

Trinity College | English

2026 Department Prizes

We hope that you will consider submitting your best work for the 2026 English Prizes! **Monetary awards** are given for the best submissions for each contest listed below. All undergraduate students presently enrolled at Trinity College are encouraged to enter.

THE FRED PFEIL MEMORIAL PRIZE IN CREATIVE WRITING

This Prize is awarded annually for a piece of literary work (fiction, poetry, play script, screenplay, creative nonfiction) which addresses issues of social justice and the impact of culture and politics on human relationships.

One submission per student.

THE TRINITY ALUMNUS PRIZES IN FICTION

Prizes awarded for short stories of any length.

One submission per student.

JOHN CURTIS UNDERWOOD MEMORIAL PRIZES IN POETRY

Prizes awarded for up to four pages of original poetry.

Up to four pages of poetry per student.

THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS PRIZE

An award for one poem of any length (with possible publication in a nationally distributed journal).

One submission per student.

THE FRANK W. WHITLOCK PRIZES IN DRAMA

Prizes awarded for one-act play scripts.

One submission per student.

THE F.A. BROWN PRIZES IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

Prizes awarded for an original persuasive speech, 5-8 minutes in length, on a contemporary issue selected by the student speaker. Students wishing to enter this contest must **sign up** with Ava Ferrigno in the English

Department (ava.ferrigno@trincoll.edu) no later than **Friday, April 3rd.**

Contestants will deliver their speeches in-person on April 13 at 4.30pm in English Dept. Lounge. This year's topic is "Will generative AI enhance or annihilate human creativity?"

THE ALUMNI PRIZES IN ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Prizes awarded for expository writing. Essays originally written for college courses will be accepted if conscientiously revised and retyped.

One submission per student.

DEADLINE for all submissions is
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- ✚ Attach your work to the 2026 Prize Survey with the name of the contest being entered at the top of your submission(s). To ensure anonymity **do NOT put your name on your work.**
- ✚ Your **entries for each contest must be separate attachments labeled with the contest being entered.**
- ✚ Work submitted after the April 3rd deadline **will not** be considered.
- ✚ Contests are open to **ALL undergraduate students** (including IDP students) presently registered at Trinity.