

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
DAVID LAING BOOK STUDENT BOOK COLLECTING PRIZE 2013-15
RULES

1. The prize is offered by the University of Edinburgh Library Centre for Research Collections. Its purpose is to encourage students of the University of Edinburgh to build their own coherent collections of books and other printed, manuscript or photographic material.
2. The prize will be offered to an undergraduate or graduate student of the University of Edinburgh in good standing. It will be in two parts: the first consisting of a payment of £500 to the winner and the second of an allowance of £250 for the purchase (within 6 months of the date of the award) of a book for the University Library's collections to be selected by the winner in co-operation with the Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarian. In addition, it is hoped to provide the successful applicant with the opportunity to exhibit their collection in one of the University's public spaces.
3. The collection must be owned and collected solely by the entrant. The collection must consist of not less than ten items comprising printed books or ephemera or other printed or handwritten items, or a combination of any of these, with a common theme. Other media may supplement the collection but the central theme must involve material with writing on it in some way.
4. The prize will be awarded at the judges' discretion, having regard to the purpose of the prize. The award will be based on the interest, originality, thoughtfulness and creativity of the collection and vision and persistence of the collector. Age, size and monetary value of the collection will not be relevant criteria. The quality of the essay and other materials submitted by the entrant, as described in paragraph 5, will be taken into account. The judges' decision on any matter is final.
5. Entrants should submit an essay of not more than 2500 words explaining the interest of the collection and how and why it was assembled, including a section listing five items the entrant would like to add to the collection, with a brief explanation of how these would improve the collection. Images of the collection may also be submitted in support of the application.
6. In addition, every entry must be accompanied by a descriptive list of the items in the collection, and an entry form downloadable from the Fellowships & Prizes webpage. Essays not accompanied by an entry form and a list of at least ten items in the collection will not be considered by the judges.
7. The entry submissions may be retained by the Edinburgh University Library which will be entitled to reproduce them in any form it considers appropriate. By submitting entry materials, the entrant agrees that the Library may reproduce any part of the entry materials in connection with the prize or future prizes. This includes images of any of the collection's items.
7. Entries must be submitted to Dr Joseph Marshall at the Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library, George Square or by email Joseph.Marshall@ed.ac.uk not later than 5 pm on 1 June 2015.
8. The prize will be judged by a panel consisting of Dr John Scally (University Librarian), Dr Joseph Marshall (Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarian), Dr William Zachs and other University staff as designated.

9. It is expected that entrants will be invited to meet the judges and to make a brief presentation of their collection, alone or with other contestants.