The Friends of University Libraries of Bowling Green State University have established the Undergraduate Research Awardto recognize excellence in undergraduate student research and writing at Bowling Green State University. The award encourages scholarly and creative research and promotes the use of University Libraries’ collections, particularly the use of primary sources.

**Eligibility**

Submitted papers must represent work completed for a class or independent study in any field within the 18 months prior to the application deadline and while enrolled as an undergraduate student at Bowling Green State University.

Papers must include original research, which could include using primary sources from the University Libraries. Special Collections at the University Libraries with substantial primary sources include: the Curriculum Resource Center, the Music Library and Sound Recordings Library, the Ray & Pat Browne Library for Popular Culture Studies, the Center for Archival Studies, or the Government Documents collection.

*What is a primary source?*   
A primary source is a record of an event, an occurrence, or a time period produced by a participant or observer at the time. Typically, one thinks of primary sources as unique documents or manuscript material (such as letters, diaries, journals, writings, speeches, photographs, scrapbooks, etc.), or the historic records (archives) of an organization (such as correspondence, memoranda, minutes, annual reports, etc.). Primary sources may also include government documents, artwork, artifacts, maps, music, audiovisual materials (film, audio and video tape), and electronic computer files.

Submitted papers must be original manuscripts and must not have been published or submitted elsewhere.

Papers with more than one author will be accepted, but all authors must have been undergraduate students when the paper was written.

Papers must be at least 5 but no more than 30 pages in length, including footnotes or end notes.

**The Award**

The selected author(s) will receive an award of $250. If there are co-authors, the award will be evenly divided among the authors. Each winner will receive a certificate. All winning papers will be added to ScholarWorks, the University Libraries digital institutional repository.

**Evaluation Criteria**

Demonstrate significant growth as a scholar in describing their methods of research and analysis.

Originality of thought, mastery of content appropriate to class level, clear writing, and overall quality of presentation.

**Applications**

Applications shall be submitted electronically by March 20, 2015 to [libfriends@bgsu.edu](mailto:libfriends@bgsu.edu) with “Research Contest” in the subject line. Email [libfriends@bgsu.edu](mailto:libfriends@bgsu.edu) with any questions.

The application package must include:

1. a cover page, stating the author's name, contact information, and academic affiliation;
2. Library Resources & Scholarly Development Essay -- Minimum 250 word essay describing the specific library resources used, research strategies & process, and the author’s development as a scholar.  Essays should also detail any assistance received from instructors, writing consultants, or librarians. The essay will be given substantial weight in the review process.
3. the paper, carrying no author identification;
4. a letter of endorsement from the faculty member for whose class the paper was written. Please see the attached Instructor Recommendation Form.

**Review committee**

A panel of faculty and community experts will evaluate the anonymous entries.

**Selection of the Awardee**

If runners-up are designated, they will receive letters of "honorable mention."

In the absence of qualified applications, the Friends of University Libraries may make no awards.

**Presentation of the Award**

The award shall be announced and presented to the winning author at the annual **Authors and Artists Celebration** on April 16.

Application Cover Page

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Name:

Student ID #

Major:

Title of paper/project:

Mailing address:

Phone:

Email:

Expected date of graduation:

Name of course for which this work was completed:

Department and course number:

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| If selected as an award recipient, I agree that my research may be published on the website of the University Libraries.  I agree that this paper will become the property of the Library; winning papers will be added to the permanent collection of the University Archives.  If selected as an award recipient, I agree that the University Libraries and Bowling Green State University may announce me as the winner of the contest in their promotional literature and their websites.  Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Faculty Endorsement

Your Name:

Your Department:

Name of applicant:

Title of paper/project:

For what class did the applicant write this paper?

Any additional comments:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for submitting this endorsement which will be useful in selecting award recipients.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this endorsement form or the Friends of University Libraries Undergraduate Research Award, please contact us at [libfriends@bgsu.edu](mailto:libfriends@bgsu.edu)