Why Art History?

As an Art History Major, you are uniquely qualified to answer this question, win a $750 prize, and have your work published in the New University!

All you have to do is write an essay of 1,000 words (maximum) answering the question, “Why Art History?” The question is broad, but we are looking for answers that address questions such as:

- Why should anyone major in art history?
- What important skills does an art history major develop and how will those skills help you to succeed in your future?
- How has being an art history major at UCI provided you with opportunities not available to other majors?


The Friends of Art History, with thanks to an anonymous donor and Trader Joe's, is sponsoring this essay competition with a total award package as follows:

1st place: $750 cash prize  2nd place: $250 cash prize  3rd place: Trader Joe’s Gift Basket

The essays will be judged by FOAH sponsor LaVonne Smith; president of the board of directors of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation, author, and FOAH member Gordon McAlpine; and Chancellor’s Professor of Art History Cécile Whiting.

Please email your essay as a PDF to Cecilia Flanagan at c.flanagan@uci.edu prior to the deadline of Monday, October 14 at 12 PM. Your essay should be double-spaced with 12-point Times New Roman Font and 1-inch margins.