THE MARIE C. MALARO EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND WRITING AWARD

Version May 6, 2025

The Marie C. Malaro Excellence in Research and Writing Award honors the achievements of Professor Emerita Marie Malaro, former director of the Museum Studies Program and an American Association of Museums Centennial Honoree. Professor Emerita Malaro co-authored *A Legal Primer on Managing Museum Collections*, the primary resource on law and ethics of collections management. She was the lead lecturer and co-instructor of Museum Collections Management: Legal and Ethical Issues for the Distance Education Program from 2004 to 2013.

Each year up to three graduate students are honored for excellence in research and writing in the field of museum studies. After presenting their paper topics at the annual Marie C. Malaro Symposium, each recipient receives an award of $200 and a certificate.

## Guidelines and Instructions

1. **Article Length:** The article should be a professional research piece between 4,000-5,000 words in length (excluding notes and bibliography). Articles should follow the latest edition of the *Chicago Manual of Style* and use Notes & Bibliography format for citations.

2. **Originality:** The article should have been developed substantially during the student’s time in the Corcoran Museum Studies program and should contribute new insights to the field of museum studies.

3. **Research Ethics:** The article must adhere to best practices and ethics in research, including proper citation of sources and respect for intellectual property rights, as stated in the Code of Academic Integrity of George Washington University (<https://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity>) and Code of Ethics of the American Alliance of Museums (<https://www.aam-us.org/programs/ethics-standards-and-professional-practices/code-of-ethics-for-museums/>).

4. **Evidence-Based:** The article should rely on evidence and sources to support its arguments, enhancing its validity and credibility.

5. **Abstract:** An abstract summarizing the research and findings, no more than 150 words, must accompany all manuscripts.

6. **Author Biography:** A brief author biography of no more than 50 words must accompany all manuscripts.

7. **Submission and Deadline:** The submission deadline will be announced at the beginning of the spring semester. Articles must be submitted with the cover sheet in advance of this deadline to CMST@gwu.edu with the subject line: Malaro Award Submission.

8. **Assessment:** Articles will be assessed by external examiners, such as former Museum Studies professors. The recommendations for awards will be based on the following criteria:

* 50% contribution to the field, which may include synthetic or original research (primary sources, interviews, observations in the field, etc.), and/or the application of knowledge to a professional product.
* 25% contextualizing the project within the field, using research in published or otherwise available resources (including relevance and reliability of sources)
* 25% communications, including clarity, cohesion, and professionalism of final product (including appropriate use of citations)

9. **Awards:** Awards will be announced two weeks prior to the Malaro Symposium and awardees will be expected to work with faculty to prepare a short presentation on their paper.

[Award Winners and Malaro Symposium Speakers](https://corcoran.gwu.edu/marie-c-malaro-excellence-research-and-writing-award)

# Malaro Award: Cover Sheet

The Marie C. Malaro Excellence in Research and Writing Award honors the achievements of Professor Emerita Marie Malaro, former director of the Museum Studies Program and an American Association of Museums Centennial Honoree. Professor Emerita Malaro co-authored *A Legal Primer on Managing Museum Collections*, the primary resource on law and ethics of collections management. She was the lead lecturer and co-instructor of Museum Collections Management: Legal and Ethical Issues for the Distance Education Program from 2004 to 2013.

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Student name: GWID:

Course Name: Semester:

Title of paper:

Author Biography (of no more than 50 words):

Abstract\*\*(of no more than 150 words):

Student signature: Date:

**Note:** *Please include your paper’s title and abstract on your paper, but* ***do not*** *include your own name, since the final paper will be assessed anonymously.*

Attached: student paper