

KING CREATIVITY FUND

Call for Proposals

2014-2015

The Program

The purpose of this program is to give Southwestern students the means and opportunity to explore ideas and interests that fall outside of the usual academic process and curriculum—ideas that may not have a lot to do with a student's major, that combine interests in more than one area, or are extra-curricular in nature.

Students may work alone or in collaborative teams.

In the case of the King Grants, “creative” includes artistic work and performances in the obvious sense, but also “creativity” in that students will pursue ideas that no one has looked into before, try developing a device not now available, applying standard techniques from one area to another, etc. The King Creativity program is designed not for the projects you are already going to do, or projects you otherwise couldn't do, but the projects that, without this fund, you wouldn't do!

Past projects have dealt with AIDS activism, a study of the neurophysiology of the rat brain, a series of oil paintings on the American Goddess, theatre performances, studies of chimp behavior, design and implementation of an inexpensive solar water heater, the Southwestern University Drum Corps, a study of sleep deprivation in students, the development of Indian Cultural Awareness Month, and the use of computer algorithms to design ceramic glazes.

This program encourages creativity and innovation; so don't be limited by what has been funded in the past. But take a look to see the range of ideas that have been supported by the program. (<http://www.southwestern.edu/kingcreativity>).

Funding

Proposals are usually funded in the range of a few hundred to a few thousand dollars, but there is no limit to requests. Remember that the inexpensive idea is as interesting as the expensive one. The amount of funds awarded will depend on the number and quality of proposals submitted. Be prepared to know how you will proceed if the King Creativity Fund is able to provide only part of the funding you apply for.

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Selection of the 2014-2015 King Scholars

The King Creativity Fund Selection Committee includes previous King Scholars, interested faculty members, and an administrative advisor. The Committee evaluates proposals on the basis of creative merit, innovation, soundness of proposal, feasibility, and justification of the budget. A sample project rating sheet, used by the selection committee, is attached to assist you in the preparation of your proposal.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be students enrolled in good standing at Southwestern University. Proposals with multiple student authors will be accepted. Student members of the selection committee are eligible to submit proposals, but will recuse themselves from discussion of their proposals. The King Creativity program requests all students who receive King grants to submit their work for inclusion in the Southwestern University Undergraduate Research and Creative Work Symposium held each spring semester.

Application Deadlines and Final Reports

The deadline for proposal submissions for the 2014-2015 academic year is 5:00pm on October 10, 2014. King Scholars will be notified shortly thereafter. Funds must be spent by April 29, 2015. It is strongly advised that you visit the King Creativity Fund webpage (including the FAQ) before preparing your proposal.

Projects may be conducted at any time following the notification of receipt of the award. King Scholars must present the results of their work at an annual symposium and dinner to be held in the spring on Monday April 13, 2015. King Scholars are required to submit an abstract of their proposed work by November 7, 2014 and a project summary by March 27, 2015. All projects must be ready and available for presentation at the symposium by April 13, 2015.

King Creativity Fund Proposals should be addressed to:
Dr. Paul J. Gaffney, Dean
The Sarofim School of Fine Arts
c/o Ms. Alena Garcia
133 Fine Arts Center

Proposals must be submitted as word documents, with an electronic signature by your sponsor, and emailed to garciaal@southwestern.edu.

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Proposal Format

Proposals will contain the following elements:

1. Cover Sheet:

The cover sheet includes a title that clearly indicates the nature of the project, the name of the student making the proposal, SU post office box number and e-mail address. (In the case of proposals with multiple authors, provide this information for each student.) If your project involves human or animal subjects, it requires approval from either the Human Subjects Review Committee (Dr. Jacqueline Muir-Broadus, muirbroj@southwestern.edu) or from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (Dr. Fay Guarraci, guarracf@southwestern.edu), include such a statement of approval. However, you may pursue approval from these committees after submitting this proposal. However, no funds will be dispersed for projects that require approval from either of these committees until such approval has been documented. Check with your advisor to see if this applies to your project.

The cover sheet must also include the typed names and signatures of all students involved, as well as the project's advisor. If your advisor or group members are away and unable to sign the proposal, then they may email Alena Garcia at garciaal@southwestern.edu to confirm that they are part of the project.

2. Project Description

The proposal should be no more than two pages in length. It must include a description of the project, the methodology to be used, a projected timeline, and the project's proposed impact on you and others. In the case of proposals from more than one student, the proposal will clearly describe the contribution and participation of each student. Remember that not everyone on the selection committee is an expert in the field(s) you are discussing, so write accordingly.

3. Creativity Statement

Provide a statement of how this project fits the Fund's requirement for creativity and innovation. What is new, different, unusual, creative or innovative? What about this project distinguishes it from what you normally do as a Southwestern student? What led you to want to do this? What is there about this project that you would otherwise not do during your Southwestern career?

4. Resume

A one-page resume for each student, including biographical information, educational and career objectives, declared major, expected date of graduation, education, honors and awards, membership in professional organizations, research/artistic experience, presentations, publications or performances and interests, activities or hobbies. Include any experiences that have made you interested in and qualified to conduct your project.

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5. Documentation

Describe how you will document this development and execution of this project. (In addition to wanting a record of your work for yourself, you need to have something to present at the King Creativity Symposium on April 13, 2015.) Video? Photos? Reports? Data? Objects? Etc?

6. Advisor's Statement

All proposals must have a letter of support sent electronically from a member of the Southwestern faculty, staff or administration who is willing to serve as an advisor to the student. Letters must indicate the extent to which the proposed project meets the criteria for the King Creativity Fund, whether the project is feasible, how the advisor anticipates overseeing the project, and, when appropriate, certify that required laboratory or studio space is available. In addition, the letter should confirm that the faculty member is willing to supervise the project. This letter should be addressed to the King Creativity Selection Committee, and emailed to garciaal@southwestern.edu.

7. Budget

Funds from the KCF fund may be used to cover any direct expenses incurred in the conduct of the project. The King Fund is eager to support small, less expensive ideas along with grand ones. Such expenditures could include, equipment, supplies, professional services, and payment of subjects. Equipment purchased with King funds will remain the property of the university and be made available to other students who may need it in the future. (Before you propose to buy something, check to see if a previous King Scholar purchased it.) Food purchases and commuting expenses are normally not allowed.

Please use the following format to show the breakdown of your project's budget:

Widget Budget

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Materials (aluminum, wood, rubber) | \$100 |
| Electrical supplies (wires, transformer) | \$100 |
| Poster supplies | <u>\$100</u> |
| Total | \$300 |

8. Assessment

Describe how you will assess your project. How will you define "success"? How will you know if your idea worked?

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King Creativity Proposal Rating Sheet

This rating sheet is used by the selection committee to rate and choose projects.

Creative Merit: Is the project innovative or visionary? Has the creativity of the project been clearly stated? Does it give the students the ability to stretch, grow and work “outside the box”?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Soundness of Proposal: Is the project clearly defined in terms of its purpose, its creativity, its methodology, and its implication for the future? Is the writing clear and concise?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Feasibility: Is the project feasible within time constraints and budget considerations? Is there a strong possibility that the project can be completed?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Education Enhancement: Will the students’ overall educational experience at Southwestern be enhanced by carrying out the proposed project?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Qualifications of Students: Do the resumes of the individuals involved provide confidence that they can carry out the project? In the case of multiple authors, are their various roles clearly defined?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Budget: Is the budget appropriate? Can the project be completed for the amount budgeted? Is the budget too high or too low? Has it been carefully considered?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Assessment: Is there a workable assessment mechanism in place?

0-----1-----2-----3-----4
Poor Fair Good Very Good Excellent

Comments: