

The Thomas E. Sanders Scholarship in Creative Writing

Thomas E. Sanders was a professor of literature and creative writing at USF for twenty years until his death on January 1, 1988 at age sixty-one. He was born on April 30, 1926, in Picher, Oklahoma, and attended, among other institutions, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Denver. In addition to writing both poetry and fiction, he was the author of the much acclaimed "Discovery" series of introductory literature textbooks published by Scott Foresman, *The Now Reader*, and *Literature of the American Indian*, a widely reviewed and respected scholarly anthology of Native American Literature. At USF, Professor Sanders taught courses in creative writing, Native American literature, and science fiction, and was known by his students for his strong enthusiasms and his keen analytical mind. His untimely death was felt most acutely in the creative writing program. Creative writing students were suddenly bereft not only of an instructor but of a friend and mentor. Known for his demanding standards, he was always available to his students for help and advice -- sometimes long after they had left the university. As one of his new students wrote, "his skill as a writer, editor, and teacher coupled with his dedication and willingness to devote himself to his students made him one of the most valuable members of the faculty." With the impetus of a major gift from Mrs. Louis Forshaw of Baltimore, Maryland, friends and alumni have established a scholarship in his honor.

Eligibility: Any creative writing major in the Department of English who has not reached the last term of academic residence.

Winner of the Award to be Announced: April 2018

Students interested in applying should submit a letter which explains their qualifications for the scholarship, along with a sample of their creative work, and a cover page listing their name, local address, USF ID number, e-mail address, and telephone number. Do not place your social security number anywhere on the submission. Applications must be submitted by Friday, Feb. 23, 2018, to the receptionist of the Department of English, CPR 358. Please mark the envelope "Application for the Sanders Scholarship." Financial necessity need not be a qualifying condition. Be sure to retain a copy of your application materials for yourself. No manuscripts will be returned.

Note: The recipient will be chosen by the creative writing committee. The scholarship is non-renewable; however, recipients may reapply in subsequent years.