Edith Wharton Society Awards 2015-2016

1. Edith Wharton Prize for a Beginning Scholar

Formerly known as the “Edith Wharton Essay Prize,” this award, instituted in the fall of 2005, recognizes the best unpublished essay on Edith Wharton by a beginning scholar: advanced graduate students, independent scholars, and faculty members who have not held a tenure-track or full-time appointment for more than four years. The winning and second-place essays will be submitted for review and possible publication to the Editorial Board of The Edith Wharton Review, a peer-reviewed journal indexed in the MLA Bibliography and soon to be published by Penn State University Press. The author of the prize-winning essay will receive an award of $250. All entries will be considered for publication in The Edith Wharton Review as well as for the Prize for a Beginning Scholar. Submissions should be 20-30 pages and should follow the 7th edition MLA style, using endnotes, not footnotes. Applicants should not identify themselves on the manuscript but should provide a separate cover page that includes their names, academic status, e-mail address, postal addresses, and the notation “The Edith Wharton Prize for a Beginning Scholar.”

To submit an essay for the prize, send it as an anonymized MS Word attachment, plus a cover letter with contact information and “Edith Wharton Prize for Beginning Scholar” clearly indicated in the e-mail subject line, to the following address by June 15, 2015:
Emily Orlando
President, Edith Wharton Society
Department of English
Fairfield University
eorlando@fairfield.edu

2. Undergraduate Research Prize

In 2014, the Edith Wharton Society launched a prize for undergraduate research on Edith Wharton. We seek critical essays by undergraduates focusing on works by Wharton in all genres. Students at all levels are eligible to submit. Papers should be 15 pages maximum. The winning essay will be published on the Wharton Society website and the author will receive an award of $100. Electronic submissions are requested. To submit an essay for the prize, send it as an anonymized MS Word attachment, plus a cover letter with contact information and “Edith Wharton Undergraduate Research Prize” clearly indicated in the e-mail subject line, to the following address by June 15, 2015:

Emily Orlando
President, Edith Wharton Society
Department of English
Fairfield University
eorlando@fairfield.edu
3. The Mount Research Award

This award is offered in alternate years. In 2015, the Edith Wharton Society will offer a Mount Research Award in the amount of $500 to enable a scholar to conduct research on Edith Wharton’s library at the Mount in Lenox, MA. Prospective fellows for the 2015-2016 award are asked to submit a research proposal (maximum length 5 single-spaced pages) and a CV by April 20, 2015 to:
Emily Orlando
President, Edith Wharton Society
Department of English
Fairfield University
eorlando@fairfield.edu

The research proposal should detail the overall research project, its particular contribution to Wharton scholarship, the preparation the candidate brings to the project, and the specific relevance that materials in Wharton’s library at the Mount have for its completion. The funds must be used for transportation, lodging, and other expenses related to a stay at the Mount. Notification of the award will take place by May 1 and the award can be used from June 1, 2015 until June 1, 2016. A final report will be due July 1, 2016. The winner will be asked at that point to submit a short report essay to the Edith Wharton Review, which will briefly inform the readers of the EWR of the research done but will not be in the way of the winner publishing a scholarly article elsewhere as well.

4. Edith Wharton Collection (Beinecke) Research Award

The Edith Wharton Society annually offers an Edith Wharton Collection Research Award of $500 to enable a scholar to conduct research on the Edith Wharton Collection of materials at the Beinecke Library at Yale University. This prize is made available thanks to the generosity of Conrad and Marsha Harper. Because the Beinecke Library is currently closed for renovation, the Edith Wharton Collection Research Award is suspended for 2015-2016.