THE ROSALIND JANE BAIRSTOW BURSARY

Applications for the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary 2017 are hereby invited from any undergraduate member of St Hilda’s College currently in the final year of their studies for a B.A. in English Language and Literature or one of the related joint schools taught in the College. In any given year, the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary will be awarded only when it is deemed that a proposal of sufficient merit has been submitted by a suitable candidate in advance of the publicised closing date.

The Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary is an annual award established in memory of Miss Rosalind Jane Bairstow, an undergraduate at St Hilda’s College in the early 1960s who died tragically young. The purpose of the award is to assist a current undergraduate of St Hilda’s College studying English Language and Literature (or one of the related joint schools taught in the College) who wishes to embark on a one year course of further academic study outside of the UK. The intention is to support study which might otherwise seem beyond an individual’s immediate financial means. It is hoped that the generous bequest made by Mrs Lucie Bairstow in honour of her daughter’s memory will encourage all students within the English School at St Hilda’s College to think purposefully and positively about their potential: how they might best build on their undergraduate experiences here at Oxford and also how they might set themselves further academic and personal goals.

Applicants may propose any field of academic study. This includes the further study of literature and also creative writing. Applicants should note that the award will not be given for assistance with professional training unless it relates in some way to the creative arts (i.e. applications for accountancy, legal training, etc., will not be considered but a course in theatre directorship or the like would be admitted as would a course in journalism which led to an academic qualification). Only one bursary will be awarded in any given year and the decision of the College is final. The successful applicant must take up the award after the successful completion of their B.A. degree course and in the academic year subsequent to the application. The award is not transferable from one course to another except in exceptional circumstances nor is it deferrable from one year to another. Were the successful candidate also to secure sufficient funding for their course from another external source or were a successful candidate to fail to be accepted onto their proposed course then the College may choose to consider re-assigning the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary to one of the other applicants from within the year’s previously gathered field.
An application for the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary should consist of:

- A personal statement, including an outline of the specific academic merits of the proposed course of study abroad and the reasons why such a programme should be completed abroad. The statement should explain why the individual wishes to pursue this specific course and the relevance of the proposed studies for the candidate’s future plans. This statement should not exceed 1000 words in length.

- A clear single page breakdown of the proposed course curriculum and its entry requirements. Where the proposed one-year course of study will lead to a qualification, please specify.

- A single page breakdown of the full costs of the proposed study abroad.

- Any personal financial information which might prove relevant.

- Candidates are encouraged to apply to at least one other source for funding. Details of any such application made should be included with the required documentation for the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary.

The successful applicant for the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary agrees to act as an ambassador for St Hilda’s College during their time abroad; to work to the best of their ability; to remain in good standing with the academic institution abroad to which they become affiliated; and to complete a short written record of their experience within three months of completion of the course for publication by St Hilda’s College.

Value of the award: up to £7,500
Closing date for receipt of applications: Thursday, 12 January 2017
Notification will be given to the successful candidate by: Monday, 30 January 2017

THREE copies of the completed application should be returned in a sealed envelope marked ‘Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary’ to The Academic Office, St Hilda’s College by the publicised closing date. Alternatively, an email application (one copy) is acceptable. An application sent by email should be clearly titled with the bursary’s name and your name (i.e., BairstowApplicationSURNAME) and should be sent to college.office@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk
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Further Particulars

The purpose of the Rosalind Jane Bairstow Bursary is to facilitate academic study. It is presumed that the bursary will assist primarily with the payment of fees on an agreed academic course. Assistance with subsistence and travel will also be made available if funds allow but in any given year the published upper value of the bursary will not be supplemented.

In the event that the award holder does not undertake or does not complete the chosen course of study for which the bursary was given, they agree to repay the College the full amount of any payments made to them. If an individual is prevented from completing the course of study by an unforeseen reason, the College may exercise its discretion and not seek to recover the full amount of any payments to that individual during the year of study. If the holder of the bursary does not commence the agreed course of study or fails to complete the course once started, they must contact The Principal of St Hilda’s College in writing immediately to explain in full the circumstances preventing commencement or completion of the agreed course of study abroad.

Applicants contemplating study abroad are reminded that they must budget carefully and consider the full costs for subsistence, travel and study. They should also be aware of any extra requirements and the time required to meet such obligations as the obtaining of a student visa. They should further note that admission for study at an American university is predicated upon a good score having been achieved in the G.R.E. and that that examination may well require preparation.