Book Collecting Prize
Co-sponsored by Bucknell University Press and Library & Information Technology

At a time when bookstores are closing, electronic texts are proliferating, and libraries are investing more and more of their resources into electronic media, it is easy for people to begin to see books as no more than discrete functional or disposable objects. This prize offers students the opportunity to build their own book collections. It encourages students to reflect on their lives, their learning, and their personal interests. Behind these considerations lie the larger recognition of the importance of the Ellen Clarke Bertrand Library and the University Press to the Bucknell campus, for every great university and institution of learning has, at its center, a great library and a great press.

This prize is open to all Bucknell students. The winner will receive $500. To enter, students must submit a bibliography of their collection together with a short essay (1000-2000 words) explaining the theme and significance of the collection. The deadline for submissions is January 30, 2015. A few shortlisted candidates may be invited to talk about their collection with the judges. Submissions should be sent to Pam Dailey at pamelia.dailey@bucknell.edu or via campus mail to Bucknell University Press, 6 Taylor Hall.

The judges will make their decision based on the intelligence and originality of the collection, its coherence as a collection, as well as the thought, creativity, and persistence demonstrated by the collector and the condition of the books. The monetary value of the collections will not be a factor in determining the winning entry—a coherent collection of modern paperbacks or comic books is as valid an entry as a collection of rare books from the seventeenth century.

For more information, contact Bucknell University Press at universitypress@bucknell.edu.