Four scholarships to be awarded for MSU writers' conference

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FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED FOR MSU WRITERS' CONFERENCE

Four scholarships of $25 each, called the Joseph Kinsey Howard awards, will be given this year to students who have had or are taking advanced courses in creative writing at Montana University, Missoula, or at Montana State College, Bozeman. They will be used to cover living expenses at the MSU Writers' Conference which runs from July 21 through the 26, H. V. Larom, the conference director, announced today.

The scholarships are given by A. B. Guthrie, Jr., in memory of Howard, the author of "Montana, High, Wide and Handsome" and "Strange Empire," who started the Writers' Conference on the campus of MSU in the summer of 1949 and who directed it until his death in 1951. The University will allow the students to attend all sessions without charge, and the scholarships will be given as cash awards to cover the costs of room and board.

"We are extremely grateful for the awards," Larom said, "because there are a number of young people taking creative writing at the College and here at the University who have considerable ability but who, because of finances, have been unable to come to the conference. We are trying to select these students on the basis of need and ability."

Actually, in spite of inflation, the costs for attending the conference are small, Larom added. $25 covers all sessions, the reading of one manuscript, and the 10th anniversary conference dinner on July 26. Comfortable rooms at the residence halls cost $1.25 a night, and food is available at the Lodge grill at student rates.

This year's conference has one of the largest staffs in its history, Larom said. Besides Guthrie, Pulitzer Prize winner and adviser to the conference for several years, the staff includes Archie Binns, author of 17 volumes of fiction, history, nonfiction

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and juveniles; Bernard Malamud, author of "The Assistant," and "The Magic Barrel"; Albert Maisel, a frequent contributor to Reader's Digest and other magazines; Robert O. Bowen, the author of three novels and many short stories, two of which have appeared in the Best Short Stories series; Leslie Fiedler, author of "An End to Innocence" and a contributor of poetry to many magazines; and Larom, author of a number of juveniles.

Other Montana writers are expected to attend on Saturday, July 26, for Montana-Northwest Writers' Day, and for the 10th anniversary dinner that evening.

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