

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Newman Student Award Fund

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INTRODUCTION

This award program is named in honor of the late Robert Bradford Newman, a gifted teacher of architectural acoustics for over 30 years at M.I.T., the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and other architectural schools. Prof. Newman was also founding partner in the pioneering acoustical consulting and research firm of Bolt Beranek and Newman (BBN). He was widely known as a teacher with extraordinary ability to communicate the essentials of architectural acoustics and its practical applications in buildings.

After Mr. Newman's untimely death in 1983, a committee of his friends and colleagues developed this program to honor outstanding students at schools of architecture, of architectural engineering, and of music throughout the world. The first Newman Medal was awarded in 1986. Students nominated for the Newman Medals must have demonstrated excellence in this discipline and in the application of acoustical design principles in the course of their studies.

The Fund is administered by the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) through the Newman Student Award Fund Advisory Committee which operates as a sub-committee of the ASA Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics (TCAA). Robert Newman had a vision that every school of architecture should offer at the least a basic course in acoustics; the Fund works toward that objective.

The Newman Student Award Fund now annually provides individual medal awards at over fifty qualifying institutions, supports prizes for student design competitions and, through monetary grants, aids in the development of architectural acoustics education through the following programs.

1. Newman Student Medals, for merit in the study of architectural acoustics.
2. Wenger Student Design Prizes, for excellence in acoustical design.
3. Schultz Grants, for advancement of education in architectural acoustics.

1. NEWMAN STUDENT MEDALS

Eligibility

The Robert Bradford Newman Student Medal for Merit in Architectural Acoustics recognizes excellence in the study of acoustics and its application to architecture. The program honors outstanding students at schools of architecture, of architectural engineering and of music throughout the world. Students nominated for the award must have demonstrated excellence in this discipline and in the application of acoustical design principles in the course of their studies.

Academic institutions offering a basic course in architectural acoustics and opportunities for students to apply architectural acoustics design principles in student projects or theses may participate in the Newman Student Medal program. Qualifying institutions may nominate students each year for the award based on demonstrated excellence in the study of architectural acoustics and the application of acoustical design principles to their student projects and research.

Nominations

Applications for the awards are submitted to the ASA by a sponsoring faculty member and consist of a Medalist Candidate Nomination Form and a Participating School Information Form. The Nomination Form should be accompanied by an abstract summary of the student's design project or research on which the nomination is based. The Participating School Information Form should be submitted for the initial award from the particular institution and then updated every five years.

Applications are received by ASA and reviewed by the Fund Advisory Committee Chair(s), who will determine approval on behalf of the Fund. Upon approval, the ASA will process the award and then notify the applicant and sponsoring faculty member.

The schedule period for student medal awards is based on the calendar year. The review process is ongoing throughout the year, and typically involves approximately four weeks from receipt by the ASA of the Nomination Form to delivery of the engraved medal to the medalist's institution.

The Fund typically allows one medal per school each year. However, the Fund permits multiple awards- under special circumstances, such as when two students are deemed equally qualified, or where the institution has an integrated program for both undergraduate and graduate students, or when efforts are recognized for each of two academic semesters, or when multiple students cooperate on a project or other circumstances approved by the Newman Student Award Fund Advisory Committee Chair(s)..

Nature of the Medal Award

At present, the award includes:

- Bronze medal, engraved with the recipient's name
- Books on architectural acoustics from the ASA Bookstore (the selection is updated periodically to represent currently available titles)
- \$300 stipend (the stipend amount is adjusted periodically, with the most recent adjustment as of January 2009)
- Standard congratulatory letter from the Fund to the medalist, with copies to the nominating faculty member, as well as to the Fund Advisory Committee Chair(s), the Honorary Chair, the Secretary, and the Newsletter Editor.

The ASA orders and distributes the engraved medals, and will convey the complete medal award package as outlined above to the recipient.

A list of all past awardees of the Newman Medal is available on the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

2. WENGER STUDENT DESIGN PRIZES

The Fund co-sponsors with the ASA Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics(TCAA) and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants a Student Design Competition, held each year at the spring ASA meeting. For each annual Competition a detailed design program description is provided for a project with unique architectural acoustics challenges. Individuals or student teams from academic institutions throughout the world are invited to submit posters describing their solutions to the design challenge in accordance with prescribed rules that accompany the program. The submissions are judged at the spring ASA meeting by a panel of experts, and prizes are awarded accordingly. The awards acknowledge a first place Honors Award and up to four Commendation Awards.

The Wenger Foundation generously funds the awards each year in memory of the firm's founder, Harry Wenger, who was a long-time friend of education in music and in architectural acoustics.

Further details about the Competition and a list of past winners are available on the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

3. SCHULTZ GRANTS FOR ADVANCEMENT IN ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS EDUCATION

The Fund supports Theodore John Schultz Grants which provide partial funding for teachers or researchers interested in developing improvements in architectural education. This grant is established to acknowledge the contributions of the late Dr. Schultz for his years of distinguished research contributions to the field of acoustics and for his dedicated service as a founding member of the Newman Student Award Fund Advisory Committee.

The typical Schultz Grant, \$3,000, is awarded approximately every two to three years, provides partial support for the development of improved teaching methods, new curricula, innovative texts, or research in architectural acoustics education. Applicants must have teaching experience in acoustics and should manifest a strong desire to develop improved methods and materials for teaching architectural acoustics.

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a letter describing how the grant will be used, and an outline budget indicating expenses for which support is being sought. Applications and attachments must comply with the requirements noted on the Newman Fund website.

A list of all past awardees of the Schultz Grant is available on the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

FUND ORGANIZATION, OPERATION, and SUPPORT

a. Annual Newman Fund Newsletter

A Newman Student Award Fund Newsletter is prepared for each calendar year covering the Fund's activities and proceedings for the preceding year. The Newsletter includes announcements, acknowledgement of student medal award and design competition prize recipients, recognition of pertinent news for the architectural acoustics community, and spotlight briefs on members of the Funds Advisory Committee members. In short it represents the Funds "Annual Report" to all of its stake holders.

The Newsletter is mailed to all ASA members who list architectural Acoustics as their 1st, 2nd or 3rd priority technical interest areas, the ASA Executive and Technical Councils, Technical Committees on Architectural Acoustics, Noise, the ASA Committee on Education, the ASA Greater Boston Regional Chapter, The National Council of Acoustical Consultants, The Institute of Noise Control Engineering, member institutions of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and other groups interested in architectural acoustics. The Newsletter for a given calendar year is mailed during the first quarter of the subsequent year.

The Newsletter mailing includes a self-addressed return envelope for contributions to the Fund. The Fund Advisory Committee undertakes preparation of and printing of the Newsletter and the ASA distributes the Newsletter.

Past issues of the Newsletter are available from the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

b. Governance

The Newman Student Award Fund is formally organized as a sub-committee of the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics (TCAA) of the Acoustical Society of America. The Fund has its own Advisory Committee that reports to the TCAA. The relationship to the ASA and the responsibilities of the Advisory Committee are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Advisory Committee and the ASA. The operation of the Newman Fund is in accordance with ARTICLE 11 – ROBERT BRADFORD NEWMAN STUDENT AWARD FUND of an Amendment to the Rules of the ASA Committee on Prizes and Special Fellowships, approved by the Executive Council of the ASA on June 7, 2002.

c. Fund Advisory Committee (as of January 2011)

William J. Cavanaugh, Co-Chair
Carl J. Rosenberg, Co-Chair
Mary Shaw Newman, Honorary Chair
Lily M. Wang, Secretary.
Andrew Carballeira, Newsletter Editor

Lincoln B. Berry*
David T. Bradley*
Christopher H. Blair
Richard H. Campbell
Robert D. Celmer
Robert C. Coffeen
Stephen Dance**
Peter D'Antonio
M. David Egan**
Donna Anne Ellis*
Timothy J. Foulkes
Ronald R. Freiheit
K. Anthony Hoover**
J. Christopher Jaffe
Ronald L. McKay
Kenneth P. Roy
Gary W. Siebein**
Michelle Vigeant*
Ewart A. Wetherill

* Designates past Newman Medalist

** Designates past Schultz Grant awardee

Membership on the Advisory Committee is open to any interested professionals in the field of Architectural Acoustics. Letters of interest should be directed to the Chair.

d. Fund Advisory Committee Meetings

The Newman Fund Advisory Committee meets during the semi-annual ASA meetings, usually at 4:30 pm on Tuesday of ASA meeting week, in a scheduled meeting room. The Advisory Committee reports to the TCAA usually on the evening of Tuesday of ASA meeting week. Minutes are kept and distributed to the Advisory Committee.

e. Associated Cooperating Organizations

The following organizations directly and indirectly have supported the goals and operation of the Newman Student Award Fund:

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
The Boston Architectural College
Harvard University Graduate School of Design
MIT School of Architecture and Planning
Rhode Island School of Design
National Council of Acoustical Consultants
The Acoustical Society of America:
 Technical Committee on Education in Acoustics
 Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics
 Technical Committee on Noise
 Greater Boston Regional Chapter
Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories
Institute of Noise Control Engineering
Shure Incorporated
Wenger Foundation

f. Forms

All forms are available on line at www.newmanfund.org. There is an on-going review of all forms to assure they serve the Fund and make it easy for ASA to process the awards. Current Forms include a Newman Medalist Nominating Form, a Participating School Information Form, and a Professional Sponsor Information Form.

g. Databases

The following databases are maintained by the Fund and by ASA, and are available on-line on the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

1. Names of Newman Fund recipients, including year of award, title of project, participating school.
2. Names of Schultz Grant recipients, including year of award, title of project, affiliation.
3. Names of Student Design Competition Wenger Prize recipients, including year of award.

h. Professional Sponsor Liaison Program

Since the beginning of the program, the Newman Fund has invited professionals in architectural acoustics to help the goals of the Fund not only by contributing to the Newman Fund endowment on a regular basis but also to teach courses or present lectures in architectural acoustics at schools when requested, as well as to serve as a liaison between the Fund and one or more local schools where courses and programs are offered. If this activity on behalf of the Newman Fund is of interest, please complete and return the Professional Sponsor Form available on the Newman Fund website; see www.newmanfund.org.

i. Endowment and Contributions

The Newman Fund is a named fund within the enveloping organization of the Acoustical Society Foundation, which maintains the accounts of the Newman Fund as part of its endowment. Contributions to the Newman Fund are tax-deductable. The ASA will acknowledge all contributions with a signed letter.

j. Financial Report

The ASA prepares a simple informal summary of income and expenses on a yearly basis, and this is reported to the Newman Student Award Fund Advisory Committee annually, usually at one of its scheduled semi annual meetings.