

**James Madison University**  
*College of Arts and Letters*  
*College of Visual and Performing Arts*

**THE EDNA T. SHAEFFER HUMANIST AWARD**

**Description:** Using income from the Evelyn Pugh endowment, annual awards of \$7,000 each are given for scholarly projects on topics in the humanities. These projects are conducted in the summer months.

**Eligibility:** Tenured, tenure-track, and renewable-term contract faculty members in the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Visual and Performing Arts who have not received a Shaeffer award in the past three years are eligible to apply. Faculty are eligible for a maximum of five awards, except under extraordinary circumstances.

**Criteria:** Each award is for a specific project in the humanities that is intended to lead to publication (refereed journal article, section of a book, book, or digital materials) or exhibition and results in a formal presentation to be given as part of the annual Shaeffer symposium the following spring semester. The selection committee will evaluate: (1) significance; (2) clarity and quality of the conception, organization, and description of the project; (3) feasibility and appropriateness of the proposed methods and plan of work; (4) significance of the proposed project for the applicant's broader scholarly and creative agenda; and (5) demonstrated record of (or potential for) scholarly and creative productivity relative to rank. Proposals that have the potential to lead to external funding are particularly encouraged.

**Selection Committee:** The selection committee will consist of faculty representatives from College of Arts and Letters and the College of Visual and Performing Arts. The CAL Associate Dean for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities will serve as the non-voting chair.

**Application Process:** Please submit electronic copies of a c.v. and a project proposal of no more than 1,250 words. The proposal should (1) describe the project, (2) explain its importance, (3) cite the pertinent literature/state of the field and indicate where the applicant's work fits in relation to it, (4) provide a brief schedule of activities, (5) explain how the grant would be used (detailed budget not required), (6) describe the final product and dissemination of the work, (7) sketch prospects for external funding, and (8) offer a tentative presentation topic. The faculty member should also include a one-page bibliography of material relevant to the project.

**Conditions of Acceptance:** By accepting the award, the recipient agrees (1) not to teach in the summer of the year of the award and (2) to present the project at the annual Shaeffer symposium during the spring semester following the award. In addition, this award cannot be held concurrently with a CAL summer grant or legacy grant.

**Deadline:** Applications are due to Laura Wisman ([wismanlb@jmu.edu](mailto:wismanlb@jmu.edu)) by **Friday, January 12, 2024**. Announcement of awardees will be made during the spring symposium in March 2024.