The Hopwood Committee
is pleased to announce

The 2020 Graduate and Undergraduate
Hopwood Award Winners

April 28, 2020

Hopwood Drama

$4500 to Zoha Bharwani, a class of 2021 School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Theatre Performance student from Bloomfield Hills, MI for “Displace.”

$4500 to Annesha Mitha, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Richmond, VA for “Bangla Class.”

$2000 to Drew Allyn Metcalf, a class of 2019 LSA Film, Television, and Media student from Southfield, MI for “No More Monsters.”

$2000 to Zahir Janmohamed, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Sacramento, CA for “Weiser Hall.”

Hopwood Novel

$5300 to Annesha Mitha, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Richmond, VA for “Every Other Universe.”

$4300 to Dur e Aziz Amna, a class of 2022 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Rawalpindi, Pakistan for “Consumed.”

$4000 to Cherline Bazile, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Spring Hill, FL for “The Delaroses.”

$3500 to Catalina Bode, a class of 2022 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Aurora, IL for “Cardinal in the Dogwood.”

$1500 to Ariel Everitt, a class of 2020 LSA English and Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Hale, MI for “Dinner Party.”
Hopwood Screenplay

$6650 to Veronica Slaven, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television and Media student from Wyandotte, MI for “The Cul De Sac Mob.”

$4000 to Emma Puglia, a class of 2019 LSA Film, Television and Media student from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI for “Waters of March.”

$4000 to Grace Kay, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television and Media student from Clarkston, MI for “Stolen Slippers.”

Hopwood Undergraduate Nonfiction

$4000 to Lia Baldori, a class of 2021 LSA English student from Okemos, MI for “Mating Wounds.”

$3500 to Elena Ramirez-Gorski, a class of 2020 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Adrian, MI for “Garmonbozia.”

$3300 to Jena Vallina, a class of 2022 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Romeoville, IL for “Love in the Time of Global Warming.”

$3000 to Jenna Barlage, a class of 2020 LSA English student from Ann Arbor, MI for “Dreamland.”

Hopwood Graduate Nonfiction

$4300 to Dur e Aziz Amna, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Rawalpindi, Pakistan for “Check(list) Your Privilege.”

$4000 to Drew Nelles, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Guelph, Ontario for “The Manor.”

$3000 to Catalina Bode, a class of 2022 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Aurora, IL for “Whale Song.”

$2000 to Kashona Notah, a class of 2022 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from San Bernardino, CA for “Charlie,” “Shadows and Dust,” “The Jump,” and “Tell Me About Your Writing.”

$1500 to Cherline Bazile, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Spring Hill, FL for “Ti zwazo.”

$1500 to Carlina Duan, a class of 2025 doctoral student in the LSA/School of Education Joint Program in English and Education from Ann Arbor, MI for “Liquid Moment.”
Hopwood Undergraduate Short Fiction

$6300 to Hussein Alkadhim, a class of 2022 LSA English student from Dearborn, MI for “OneLastMidnightV2.”

$6000 to Arman Haveric, a class of 2020 LSA French student from Hinsdale, IL for “Sativum.”

$4500 to Miriam Francisco, a class of 2020 LSA English student from Ann Arbor, MI for “Two Stories.”

Hopwood Graduate Short Fiction

$5500 to Annesha Mitha, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Richmond, VA for “In Search of a Better Ending” and “Valedictorian.”

$3800 to Maya Dobjensky, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Albany, CA for “Two Stories: The Floating House & Cicada Season.”

$3500 to Connor Greer a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Rochester, NY for “Fertility Treatments” and “Old Tale.”

$3300 to Sofia Ergas Groopman, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from New York, NY for “How a Daughter has Slept.”

Hopwood Undergraduate Poetry

$6500 to Dylan Gilbert, a class of 2021 LSA student from Ann Arbor, MI for “don’t dwell on me.”

$6300 to Kitty Wilcox, a class of 2020 LSA English and Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Berrien Center, MI for “The Oddball Effect.”

$3500 to Nora Hilgart-Griff, a class of 2021 Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy student from Kalamazoo, MI for “a yell; a breath.”

$1500 to Kennedi Killips, a class of 2020 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Scottville, MI for “Tender.”

$1500 to Brooks K. Eisenbise, a class of 2020 Stamps Art & Design student from Kalamazoo, MI for “Fading Forward.”

Hopwood Graduate Poetry

$6000 to Michael M. Weinstein, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Boston, MA for “The Center.”

$5500 to David Freeman, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Long Lake, MN for “Deer Teeth.”
$4000 to Monica Rico, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Saginaw, MI for “The Opposite of Cortés Burning the Aviaries.”

**Hopwood Award Theodore Roethke Prize for the Long Poem or Poetic Sequence**

$5500 to Carlina Duan, a class of 2025 doctoral student in the LSA/School of Education Joint Program in English and Education from Ann Arbor, MI for “Alien Miss.”

**Other Winter Term Contests Administered by the Hopwood Award Program**

**The Andrea Beauchamp Prize**

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Short Fiction division.

$1100 to Annesha Mitha, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Richmond, VA for “In Search of a Better Ending” and “Valedictorian.”

**The Frank and Gail Beaver Scriptwriting Prize**

A prize awarded to a student for a distinguished script developed in a film or video production class in Film, Television and Media Studies. Consideration for the prize is given to all forms of creative film and video effort, including experimental, narrative drama, documentary, and animation.

$1450 to Seth Andrews, a class of 2020 Film, Television and Media honors student from Edwardsburg, MI for “Dropouts.”

**The Chamberlain Award for Creative Writing**

An award given in honor of the Chamberlain sisters, Elinor, Margaret, and Dorothy, who were graduates of the University of Michigan in the 1920s. All three had careers in the field of writing with the eldest, Elinor, receiving a Hopwood Fiction Award in 1951. The award is given to MFA students who have demonstrated excellence in the writing of short fiction.

$2000 to Nishanth Injam, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Telangana, India for “Come with Me” & “Summers of Waiting.”

$900 to Drew Nelles, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Guelph, Ontario for “The List” and “Big Cats.”

$600 to Cherline Bazile, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Spring Hill, FL for “Tender.”
The Helen J. Daniels Prize

An award donated by Professor Marilynn M. Rosenthal, who wrote, “When I won my Hopwood in the Major Essay division [in 1970], I used a pseudonym composed of my three children's first names, Helen J. Daniels. I am delighted to name this undergraduate essay prize for them. Excellent essay writing is of vital importance in a world troubled with dis- and misinformation and the political manipulation of language. It is a special pleasure to recognize and reward young essayists at the University of Michigan.”

$1700 to Lia Baldori, a class of 2021 LSA English student from Okemos, MI for “Mating Wounds.”

$1700 to Elena Ramirez-Gorski, a class of 2020 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Adrian, MI for “Garmonbozia.”

The Geoffrey James Gosling Prize

An award donated by Mrs. Enid M. Gosling to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Novel division. The prize is in memory of her son.

$900 to Annesha Mitha, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Richmond, VA for “Every Other Universe.”

The Paul and Sonia Handleman Poetry Award

An award to an undergraduate who has demonstrated excellence in the writing of poetry in the Romantic tradition. The family notes that this award “honors the memory of a husband and wife who for the nearly fifty years of their loving relationship shared a fascination for poetry—especially the verse of the English Romantics. An appreciation of these great poems served to cement their bond, and it uplifted their spirits by infusing them with a sense of the nobility, the magnificence, the glory that are within reach of humankind.”

$3200 to Kitty Wilcox, a class of 2020 LSA English and Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Berrien Center, MI for “The Oddball Effect.”

The Robert F. Haugh Prize

An award to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Undergraduate Short Fiction division, donated by Mrs. Georgia C. Haugh and the family and friends of Professor Robert F. Haugh. Professor Haugh was Director of the Hopwood Awards Program from 1965 to 1972.

$3100 to Hussein Alkadhim, a class of 2022 LSA English student from Dearborn, MI for “OneLastMidnightV2.”

The Kasdan Scholarship in Writing

Endowed by the University of Michigan alumni Lawrence and Meg Kasdan, the award recognizes excellence in the writing of drama or screenplay.

$8000 to Nicholas Grant, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television, and Media & Communication and Media student from Dexter, MI for “Presumed Dead.”
The Dennis McIntyre Prize for Distinction in Undergraduate Playwriting
An award established in 1990 by the family, friends, and former students of playwright, screenwriter, and Hopwood Award winner Dennis McIntyre to honor excellence in undergraduate playwriting.

$3750 to Zoha Bharwani, a class of 2021 School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Theatre Performance student from Bloomfield Hills, MI for “Displace.”

$3250 to Drew Allyn Metcalf, a class of 2019 LSA Film, Television, and Media student from Southfield, MI for “No More Monsters.”

$1500 to Seth Andrews, a class of 2020 Film, Television and Media honors student from Edwardsburg, MI for “Pill Bug.”

The Meader Family Award
Established by the late Hon. George Meader and his family and friends. Mr. Meader was a Republican member of Congress from 1950 to 1964 and worked as an attorney in Ann Arbor and Washington, D.C. The award is also in honor of his daughter, Barbara Ellen Meader, and his wife, Elizabeth Barbara Meader.

$3200 to Mary Spooner, a class of 2021 student in the Helen Zell Writers Program from Jackson, MS for “All My Horses.”

$1200 to Kassandra Lee, a class of 2020 Masters student from San Diego, CA for “Descent of Inana.”

$1200 to Ian Burnette, a class of 2020 MFA student from Ann Arbor, MI for “Possible Gods.”

$1200 to Zahir Janmohamed, a class of 2020 MFA student from Sacramento, CA for “Special.”

The Arthur Miller Award of the University of Michigan Club of New York Scholarship Fund
A tuition credit for a sophomore or junior of demonstrated achievement in the writing of drama, fiction, poetry, or screenplay. The award was established to honor University of Michigan graduate and Hopwood Award winner Arthur Miller.

$2500 to Dawn M. Isby, a class of 2021 College of Arts, Sciences and Letters Integrative Studies student from Westland, MI for “The Shaping.”

The Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prize in Dramatic Writing
$2500 to Masha Chernitska, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television, and Media & Communications and Media student from Ann Arbor, MI for “Little Angel.”

$2500 to Hayley Tibbenham, a class of 2020 School of Music, Theatre & Dance Voice Performance student from West Bloomfield, MI for “Salamander Six.”
$2500 to Nicholas Grant, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television, and Media & Communication and Media student from Dexter, MI for “Presumed Dead.”

$2500 to Seth Andrews, a class of 2020 Film, Television and Media honors student from Edwardsburg, MI for “Hell Planet.”

The Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prize in Fiction

$2500 to Eli Gail Rallo, a class of 2020 School of Music, Theatre & Dance Theatre Art student from Fair Haven, NJ for “Coming of Age.”

$2500 to R.A. Wyeth, a class of 2021 LSA English student from South Lyon, MI for “The Young Gods Loiter.”

$2500 to Meghan Chou, a class of 2021 LSA English and Film, Television, & Media student from Ann Arbor, MI for “Sub Rosa, In the Space Above.”

$2500 to Elena Ramirez-Gorski, a class of 2020 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Adrian, MI for “El peregrinaje.”

The Helen S. and John Wagner Prize

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Poetry division.

$1100 to Michael M. Weinstein, a class of 2020 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Boston, MA for “The Center.”

The John Wagner Prize

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Essay division.

$1100 to Dur e Aziz Amna, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Rawalpindi, Pakistan for “Check(list) Your Privilege.”

The Stanley S. Schwartz Prize

An award donated by Ann Arbor novelist Steven Gillis in memory of his father. Mr. Gillis writes of his father: “Stanley Schwartz came to the University of Michigan in 1947 to study English and creative writing. A track star for the University, Stan ran the quarter mile on the University’s then record-setting middle distance relay team at the Milrose Games. Graduating with honors, he attended the University of Michigan Law School and went on to become one of the country’s most successful and influential attorneys. As the founding partner in Sommers, Schwartz, Silver, and Schwartz, Stan blazed the trail for birth trauma litigation, authoring several books while devoting himself to protecting the interests of aggrieved parents.

$650 to Arman Haveric, a class of 2020 LSA French student from Hinsdale, IL for “Sativum.”
The Naomi Saferstein Literary Award
An award to the top-ranking undergraduate in the Hopwood Drama or Hopwood Screenplay division donated by Mrs. Irene Miller and friends and family of Hopwood Award winner Naomi Saferstein.

$1400 to Veronica Slaven, a class of 2020 LSA Film, Television and Media student from Wyandotte, MI for “The Cul De Sac Mob.”

The Cora Duncan Award in Fiction
An award recognizing excellence in a single short story in honor of Cora Duncan, a five-time Hopwood winner (1951, 1952, and 1953), a brilliant and influential high school teacher, and a great mentor to young writers.

$800 to Elena Ramirez-Gorski, a class of 2020 LSA Residential College Creative Writing and Literature student from Adrian, MI for “Deadwater.”

The Peter Phillip Pratt Award in Fiction
An award recognizing excellence in a single short story in honor of Peter Philip Pratt, a winner of a 1985 Hopwood award, who went on to be influential in Michigan public policy, investing his endless energy to better our state in many ways, including by expanding access to early childhood education.

$800 to Monica Kim, a class of 2020 LSA English student from Englewood, NJ for “What the Crow Knows.”

The Keith Taylor Excellence in Poetry Award
This award recognizes an outstanding undergraduate poet who best exemplifies the spirit of Keith Taylor’s writing and life, exploring the human condition and its relationship to the world around us. The award was donated by Ann Arbor novelist Steven Gillis in honor of Keith Taylor, a poet, writer, and recently-retired A.L. Becker Collegiate Lecturer, Director of the Bear River Writers’ Conference, and coordinator of the English Department’s undergraduate creative writing program.

$600 to Kendall Billig, a class of 2020 School of Public Health, Public Health Sciences student from Brighton, MI for “Verge.”

The David Porter Award for Excellence in Journalism
An award established by Andrea Sachs, Larry Kirshbaum, and the English Alumni Board to recognize outstanding student journalists, named in honor of David Porter, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan and Chair of the English Department from 2015 to 2020.

$1000 to Drew Nelles, a class of 2021 MFA student in the LSA Helen Zell Writers’ Program from Guelph, Ontario for “The Manor.”
2020 Graduate and Undergraduate Judges

Final judges are listed in bold; preliminary judges are listed after. If not specified, judge(s) read for both undergraduate and graduate contests.

Hopwood Drama was judged by Mickle Maher, Darrel Alejandro Holnes, Edwin Alexis Gomez, and Emilio Rodriguez.

Hopwood Novel was judged by Randa Jarrar, Clarisse Baleja Saidi, Sara Veglahn, and Marie Sweetman.

Hopwood Screenplay was judged by Elwood Reid, Julia Zak, Eddie Rubin, and Kerry L.M. Russell.

Hopwood Nonfiction was judged by Lisa Brennan-Jobs, Jess Row, Elena Passarello (Graduate), Raquel Gutiérrez (Graduate), Benjamin Paloff (Undergraduate) and Ruth Curry (Undergraduate) with assistance from Madeline Suzanne Norris and Christine Hume (Undergraduate).

Hopwood Short Fiction was judged by Rion Amilcar Scott, Sara Schaff, Natalie Bakopoulous (Graduate), Brad Kammin (Graduate), Janice Lee (Undergraduate) and Sara Jaffe (Undergraduate) with assistance from Polly Rosenwaike and Ryan Kim (Undergraduate).

Hopwood Poetry was judged by Tyehimba Jess, Srikanth Reddy, Danniell Schoonebeek (Graduate), Sara Borjas (Graduate), Meg Wade (Undergraduate), and Chaun Webster (Undergraduate).

The Kasdan Scholarship was judged by Lawrence Kasdan, Meg Kasdan, and Frank Beaver.

The Arthur Miller Award was judged by Brian Blanchfield.

The Theodore Roethke Prize was judged by Gala Mukomolova and Taneum Bambrick.

The Cora Duncan Award in Fiction and the Peter Philip Pratt Award in Fiction were judged by Lillian Li.

The Keith Taylor Award for Excellence in Poetry was judged by Russell Brakefield.

Hopwood Committee

Jim Burnstein, Jeremiah Chamberlain, Tung-Hui Hu, A. Van Jordan, Rebecca Manery, Meg Sweeney, Laura Thomas, and Hannah Webster.
Hopwood Staff

Meg Sweeney, Hopwood Director; Rebecca Manery, Hopwood Program Manager; Gina Savastano, Hopwood Program Assistant; Sierra Hansen, Hopwood Program Assistant.