



William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize

RULES 2020

The Society for the History of Natural History (SHNH) awards the William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize annually to the best original, unpublished, essay on any branch of natural history in any period and in any culture. Bibliographic essays will be considered although bibliographies will not be eligible for submission to the competition.

The winner will receive £300 and be offered membership of the Society for one year. The winning essay will normally be published in the Society's journal *Archives of Natural History*, subject to the usual editorial procedures. The Editor's decision on publishing the winning essay is final.

The competition is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students in full or part-time education, of any age or nationality, registered at any university in any country. Entry is not limited to members of SHNH.

Entries must be in English and between 5,000 and 8,000 words in length including footnotes and references. Each entry must be accompanied by an abstract of between 300 and 500 words. Essays that exceed 8,000 words or are without an abstract will not be considered.

Entries must be prepared in conformity with the bibliographic conventions of *Archives of Natural History*, available at <https://shnh.org.uk/publications/archives-of-natural-history/> in 'Guidelines for Authors'. The same essay cannot be submitted more than once and entrants are allowed to submit only one essay per year.

Entries will be considered by a Prize Committee of three judges appointed by the Council of the Society. Entrants must not contact the judges directly.

Two copies of the essay (one Word document, one pdf) should be e-mailed to the Society's Honorary Secretary – secretary@shnh.org.uk. If the files are large please use a secure ftp site to transfer the documents. There should be no reference to your name or your institution on the essay itself.

The completed Application Form at <https://shnh.org.uk/assets/uploads/2020-2.-William-T-Stearn-Student-Essay-Prize-Application-Form-1.doc> and proof of student status should also be attached.

Entries will not be considered if not accompanied by proof of student status at the time of submission.

All essays must be received by the advertised deadline date. Applicants will be notified of the results when the judges have come to their decision. This will normally be before the end of September.

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