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# Glenda Garrelts Mattes and Donald A. Mattes Foreign Wander Award

Kansas State University  
College of Arts & Sciences

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Application Deadline – February 15, 2020

## Description:

The **Glenda Garrelts Mattes and Donald A. Mattes Foreign Wander Award** is intended to provide the financial means to allow a student, who might not otherwise consider it, to travel abroad and meaningfully engage a new culture and setting for the first time.

The College of Arts & Sciences invites undergraduates to submit proposals for an independent travel experience. **One** award of **\$4,000** will be available for **Summer 2020**. Students who may not otherwise have the financial means to travel abroad are particularly encouraged to apply.

Proposals should facilitate independent international travel and expose the applicant to the people and customs of another country (or multiple countries). Several notes:

## Eligibility:

Eligible applicants will:

- ✓ Pursue a degree track within the College of Arts & Sciences
- ✓ Be enrolled as undergraduates in good academic standing at the time of application
- ✓ Have no previous travel outside the United States or Canada

The duration of the travel experience may vary, as long as it will effectively meet the goals of the program as stated above. The destination may vary as well. Students may not travel to any country where a State Dept. travel advisory or warning applies.

## Application Procedure:

Students submit the following to **Alison Wheatley** in **107 Calvin Hall** by **February 15, 2020** to apply:

- Resume that includes the names of two professional references. Please share with them your intention to apply. At least one should be affiliated with K-State.
- Essay that outlines your proposal for travel abroad and indicates why you want to undertake the experience. The essay should include a rough itinerary. Two to four full pages. Double spaced. Eleven point type.
- K-State Transcript
- Signed copy of the **Expectations and Requirements** page (next page).

Personal interviews will be conducted for those students whose applications are rated most highly by the selection committee.

## Selection Criteria:

Good proposals should present an itinerary that reflects thoughtful planning while still clearly offering the student an opportunity to explore. We are also looking for individuals who evince and/or articulate:

- ✓ Personal maturity and flexibility (an ability to adapt to new challenges and cope effectively with cultural differences)
- ✓ Language skills suitable for the destination
- ✓ Articulated reasons for traveling abroad
- ✓ Strong interpersonal skills
- ✓ Desire and ability to maximize the value of their experience

Strong proposals will:

- ✓ Effectively meet the goals of the program (see *Description*)
- ✓ Present a feasible and realistic agenda, given the award amount and time allotted.
- ✓ Explain how the student intends to use his or her time while abroad
- ✓ Plan reasonably for potential problems related to health and safety
- ✓ Indicate specific plans for lodging and interaction within the host country. Students are particularly encouraged to consider arranging a homestay as one part of their travel plans.

Students should also articulate why the Glenda Garrelts Mattes and Donald A. Mattes Foreign Wander Award would prove financially valuable in helping them to gain international experience.

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Please contact Alison Wheatley at **785-532-6904** or **artsci@ksu.edu** if you have questions about the application or about the Mattes Travel Award in general.

## Expectations:

The recipient of the Glenda Garrelts Mattes and Donald A. Mattes Foreign Wander Award will be expected to meet a few expectations in order to ensure the success of the trip. As appropriate, the recipient should:

1. Participate in a Pre-Departure Orientation provide by the Office of International Programs for all students headed abroad for the summer.
2. Carry appropriate health insurance coverage for international travel and consult with the Office of International Programs in that regard.
3. Complete all necessary steps regarding appropriate passport and visa status and consult with the Office of International Programs as needed for that purpose.

Other expectations are to:

4. Submit a personal letter Glenda and Donald Mattes, via Alison Wheatley. Due by **June 15, 2020**. This letter is an opportunity to:
  - Express gratitude for the funding and related travel opportunity.
  - Share a little about the proposed trip abroad.
  - Briefly share educational and career plans.
  - Highlight undergraduate activities to date.
5. Write an essay that narrates and reflects upon the travel experience once completed. The essay should also consider what was learned and the potential value of those insights. Due **one month** after the student returns.
  - Three to six full pages. Double spaced. Eleven point type.
  - Submitted to Alison Wheatley. The essay will also be shared with Glenda and Donald Mates.
  - Essays should be suitable for excerpted publication and/or favorable review by alumni and donors
  - The College of Arts & Sciences retains the right to **require** editing or revision if we judge that the essay is insufficiently polished or inadequate in content
6. Agree to participate in appropriate university/college publicity regarding the award.
7. Inform and consult with Alison Wheatley if problems arise prior to departure and/or if significant changes in the plan become necessary.

I am willing to abide by these expectations:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_