

James Blackstone Memorial Library
The Heather Nolin Creative-in-Residence Program

Inspiring Creativity Inspired by Branford

“[The Library] is distinguished and is beautiful, and this day is a distinction and is a crown, because the library is dedicated to learning and to art; and it is learning which crown life with power and crowns it with honor; and it is art, its is the arts of life, which crown it with joy.”

Reverend Melville K. Bailey

“Address to the Children, The Library: Branford’s Crown” in Opening Exercises (1896)

Established: 01 July 2021

Gift: [redacted]

Donor: Heather R. Nolin, Ph.D.

Goal and Restrictions

- The Heather Nolin Creative-in-Residence Fund (“Fund”) is a restricted endowment established to support in perpetuity “The Heather Nolin Creative-in-Residence” Program (“Program”) at the James Blackstone Memorial Library (JBML) in Branford, Connecticut.
- The Goals of the Program are:
 - To inspire creative works nurtured by the Library’s collections, archives, and facilities and by the town of Branford.
 - To foster within the local, national, and international communities an appreciation for and knowledge of the unique character, culture, and history of the town of Branford and the broader shoreline community
- The Fund shall be used only to support the Program and its creative outputs that are aligned with the Program goals and the Library’s mission. The Fund may cover expenses such as:
 - Awardee stipends, housing, supplies, support staff, and travel.
 - Library operating costs in support of the Program and activities stemming from the residency period such as public lectures, classes, recordings and publications, and Program archiving.
 - Reasonable expenses incurred by a Program Advisory Committee to be established in consultation with Dr. Heather Nolin and the Library Director.

- Individual Program awards from the Fund shall be within the advice and counsel of the Advisory Committee.
- Program administration and its expenditures are at the discretion of the Library Director in consultation with the Advisory Committee.
- The Library Director in consultation with the JBML Board of Trustees shall arrange for the Fund to be invested in a discrete account to be managed by JBML's investment managers.
- The balance of the Fund and individual award amounts will be maintained in confidence with appropriate reports provided by the Library Director and Business Manager to the JBML Board of Trustees Finance Committee.
- The Fund donor encourages and permits additional gifts to be added to the Fund by other donors interested in supporting the Program. All program restrictions will apply to such gifts.

Program Design and Expectations

- The Fund may not be used in support of creative works that, in any way, promote, sanction, or endorse social or political ideologies, movements, or political parties.
- The Library will collaborate on the Program with other Branford-based nonprofit organizations much as is possible and appropriate.
- The Library will collaborate on the program with the Branford Public School System much as is possible and appropriate.
- A Program Selection Committee will be constituted and will meet at regular intervals to recruit and select among program applicants for an awardee who 1) best would realize the Program goal; and 2) benefit most from such a residency experience.
- The Program Selection Committee, at a minimum, shall consist of:
 - The Library Director
 - A JBML staff member responsible for Library programming
 - At least one member of a Branford-based non-profit organization.
 - Other?
- The Fund donor's expectation is that the Program will become a vital and consummate part of the Library's brand and culture.
- The Library Director will provide the Advisory Committee with an annual report on the Fund's performance and Program activities.

Eligibility for a Program Grant

- Those who are dedicated to and a portfolio of creative works in the fine and applied arts and art history.

- Scholars, writers, or others such as graduate students who are interested in researching and writing about Branford's unique history, culture, and characteristics.
- Applicants may include local, national, or international candidates.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and eligible to work in the U.S.
- Applicants may be recognized as both "emerging" or "established" artists and writers.
- Applicants whose experience and creative output reflects the Program Goals and the Library's mission.

Date:

Heather Nolin Ph.D., Donor