

SMC Master Awards Description List

Sciences:

Physics Award

This award is given annually for academic achievement in physics courses at SMC.

Criteria: Candidates must have completed at least two semesters of physics classes or be currently enrolled in their second physics course. Candidates are chosen from those with the highest grades in their physics coursework. Consideration is given to the following additional information: acting as a tutor for the physics courses and providing in-class leadership.

All full-time members of the physics department are involved in the decision. Information may also be solicited from adjunct physics faculty to help the full-time faculty reach a decision.

Any full-time professor in the physics department may request this prize money. The recipient receives a certificate and a gift certificate (\$25) from Barnes & Noble Bookstore (or other appropriate source.) The money for this gift certificate comes from the science department line for printing lab books. This budget line was initiated to provide for the Norma Jean Miller Scholarship Fund and other awards.

Biology Award

This award is given for academic achievement in biology courses at SMC.

Criteria: Candidates must have completed at least two semesters of biology classes or be currently enrolled in their second biology course. Candidates are chosen from those with the highest grades in their biology coursework. Consideration is given to the following additional information: taking biology courses from more than one biology professor, acting as a tutor for the biology courses, taking the Zoology or Botany course, providing in-class leadership.

All full-time members of the biology department are involved in the decision. Information may also be solicited from adjunct biology faculty to help the full-time faculty reach a decision.

Any full-time professor in the biology department may request this prize money. The recipient receives a certificate and a gift certificate (\$25) from Barnes & Noble Bookstore (or other appropriate source.) The money for this gift certificate comes from the science department line for printing lab books. This budget line was initiated to provide for the Norma Jean Miller Scholarship Fund and other awards.

Chemistry Award

This award is given for academic achievement in chemistry courses at SMC.

Criteria: Candidates must have completed at least two semesters of chemistry classes or be currently enrolled in their second chemistry course. Candidates are chosen from those with the highest grades in their chemistry coursework. Consideration is given to the following additional information: acting as a tutor for the chemistry courses and demonstrating positive attitude towards the sciences in general and the class in particular.

Any full-time professor in the chemistry department may request this prize money. The recipient receives a certificate and a gift certificate (\$25) from Barnes & Noble Bookstore (or other appropriate source.) The money for this gift certificate comes from the science department line for printing lab books. This budget line was initiated to provide for the Norma Jean Miller Scholarship Fund and other awards.

The Norma Jean Miller Scholarship – comes with cash

This award is given to students who have completed a chemistry sequence or are in the second semester of a chemistry sequence. The student must also have completed or are in the second semester of either two semesters of biology or two semesters of physics.

Two scholarships are available. One is a freshman scholarship that is given to a freshman as a rising sophomore who plans to stay at Spartanburg Methodist College. The check is made to the student and the college. The second is a sophomore scholarship to be given to a sophomore. The check is made to the student and the college/university they intend to transfer to.

The money for these awards comes from the science department line for printing lab books. This budget line was initiated to provide for the Norma Jean Miller Scholarship Fund and other awards.

Mathematics/Computer Science:**Mathematics Award**

This award is given annually to the student who displays qualities of excellence in mathematical skills and is judged the most outstanding in mathematics. The recipient is determined by the math faculty. The award consists of a framed certificate and a gift card prize, paid for out of the mathematics budget.

Computer Science Award

The candidate for this award must be a Computer Science Major with plans to continue studies in this field beyond SMC. The recipient must have completed and maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher in all Computer Science courses completed at SMC: CSCI101; CSCI115; CSCI121; CSCI221. He or she must have demonstrated leadership abilities through campus and community services and maintained a good rapport with fellow-students and the SMC community. The computer science faculty determine the recipient each year. The recipient receives a 5 x 7 plaque and a \$25 gift certificate from Barnes and Nobles. This award is funded through the Math/Computer Science Division Budget.

Social Sciences:

Paul S. Lofton History Award

While the award itself has been in existence for many years, in 2009, the History Award was named in honor of Dr. Paul S. Lofton, Jr., longtime history professor at SMC. The award recognizes a student or students who have excellent performance in history classes at SMC. The recipient is chosen by the history faculty. The award is typically a book along with a trophy or plaque and a cash prize. The department will pay for the trophy/plaque.

Katherine Cann Social Sciences Award

The award was established in 2018 in honor of Dr. Katherine D. Cann, a retired history professor at SMC. The award is given to the student who completed the most number of social science courses with the highest GPA and possesses personal integrity and academic discipline.

Sociology Award

The Sociology Award is given to a student each year that meets the following criteria:

- 1) Successfully completing three sociology classes at SMC.
- 2) Earning an A in each sociology course.
- 3) Outstanding academic performance in all sociology courses.

The Sociology faculty members determine the recipient based on these criteria. The award is a plaque.

Psychology Award

This award is given annually for academic achievement in psychology courses at SMC.

Candidates must have finished Psychology 101 (General Psychology) and Psychology 201 (Developmental Psychology) with a final course grade of A in both and displays academic discipline, integrity, and leadership. The recipient is selected by the psychology faculty and the Guidance Counselor of SMC and receives a plaque paid for by the Division of Social Sciences.

Psi Beta Award

This award is given annually to a member or officer of Psi Beta who displays sound leadership, maturity and responsibility, as well as commitment and dedication to the organization.

The recipient is selected by the faculty sponsors and receives a plaque paid for by the Division of Social Sciences.

Business Award

This award is given annually by SMC on the recommendation of the business faculty to an outstanding student in business. The recipient must meet the following criteria:

- Must have taken at least three of the following business courses; BSAD 201: Principles of Macroeconomics, BSAD 202: Principles of Microeconomics, BSAD 205: Accounting I, and BSAD 206: Accounting II.
- Must have received the highest GPA in three of the courses listed above.
- Must be having an overall GPA of 3.0 or above
- Must be participating in extra curriculum activities like sports or student affairs.
- Must be in good conduct.

Type of award given: Plaque

The funds used will come from the Divisional account.

Charlie Moss Award for the Outstanding Graduate in Criminal Justice – comes with cash

Criteria: Candidates must be graduating from the Criminal Justice program with the Associate in Criminal Justice degree, and hold the highest grades among their peers in their criminal justice coursework. Additional consideration may also be given to the following information: work or volunteer experience in the criminal justice field while also pursuing the degree; outstanding performance in Sociology coursework; providing in-class leadership in criminal justice and/or Sociology courses; and demonstrating outstanding commitment and/or service to the SMC community.

The recipient is selected by the Chair of the Criminal Justice program, in consultation with the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Award: The recipient receives a monetary award of \$100, to be paid from the fund created for this award upon the occasion of Mr. Moss' retirement from SMC. This award is funded by members of the Board of Trustees of Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg Methodist College and friends of Charlie Moss.

Humanities:

Outstanding Drama Student Award

The Outstanding Drama Student Award is given at awards day each year to the student who has contributed the most to the drama program for four continuous semesters. Things like classes taken, grades made in these classes, outside of class participation and leadership in dramatic activities on and off campus, and attitude are all considered. Faculty in the Speech/Drama Program decide the student who will receive the plaque each year at Awards Day. It is paid for by the Drama Department.

Religious Studies Award

This award is given annually to an outstanding student who has completed at least two religion courses with superior grades. Special consideration is often given to students who plan to pursue religion as a major and career path. The recipient is determined by the faculty who teach religious courses. The award ranges from a certificate or a gift card.

Spanish Award – comes with cash

Given annually to a student who has shown excellence in Spanish by recommendation of the Spanish professor(s).

Criteria: A student must have taken at least two Spanish courses, earning an A in each one. The student should have taken the highest level of Spanish being offered.

Type of award given: certificate and monetary award

The funds used for the award will come from the Humanities awards budget.

English:

A. G. Carter Literary Award – comes with cash

This award is given annually in memory of the late Dean A. G. Carter, Professor of English Literature, and is presented to the student who displays qualities of excellence in composition and literature. The English professors, in consultation with one another, choose the recipient. The award consists of a framed certificate and a cash prize, paid for out of the English Division budget.

Blue Granite Review Prose Writing Awards – comes with cash

These awards are given to the student(s) who produce the best short fiction (or creative non-fiction) for the literary magazine each year. The literary magazine advisor selects a small committee of faculty members to rate the pieces that are selected for inclusion in the magazine. Cash awards of \$40 for 1st place, \$30 for 2nd place, and \$20 for 3rd place; on occasion, honorable mention awards of \$10 have been given. The awards are paid for out of the Literary Magazine budget.

Blue Granite Review Awards: Art – comes with cash

These awards are given to the student(s) who produce the best art work for the literary magazine each year. The literary magazine advisor asks an independent juror (a local artist, usually) to rate the work that is to be published in the magazine. Cash awards of \$40 for 1st place, \$30 for 2nd place, and \$20 for 3rd place; on occasion, honorable mention awards of \$10 have been given. The awards are paid for out of the Literary Magazine budget.

The Trailblazer Award – comes with cash

This award goes to the student who makes the greatest contribution to the Trailblazer student newspaper. The Trailblazer's advisor selects the recipient. In recent years, a cash award of \$75 has been given, along with a framed certificate. This award is paid for out of the Trailblazer budget.

A.J.R. Helmus Poetry Awards – comes with cash

These awards are given annually to three students who produce the best poetry during the year. The literary magazine advisor selects a small committee of faculty members to rate the pieces that are selected for inclusion in the magazine. Cash awards are presented in the amounts of \$40, \$30, and \$20. The awards are paid for out of the Literary Magazine Budget.

Non-Academic Awards:

SGA Leadership Award

The SGA Leadership Award is given to the SGA member or officer that showed the greatest commitment to SGA and great abilities of leadership and service to the student body throughout the academic year. The recipient is chosen by the SGA advisor. The recipient shall receive a plaque, paid for out of the SGA budget.

Pioneer Peer of the Year Award

The Pioneer Peer of the Year award is given to a Pioneer Peer (s) who exemplifies strong qualities of leadership, character, and outstanding commitment to the Pioneer Peer program and to Spartanburg Methodist College as a whole. The recipient will have gone above and beyond the call of duty. The award will be a plaque, paid for out of the Orientation budget. The recipient will be chosen by the Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development, the advisor of the Pioneer Peer program.

Williams-Garcia POPS Programming Board Award

This award is given to the member of the POPS Programming Board who exemplifies leadership, commitment, and service to the organization and who understands and works to promote the value of programming for the campus at large. The award is named after Jessica Williams and Tavy Garcia, two of the original officers of the POPS Programming Board who were instrumental in its early success and legacy. The recipient will be chosen by the Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development, along with input from the officers of the POPS Programming Board. The award will be a plaque, paid for out of the Student Activities budget.

Ella Jordan Lynn Award – comes with cash

Given in memory of Ella Jordan Lynn of Jefferson, SC, this award is presented annually to a female student judged to be representative of Christian qualities of compassionate care, loving devotion, and unselfish service to others. The Chaplain selects the recipient. The award carries a cash gift of \$100.

The Reverend Samuel Haywood Poston Award – comes with cash

Given in memory of Samuel Haywood Poston of Spartanburg, SC, a 1951 graduate of Spartanburg Junior College, former chair and faithful member of the Alumni Council, this award is presented annually to a male student judged to be representative of the Christian qualities of compassion, forgiveness, justice, loving care of others, and service to the community. The Chaplain selects the recipient. This award carries a cash gift of \$100.

Residence Hall of Fame Awards

This award is given to male and female RA who, through their leadership position, supported the mission of Residence Life by promoting educational communities and engaging a diverse student body in learning, leadership, and personal development by providing a comfortable and safe living environment that is conducive to academic success. The criterion by which the recipient is chosen includes: Outstanding service to Residence Life and to SMC through programming efforts, work ethic, and campus visibility. Recipients must display dependability, compassion, and dedication to the SMC community. The recipients are chosen by the Residence Life Staff and receive a framed certificate.

Thomas R. Bailey Humanitarian Award

This award is given annually in honor of the first president of KSA, Rev. Thomas (Tommy) R. Bailey, to the member of Kappa Sigma Alpha who has exhibited outstanding service to humanity through their hours of community service through their dedication and accomplishment of the projects sponsored by KSA. The advisors select this student through careful reviewing of records of participation, hours of service and overall spirit as exhibited in the organization.

Outstanding Pioneer Awards

Presented to a male and a female athlete for exhibiting excellence in academics, leadership, honesty, citizenship, responsibility, and dedication. The athletic staff nominates students and then all discuss and vote on the recipients. An 8X10 size plaque is given to the recipient. Years ago the award was started by an assistant Cross Country Coach but not sustained so now it's out of the Athletic budget.

Presidential Ambassador Award

This award will be given to one Presidential Ambassador who has gone above and beyond their job description and expectations. They are receiving the award because they have welcomed and encouraged every student and family that they have come in contact with. Their passion for SMC radiates in everything they do, and they have made an impact on the recruitment process and the Presidential Ambassador Program.

The recipient will receive a plaque given by the Office of Admissions as a token of our gratitude for their service. The plaque will be paid for by the Presidential Ambassador Budget and presented by a member of the SMC Admissions Office.

Olympian Award – *Discontinued when the yearbook was discontinued in 2014.*

This award is given to a member of the Yearbook staff who shows dedication and commitment to completing the Olympian Yearbook. The Yearbook Advisor chooses the recipient of the award. The recipient receives a plaque paid for out of the Yearbook budget.