

## Fall 2017 Spencer Portfolio Award

To be awarded in memory of Gertrude Spencer.

This prize will be awarded jointly to a graduate student First-Year Writing Seminar instructor and to the student in recognition of excellence in the development of a portfolio of the student's essays. Publication of an essay in *Discoveries* is also possible; essays without accurate documentation might not be so considered.

A portfolio is a collection of work characterized by selection and reflection. Each essay should be presented in its final polished form. (No drafts and no notes should be included.) A student's portfolio (including a minimum of four essays) might display the growth in writing ability over the course of the semester; it might show the excellence of the student's work in a variety of modes of writing; or it might display the excellence and development of a student's work with a particular topic.

To enter this contest, the student and instructor should submit, in portfolio form, the following material, each of which is a significant part of the application:

- a) The essays, including (where appropriate) **complete and accurate documentation in an accepted format.**
- b) The instructor's prompt (i.e. essay assignments) for each of the essays.
- c) Two statements, one from the instructor, one from the student, each explaining the significance of the portfolio. The student's reflective essay of 2–4 pages should include critique of the portfolio as a whole and of each essay, making clear the student's insights into herself or himself as a writer.

Only one entry can be submitted from each class.

The amount of the prize will be \$350 to the graduate student instructor and \$350 to his/her student (honorable mentions, if any, will receive \$125 each).

Submissions are due in 101 McGraw Hall by Thursday, December 14. No exceptions can be made.  
**Undergraduate writers may not submit the same essay for more than one prize.**

## Fall 2017 Spencer Portfolio Award Application

~Please Print Clearly. Do **not** staple. Use paper clips only.~

Instructor's name \_\_\_\_\_ Instr e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_ Course # and title \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_

Local address \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Local telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Cornell) \_\_\_\_\_

Home address (street, city, state, zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID number \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I may submit this essay for only one prize for the current semester.** Should I win a prize, I give the John S. Knight Institute permission to publish, quote from, and/or distribute copies of the materials submitted, and to distribute publicity to newspapers and other publications, local and/or national, about my winning the prize. I am prepared to send electronic versions of my text (not a PDF, but an editable text document) to Donna Newton ([dlo1@cornell.edu](mailto:dlo1@cornell.edu)) in the Knight Institute. I understand that I will receive the award for my prize-winning essay upon submission of the electronic text.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Essay

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_