

The Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions Presents

Lost and Found. An Essay Contest



When my mother died, I truly felt I'd lost her. And yet, writing "The World According To Fannie Davis" allowed me to find her again. By chronicling her story, I learned things about my mom I hadn't known. I discovered her anew. Writing about our lives together also allowed me to recapture memories I'd forgotten. This is what writing can do -- make what was once lost found.

I'm pleased that my memoir inspired a Baruch alum to fund this competition for a 3rd year, allowing students to share their own unique stories about what they've lost, and what they've found.

– Prof. Emerita Bridgett M. Davis

Throughout the pandemic, we've lost a lot. We've lost loved ones, jobs, direction, our grounding, social interaction, time. Some of us literally lost precious objects. But across these three years, we've had some surprising finds too: joy in small things, appreciation for what we'd once taken for granted, new ways to relate to others.

We are inviting students to write personal essays about what you've lost, and what you've found. Feel free to be as contemplative, metaphorical or as playful as you like.

Students may submit ONE personal essay of creative nonfiction, **600-800 words**.

Open to all students who are currently taking or have taken a class in the Journalism Dept.

FIRST PLACE: \$1,500
SECOND PLACE: \$1,000
THIRD PLACE: \$500
HONORABLE MENTION: \$200

Submissions must be emailed to both Bridgett.davis@baruch.cuny.edu and Gisele.Regatao@baruch.cuny.edu before midnight, **APRIL 5th**. Do not include your name on the entry. Please provide contact information (full name, email address, cell number) on a separate cover letter page. Winners will be invited to participate in a public reading in May.

Prize money has been made available through a grant from The Shulman Family Charitable Fund.