University Undergraduate Award for Arts Projects

Due date: April 12, 2010

Purpose: The University Undergraduate Award for Arts Projects is intended to expand students’ opportunities for creative expression and showcase significant accomplishments in the arts. The program funds outstanding undergraduate arts projects to be carried out in the summer of 2010 and the 2010-2011 academic year. Awards of up to $3,000 each will be granted on a competitive basis to current first-, second-, and third-year undergraduate students, including collaborative groups of students.

Eligibility: Applicants must be fulltime undergraduates at U.Va. and must remain enrolled at the University through the completion of the project. This program is open to all majors at the University, and students from all schools are encouraged to apply.

Conceptualizing and Proposing a Project: Each student applicant or group of applicants will propose a project of creative work. Eligible projects might include writing or directing a play or film, writing a collection of poetry, designing costumes for a play, choreographing a dance, creating a sculpture, or composing or performing a piece of music. Applicants are urged to think deeply in formulating their projects and to describe the creative inquiry they hope to pursue. Proposals focusing on any area of arts represented at the University will be considered. Projects might involve travel, either within or outside of the U.S., to take advantage of resources that would be otherwise inaccessible. Projects requiring studio work might call for the purchase of supplies or materials that could not be obtained without an award of this kind.

A faculty committee will evaluate proposals. The committee will consider proposals in all areas of the creative arts. In addition, due to special funding opportunities available this year, the committee will pay particular attention to proposals in the following areas, and qualifying students are encouraged to apply:

- International projects
- Proposals with a significant connection to technology
- Proposals by engineering students

Faculty Support: Applicants are encouraged to identify and meet with a University of Virginia faculty advisor to discuss the proposed project before developing a proposal. Faculty advisors who agree to support a student’s project will write a letter affirming such support and, upon the project’s completion, will write and submit a brief narrative assessment of the student’s project. Faculty advisors receive research funds in the amount of $1,000. Faculty research funds are in
addition to the student's grant and should not be reflected in the student's budget. If faculty members do not wish to claim these funds, they will be added to the funding pool available for student awards. Part-time U.Va. faculty members are eligible to serve as faculty advisors so long as they are employed during the extent of the student's project.

**Final Product:** In the course of carrying out an arts project, an awardee will be expected to produce a final product (e.g., short film, play, work of art, music composition, dance). Students receiving the Arts Project Award in spring 2010 must use their award funds by the end of May 2011 or forfeit the remainder. Final project reports, including a brief account of expenditures, must be submitted to Center for Undergraduate Excellence by April 15, 2011, along with the faculty sponsor's assessment. Student awardees will present their projects at a spring 2011 symposium for student work, which their advisors will be expected to attend.