

# The Cordell/Powers Prize Competition



Linda S. Cordell at the Woodrow Ruin in 2012, courtesy of Laura Ware of the Santa Fe Institute.



Robert P. Powers in the Pecos Wilderness in 2014, courtesy of Sarah Herr.

The Cordell and Powers Prize is a competition that honors Linda S. Cordell and Robert P. Powers: teachers, mentors, advisors, and friends to countless Southwestern archaeologists. The top prize will be awarded for the two best talks presented at the 2023 Pecos Conference by archaeologists 35 years of age or younger. Both top winners will be awarded \$700 along with the Cordell and the Powers prize objects, respectively. Additional awards will include second place (\$550), third place (\$400), two honorable mentions (\$175), and four participation prizes (\$75). Previous winners of the Cordell **or** the Powers Prize are ineligible to re-enter the competition.

Only single-authored papers will be considered for the competition. Presentations are limited to 10 minutes. Because the Pecos Conference is held outdoors, audiovisuals and electronic media are not permitted. The presentations are judged on delivery, organization and professionalism of the presentation, interest and importance of the subject matter, and the speaker's adherence to the time limit. Potential contestants should send a title, 100-word abstract, and proof of age to CP Prize Committee Chair Kellam Throgmorton (kjt1607@gmail.com) **between July 10 – July 28, 2023**. To discourage procrastinators and to make the conference organizers' lives easier, we plan to accept the **FIRST TEN** applications we receive. Complete details and contest rules are found on page two of this handout, and they are posted on the Pecos Conference website at [www.pecosconference.org](http://www.pecosconference.org). Please direct additional questions to Kellam Throgmorton at the email above.

## Cordell/Powers Prize Competition Rules

2023 Pecos Conference

Flagstaff, Arizona

The Cordell/Powers Prize honors Linda Cordell and Bob Powers, teachers, mentors, advisors and friends to countless Southwestern archaeologists. Because presenting archaeological findings clearly and concisely is an essential professional skill, the competition seeks to hone the extemporaneous speaking ability of budding Southwestern archaeologists.

1. The Cordell/Powers Prize Competition is open to all archaeologists 35 years or younger in age on the application deadline. Each applicant will be required to submit a copy of a valid identification (driver's license, passport, etc.) verifying their age.
2. Only single-authored papers will be considered for the competition.
3. Applicants must register for the Pecos Conference.
4. Applicants must send a title for their talk, a 100-word abstract, and proof of age to CP Prize Committee Chair Kellam Throgmorton (kjt1607@gmail.com) during the CP Prize contest registration period (July 10-28, 2023).
5. The contest is limited to 10 applicants. We retain the right to reject any abstract deemed unsuitable. The committee will evaluate all applications based on quality and content. The committee may reject any application if they deem that it does not meet the guidelines. In the event that more than 10 eligible applications are received, the pool of contenders will be cut to 10 by the following process: (1) order of application – i.e., the first 10 applications received; (2) by lottery, in the event of a tie in application times. We may close the competition entry period prior to July 28 if the 10 slots are filled.
6. Applicants will be notified by August 1, 2023 if they have been accepted for the competition.
7. Talks may report interim or final results of archaeological fieldwork, research, collaborations, or public outreach in which the speaker is an investigator or participant. For example, a talk may report upon fieldwork conducted by the speaker's employer or professor, or research that the speaker is conducting for a thesis or dissertation.
8. Each talk will be limited to 10 minutes. Audiovisuals and electronic media (slides, powerpoint, video) are not permitted. Handouts are permissible but should be kept to a minimum.
9. Speakers will be evaluated by a panel of 5 judges based on delivery, organization and professionalism of the presentation, interest and importance of the subject matter, and the speaker's adherence to the time limit. The judges' scoring rubric is found on the following page.
10. The Cordell Prize and the Powers Prize will be awarded to the **TWO** best presentations. Both top winners will be awarded \$700 along with the Cordell and the Powers prize objects, respectively. Additional awards will include second place (\$550), third place (\$400), 2 honorable mentions (\$175), and 4 participation prizes (\$75).
11. Previous winners of the Cordell **or** the Powers Prize are ineligible to re-enter the competition.
12. Winners keep their prize objects for one year, then return the objects to be awarded to the next year's recipients. Winners are expected to serve as judges for at least one and not more than two years.

Contestant \_\_\_\_\_

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

## **2023 Pecos Conference Cordell/Powers Prize Criteria and Scoring**

- 1. Importance of Subject Matter** (score one) – up to 5 pts
  - 5 – highly compelling and significant
  - 4 – very significant
  - 3 – moderately significant
  - 2 – somewhat significant
  - 1 – of little significance
  
- 2. Professionalism** (score all that apply; may assign partial points) – up to 10 pts
  - 2 – talk well prepared/ speaker showed clear knowledge of material
  - 4 – speaker acknowledged descendant communities and/or stakeholders
  - 2 – speaker identified relevance to broader themes/issues in Southwest archaeology
  - 2 – did not exceed time limit (partial points possible if only slightly over time)
  
- 3. Talk Organization** (score all that apply; may assign partial points) – up to 4 pts
  - 1 – talk objectives/ goals identified at beginning
  - 1 – field work, data, or research clearly described
  - 1 – speaker draws on empirical observations or theory to support main points
  - 1 – main points/ conclusions summarized at end
  
- 4. Delivery and Audience Reception** (score all that apply; may assign partial points) – up to 6 pts
  - 2 – generated listener interest (e.g., jokes, interesting “hook”, gestures, etc.)
  - 1 – spoke clearly, audibly to allow audience comprehension
  - 2 – made the presentation personal/conversational (e.g., eye contact, audience participation)
  - 1 – talk pitched at appropriate level/ defined technical terms not likely to be understood
  
- 5. Judge’s Assessment of Talk** (score one) – up to 5 pts
  - 5 – Excellent
  - 4 – Very Good
  - 3 – Decent
  - 2 – Fair
  - 1 – Poor

Total Points Awarded: \_\_\_\_\_/30