David S. Atkinson Buys You Books Award

Award Statement:
“Reading is, of course, an integral part of writing. During the time I was enrolled in the program as a student, I was lucky enough to be able to raid the MFA Friends Bookstore extensively during residencies. I considered this to be important for getting the most out of the program, to know more about mentors and their writing, as well as other students and alumni. However, not everyone may be as free to explore the MFA Friends Bookstore as I was. As such, I decided to pick a student each semester based on the reading that student had done and buy that student $100 worth in books from the MFA Friends Bookstore. Criteria include the number of books read as well as the variety (multiple forms such as poetry, prose, and plays; literary works, genre works, modern works, and classics; authors from different parts of the world, and so on).” – David S. Atkinson.

Award Application:
• **Deadline**: Submissions are due at same time as the MFA in Writing’s Final Summaries Assignment each semester.
• **Required Documentation**: Send the Administrative Director your reading list via email attachment (MLA format, Word Document) from the past semester. Incoming students can participate, as long as they submit their reading lists from the same time period.
• **Award Determination**: The MFA in Writing’s Associate Director will remove all names from the lists, assign a random number to each, and forward the lists to David S. Atkinson for his review. Before the next Residency session, he will inform the MFA Office the number of the list he has chosen as the winner. All decisions made are final.
• **Award Announcement**: The winner will be announced at Orientation at Residency, and s/he will receive a $100 Gift Certificate which can only be redeemed for books at the MFA Friends Bookstore.