-UP

Abigail Cogar
Classical Conversations
Teacher: Heather Peck

SECOND RUNNER-UP

Kristen Sayre
St. Albans High School
Teacher: Melissa Agee

THE WILLIAM J. MAIER WRITING AWARDS

These awards are a tribute to good writing as the winning essays, stories, and poems represent the best student work from Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2020. These prizes are a unique honor that affirms the students' dedication to what is the single most important skill that they can develop in college: the ability to write well.

Mr. William J. Maier, Jr., created the competition in 1972 after reading Dr. John Teel's National Review article describing the freshman composition classes taught at Marshall University. In that essay, Dr. Teel argued that students are best served when they read and then write about the great works of the humanities that are the foundation of the liberal arts. Great writing is evidence that one has the ability to learn from reading, to analyze and form conclusions by comparing and contrasting ideas and to share these insights with others through clear writing. The award is named in honor of Mr. Maier's father.

The goals Mr. Maier established for this competition were simple. First, he wanted to reward good writing and provide an incentive for students to develop their skills. Second, he wanted to provide financial support for Marshall University students. Indeed, the awards have always fostered competition and camaraderie that make the skills of writing, a necessary and a basic educational task, more attractive to students, faculty, administrators, and the general public. We are proud to maintain the legacy that Mr. Maier created and to celebrate the work of our students and the dedication of our faculty.

During the typical year, more than 1,500 students complete the second portion of the first-year composition sequence. The upper-level and graduate courses also enjoy robust enrollments. The number of students eligible to participate in this competition makes the accomplishment of the students honored today impressive. The College of Liberal Arts and the Department of English are proud to offer these prestigious awards to students of Marshall University.



FIRST-YEAR RESEARCH WRITING

Judge: Cat Staley

FIRST PLACE

“*Spirited Away*, with Respect to Time”

By: Joshua Maddy

Sponsor: Professor Nicole Lawrence

SECOND PLACE

“The Inherent Romanticism of Memory in Kar-Wai’s *In the Mood for Love*”

By: Hibba Chaudhry

Sponsor: Professor Nicole Lawrence

THIRD PLACE

“The Future of Video Game Preservation: Pirates or Proprietors”

By: Cameron Campbell

Sponsor: Professor Nathan Rucker

UPPER-DIVISION AND GRADUATE CRITICAL WRITING

Judge: Jane Hill

FIRST PLACE

“Gene Editing, Designer Humans, and the Will to Live: A Glitch Analysis of *Blade Runner*”

By: James Hoyle

Sponsor: Dr. Kristen Lillvis

SECOND PLACE

“Manifestations of Trauma: A Critical Analysis of *The Haunting of Hill House*”

By: Jacqueline Turley

Sponsor: Dr. Walter Squire

THIRD PLACE

“Rural Erasure of the Subaltern: An Analysis of Denigration and Displacement of Black Bodies in White Narrative Histories”

By: Delana Price

Sponsor: Dr. Allison Carey

FIRST-YEAR NON-RESEARCH WRITING

Judge: Mallory Carpenter

FIRST PLACE

“A Defense of the *DOOMed*”

By: O'Dell Tucker

Sponsor: Dr. Forrest Roth

SECOND PLACE

“Work in Progress”

By: Dana Dawley

Sponsor: Professor Stephanie Walker

THIRD PLACE

“Processing Information with a Learning Disability”

By: William 'Oran' Logan

Sponsor: Dr. Robert Ellison

FICTION

Judge: Rajia Hassib

FIRST PLACE

“Every Family”

By: Julia Wu

Sponsor: Professor Daniel O'Malley

SECOND PLACE

“Rule Number 1: Never Leave the Church”

By: Molly O'Callaghan

Sponsor: Dr. Anthony Viola

THIRD PLACE

“Dogpile”

By: Olivia Lewis

Sponsor: Professor Daniel O'Malley

POETRY

Judge: Daniel Lassell

FIRST PLACE

“essay on liminality”

By: RaJon Staunton

Sponsor: Professor Nicole Lawrence

SECOND PLACE

“Every Family; Haircut; Cats”

By: Julia Wu

Sponsor: Professor Daniel O'Malley

THIRD PLACE

“Post Mortem”

By: Wade Sullivan

Sponsor: Professor Nicole Lawrence

TECHNICAL/WORKPLACE WRITING

Judge: Uyi Lawani

FIRST PLACE

“Solutions for Vacant and Dilapidated Buildings in Huntington, West Virginia”

By: Harrison Letchford & Michel Duvillage

Sponsor: Professor Erika Arivett

SECOND PLACE

“Comparative Analysis to Determine Which is More Efficient in Protecting Cabell Huntington Hospital Workers from SARS-CoV-2, Surgical Masks or N95 Respirators?”

By: Craig Brumfield

Sponsor: Professor Nathan Rucker

THIRD PLACE

“Comparative Analysis to Determine Which is a Better Sleep Aid: Ambien or Medical Marijuana?”

By: Cece Robey

Sponsor: Professor Nathan Rucker

CREATIVE NONFICTION

Judge: Tanya Bomsta

FIRST PLACE

“Case Study: Movement”

By: Julia Wu

Sponsor: Dr. Rachael Peckham

SECOND PLACE

“At a Loss”

By: Kathryn Porter

Sponsor: Dr. Rachael Peckham

THIRD PLACE

“Tell Me A Story”

By: Miranda Smith

Sponsor: Dr. Rachael Peckham

MULTIMEDIA

Judge: Laura Sonderman

FIRST PLACE

“Transformation, Suffering, and the Body”

By: Lily Jurskis

Sponsored by: Dr. John Young

SECOND PLACE

“Our Haunted Bones: A Personal and Lyrical Exploration of the Racist Legacy of The War on Drugs”

By: RaJon Staunton

Sponsored by: Dr. Kristen Lillvis

THIRD PLACE

“Prions: The Proteins that Changed Medicine and Ruined Cannibalism (Wait, What Now? Episode 1)”

By: Ean Bills

Sponsored by: Dr. Rachael Peckham

**200-LEVEL CRITICAL
WRITING**

Judge: Whitney Naylor-Smith

FIRST PLACE

“The Struggle Against Gender Roles in
The Harry Potter Franchise”

By: Julian Lahdelma-Sanderson

Sponsor: Professor Kathryn Thompson

SECOND PLACE

“The Role and Treatment of Artificial
Lifeforms in Star Wars” By: Madelyn
Ross

Sponsor: Dr. Britton Lumpkin

THIRD PLACE

“The Panopticon Ploy in *The Hunger
Games*”

By: Katie Murphy

Sponsor: Professor Sabrina Jones



2021 JUDGES

After graduating from Marshall University, **Tanya Bomsta** went on to earn her MFA from Ohio State University. Her essays have been published in *The Iowa Review*, *Pleiades*, *deceMBER*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Florida Review*, and other publications. In 2019, she won an Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Award.

Mallory Carpenter is Marshall University's Program Manager for the Office of National Scholarships (ONS) and is a Co-Dean of the West Virginia Governor's Honors Academy. She earned her BA in English from the University of Charleston, then went on to earn her MA in English from Ohio University. Mallory has been involved on Marshall's campus since 2010, originally teaching as a faculty member in the English Department. As the ONS Program Manager, Mallory assists Marshall students in applying for major scholarships and has helped many students to success, including winners for Fulbright Summer Institutes and the Boren Scholarship. Mallory is interested in contemporary literature and loves helping students from low socio-economic backgrounds succeed. In her free time, Mallory spends time with her husband, son, and pets. She enjoys reading and Netflix binges.

Rajia Hassib earned her BA and MA in English at Marshall University, where her love of writing was nurtured and given room to grow. Her first novel, *In the Language of Miracles*, was published in 2015 by Viking (Penguin) and was a New York Times Editors' Choice. Her second novel, *A Pure Heart*, was published in 2019, also by Viking. As a student, she was the proud recipient of several Maier Awards. She continues to be grateful to the Maier Foundation for its support of writers.

Jane Hill is a former professor and chair of English at the University of West Georgia and Marshall University. She has published both creative as well as critical work, most often about contemporary literature and film. Reading the submissions in this category has been exhilarating; she is extremely proud of the faculty and students in MU's English program and sad there are not enough prizes to reward all the good work being done.

Daniel Lassell won a William J. Maier Writing Award for his poetry in 2013. His work has since appeared in the *Colorado Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, *River Styx*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *The Pinch*, *Crab Orchard Review*, and elsewhere. He is the author of *Spit*, winner of the 2020 Wheelbarrow Books Emerging Poetry Prize selected by Gabrielle Calvocoressi, as well as *Ad Spot*, a chapbook from Ethel Zine & Micro Press. He grew up in Kentucky and lives in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Dr. Uyi Lawani has been a university teacher since 2006. He is currently an Associate Professor of Strategic Management in the Lewis College of Business at Marshall University. He has previously been an Assistant Professor of Business at Concordia University, Wisconsin. He earned a PhD in Strategy and Economics as a Toulouse Fellow at the University of North Texas. He holds an MBA in Finance from East Carolina University and a BSc in Microbiology from the University of Benin in his native Nigeria. He started his career as a soldier in the Nigerian Army, after which he worked as a Research and Development Chemist in UACN which was Nigeria's biggest business conglomerate at the time, and then as a banking executive in a couple of Nigerian banks. Dr. Lawani is a lifelong learner and is always excited about the discovery of new knowledge and ideas.

Whitney Naylor-Smith is a Marshall graduate with BA and MA degrees in English and an MA in Teaching. During her time at Marshall, Whitney was a five-time recipient of the Maier Writing Award. She currently teaches dual-credit English at Hurricane High School.

Laura Sonderman taught for five years at Marshall University and completed three years of a comparative literature PhD program at UNC Chapel Hill before moving to Tennessee with her husband. She is currently on a teaching hiatus, spending time with her nine-month-old son.

Cat Staley graduated from Marshall University in 2010 with a BA in English and Political Science and in 2012 with an MA in English. After teaching first- and second-year composition at Marshall for a wonderful two years, she went on to earn her MS in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. She is now a trainer with the National Library of Medicine specializing in instructional design, information seeking, and locating drug and chemical information. She lives in Baltimore, MD with her husband, David Robinson, a fellow Marshall English department alum, and their 11-year-old puggle, Lily.

The Maier Foundation, Inc.,

In collaboration with Marshall University College of Liberal Arts,
the Department of English, and the Department of Classics