Dr. Harold McCracken, then a Director of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming established the award in 1968. His long association with Alaska began when he led an Ohio State University expedition to the Territory from 1915 to 1917. He mined in Alaska from 1919 to 1920, and led an OSU expedition to film the life of the Alaska brown bear and other game in 1922 and 1923. He also led the Stoll-McCracken expedition for the American Museum of Natural History, and added to the archeological information on the Aleutian Islands. In 1966, the University of Alaska conferred an Honorary Doctor of Law degree on McCracken for distinguished achievements, which added greatly to the knowledge about Alaska.

He has written more than 30 books and several articles, many of which deal with Alaska.

The contest is open to all students enrolled in all campuses of the University of Alaska system. A $150 award will be given for fiction or non-fiction writing (not exceeding 30 double-spaced typed pages). Only one entry per participant will be accepted.

The cover sheet should contain the name of the contest, the title of the submission, the student’s name, address, and student I.D. number.

The story, chapter, essay, or journal entry should be neatly typed, double-spaced on one side only of standard weight paper and stapled in the upper left corner. No name or other identifying information should appear on any page of the story, chapter, essay, or journal entry.

ENTRIES MUST BE SENT TO AUDREY GIBSON at algibson@alaska.edu on or before MARCH 31, 2022.