

## Professor Jack Hicks Award in English

The Professor Jack Hicks Award in English provides support for undergraduate and graduate students in English to pursue avenues of learning that reach “beyond the classroom” and stretch the traditional definitions of literary scholarship, creative writing, and media studies. When screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely (*Chronicles of Narnia*, *Captain America: First Avenger & Winter Soldier*, *Avengers: Infinity War & Endgame*) were graduate students at UC Davis, Professor Jack Hicks encouraged them to pursue a path toward Hollywood, setting the stage for their resounding success as screenwriters amongst many other notable creative pursuits. Students are encouraged to pursue a similar bold vision or individual passion and are given “permission to stray” in the same manner that Dr. Hicks encouraged Steve and Chris to do.

UC Davis undergraduate English majors and graduate students in English are invited to apply to the Jack Hicks for funds to support an activity that complements or contributes to their education as readers and writers, such as taking a non-UC Davis class or workshop, creating digital or non-digital artwork/text that requires startup funds, traveling to an event, archive, etc. related to a project the student is undertaking, funding an unpaid internship, or specialized training in a related area. The awards this spring are for activities to be pursued any time up through April 2024. This competition will be run yearly in the spring.

### **Applications:**

Applicants should submit a maximum 500-word account of their proposed activity: what it is, when it will take place, how it relates to their work as English majors, and its benefit to their learning. They should also include a brief budget indicating how the funds would support this opportunity. The deadline is **Monday, April 10, 2023**, and applications should be sent to Aaron Barstow (ambarstow@ucdavis.edu). We anticipate making 4–8 awards in 2023, with a maximum award of \$1000 per applicant. Winners will be asked, by the end of the quarter (or summer) in which the activity is completed, to submit a brief account of their experience to be shared with the donor.