

Nanette R. LaCross Prize(s) and William D. Drake Prize(s)

Students are encouraged to apply directly, but we also accept nominations by fellow students, staff or faculty.

These prizes encourage or recognize past, current or proposed work by students in SEAS or PITE who link their studies with the Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum in some way. The LaCross Prize honors the student who best exemplifies the spirit of Nanette LaCross who as a lawyer worked tirelessly for women's rights, animal welfare, and many other environmental concerns. The Drake Prize honors the student who best exemplifies the spirit of William Drake who as a professor in the School of Natural Resources and Environment was dedicated to a variety of environmental concerns at both global and local scales. The range of activities encompasses regular volunteering, conducting research or artistic endeavors related to the properties, or participating as student employees at the MBGNA. Special project activities are also appropriate, and examples have included botanical, zoological, or ecological studies; environmental stewardship projects; green technologies and design related to the built environment; environmental art installations; gardening with children; local food production and sustainable agricultural systems.

To apply for these prizes you must submit a 1-2 page statement describing past affiliation or proposing some new activity, describing how it has or will contribute to your personal and career goals. Also include a copy of your resume with names of at least three references.

To nominate someone, please submit a short one-paragraph statement about the person you'd like to nominate and their connection to Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. We will then ask the student nominated to submit an application.

Prize range: \$500 - \$2,000.

Email applications and nominations to Dr. David C. Michener: michener@umich.edu.