

Call for Applications: Nebraska Cather Collaborative Research Grants for Willa Cather Scholarship (2022)

The Cather Project of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) English Department, in cooperation with the Willa Cather Archive of the UNL Libraries and the National Willa Cather Center (NWCC) in Red Cloud, announces the availability of research grants for visiting scholars. These grants provide financial support for scholars to travel to and reside in Nebraska for one to four weeks to conduct research on Willa Cather in UNL Archives and Special Collections and in the Archive of the NWCC. Scholars from advanced doctoral students through senior faculty are invited to apply (note the change from the previous Woodress Scholars research grants program).

Proposed projects should reflect the need to conduct research in UNL Archives and Special Collections, although researchers are also encouraged to conduct research at the NWCC and to experience Cather's Nebraska hometown during their residence. Red Cloud is 2 ½ hours from Lincoln by car. Successful applicants will be awarded \$1,000 per week for up to four weeks. The deadline for submission of materials is **DECEMBER 1, 2021**, and we will inform successful applicants by **FEBRUARY 1, 2022**. Weeks in residence, which need not be consecutive, should fall between **March 1, 2022, and February 28, 2023**. Note, however, that considering the contingencies of the pandemic, grant funds will be held in reserve and may be taken up later if archives access and safe travel are not available during this period.

The Cather Project will assist successful applicants with advice about travel and lodging. When successful applicants are in residence, they will receive advice and guidance from scholars associated with the Cather Project and the Cather Archive and, depending on schedule and availability, present their work in progress.

The [Cather Project](#) produces the Willa Cather Scholarly Edition and *Cather Studies*, both published by the University of Nebraska Press. The [Cather Archive](#) is a digital project dedicated to study of Willa Cather's life and writings and the home of *The Complete Letters of Willa Cather*. The Archives and Special Collections of the UNL Libraries holds the largest collection of letters from and to Cather; edited typescripts and manuscripts of her works; multiple editions of her works; and many other Cather-associated materials. For more on these collections, see the [finding aids](#) for the various Cather-related collections. The growing archive of the National Willa Cather Center includes books, letters, photographs, and personal items. Information about these collections can be accessed [here](#).

These grants are funded by the Willa Cather Fund and the Roberta and James Woodress Fund, both of which are administered by the University of Nebraska Foundation. When schedule and availability permits, the NWCC will provide in-kind support in the form of housing in Red Cloud.

To apply, please send to Beth Burke (eburke3@unl.edu), Cather Project Specialist, as e-mail attachments the following items:

- your c.v. (please limit to 2 pages)
- an application statement of no more than 3 pages describing your proposed research project and the importance of materials and resources at UNL and the NWCC to your project (please be specific).

In addition:

- one professional letter of recommendation sent directly to Beth by your recommender. The letter should be specific to the proposed project rather than a general letter of recommendation (such as a letter from job placement dossier).

Please address questions about these grants to Professor Melissa J. Homestead, Director of the Cather Project (mhomestead2@unl.edu).