

Alice Munro Chair in Creativity

Celebrating A Literary Icon

Alice Munro Chair in Creativity

Alice Munro is counted among Western University's most extraordinary alumni. Her first connection to Western's Department of English came while she was an undergraduate pursuing an English major. As a student, she published three short stories in Western's undergraduate English magazine, *Folio*, in 1950 and 1951.

Munro returned to Western in 1974-75, as Western's Writer-in-Residence. During this time, she crafted her collection, *Who Do You Think You Are?*, which won the Governor General's Award. In 1976, Western recognized Munro's literary achievements with an honorary degree, the only such honour she has ever accepted.

In October 2013, Munro was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

We are humbled to have played a part in her storied career. Western is proud to honour her by creating the **Alice Munro Chair in Creativity**.

With the help of our alumni and friends, we seek to endow this Chair in perpetuity, in lasting tribute to Alice Munro's dedication to the craft of writing and in acknowledgement of her outstanding contribution to literature through her absorbing prose and memorable short stories.

Impact of the Chair

The establishment of this prestigious Academic Chair will enable us to recruit a stellar creative writer, an exceptional teacher and scholar who will advance our tradition of excellence in developing the talents of students and future writers.

The Alice Munro Chair in Creativity will:

- Lead the creative culture of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Western, serving as a mentor and a model;
- Focus on the production of creative work, alongside a study of creativity;
- Assume a leadership role between Western and the local creative community;
- Allow us to enhance and expand the Writer-in-Residence program;
- Give us access to a world of writing beyond Canada, allowing us to attract international authors as speakers and to our writers-in-residence program.



“Alice Munro is Canada’s finest writer. We are immensely proud that her extraordinary career began at Western.”

- David Bentley,
*Distinguished University
Professor and Carl F. Klinck
Professor in Canadian Literature*

Western's Commitment: Matching Funds

The cost to permanently endow a Chair position is **\$3 million**.

In recognition of Alice Munro's dedication to the creative process and her longstanding ties to her alma mater, **Western has already committed \$1.5 million** to match donations to this initiative.

Please join us to honour Western's connection to Alice Munro in a significant and enduring way by helping us to raise an additional \$1.5 million in support of the Alice Munro Chair in Creativity.

Donor Recognition

The prestige and honour surrounding an endowed Chair is shared not only by its holder, but also by the donors whose gifts make it possible, by the name it bears, and by the university at which it is established.

Additional recognition opportunities include:

Membership in Western's 1878 Societies

In recognition of our donors' support of the Chair we are pleased to offer individuals whose giving is \$25,000 or more cumulatively, membership in the University's 1878 Societies. Corporate donors with cumulative giving of \$100,000 earn membership to the Societies.

Members' names are listed on the donor wall in Alumni Hall, in our annual report and on our website. Donors are also invited to attend special events throughout the year.

Regular Stewardship

Donors will receive regular reports from key personnel describing their activities and progress. As well, invitations to campus are also extended so that donors can witness the creative works supported through the Chair.

Gift Announcements and Acknowledgements

Support of this Chair could result in public announcements and celebrations of gifts made, as well as recognition in university publications.

Thank You

The Alice Munro Chair in Creativity will bring literature and creativity to the centre of campus. It is also a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of a Western alumna who is both a Nobel laureate and a Canadian literary icon.

To give online, please visit: extraordinary.westernu.ca/munro



Alice Munro, receiving her DLitt degree, during Western's 220th Convocation on June 9, 1976.

“One of the things we can learn from Alice Munro's extraordinary late-career honour is that we still live in a world in which our passions and creativity are valued. What an inspiring message we have now for our students, for our community, and for all of our creative ambitions.”

-Bryce Traister,
*Associate Professor
Chair, Department of English*

Jessica Schagerl, PhD
Alumni & Development Officer
Faculty of Arts & Humanities
Western University
t. 519.661.2111 (ext. 87896) e. jschage@uwo.ca