

# The William and Elizabeth Hiester Manuscript Competition

The Berks History Center is pleased to announce that the Hiester Manuscript Competition is now open. The winner will receive a \$250.00 cash award and have his/her essay published in a future issue of *The Historical Review of Berks County*.

## Competition Rules:

1. Any subject pertaining to Berks County's history, material culture, culture heritage or people is eligible. Scholarly research papers, popular histories, or personal memoirs are welcome.
2. The manuscript must be original, previously unpublished and written in English.
3. Only one manuscript per author may be submitted per annual competition.
4. Manuscripts are limited to a maximum of 2,000 words. All others will be disqualified.
5. The manuscript must be set in 12 point font [Times New Roman preferred], normal margins of 1" right and left, top and bottom and submitted in digital format on CD or email as an attachment (preferred). Microsoft Word 2007 or more current versions preferred.
6. The manuscript shall bear the author's name only, which is masked before judging. Headers and footers shall contain no marks of identification such as letterheads, pictures, and references to institutions, companies, or other clues to the author's identity. Such identification will disqualify the manuscript.
7. Once submitted, a manuscript cannot be withdrawn, revised and re-entered. Authors wishing to withdraw their manuscripts from the competition before judging takes place must do so in writing.
8. All manuscripts submitted to the competition become the property of the Berks History Center and will not be returned. Authors are asked to please retain personal copies.
9. Deadline for entry is January 15, 2018 and those received after that date will be disqualified.
10. The contest is open to all members of The History Center and while not a requirement to enter, non-members are encouraged to join.

**Entry Format:** Please include the following information with your digital submission:

- Name [s] of author [co authors]
- Contact address-both physical and email
- Telephone number
- Title of manuscript
- Mail CDs\*\* to: Berks History Center, 940 Centre Ave, Reading, Pennsylvania 19601

**\*\*Email submissions (preferred) to: [heisterawards@berkshistory.org](mailto:heisterawards@berkshistory.org)**

**Judging Criteria:** Manuscripts are judged by members of the editorial board. Judges will evaluate the papers by considering:

1. Relevancy to Berks County's history, material culture, cultural heritage or people
2. Originality and contribution to the body of knowledge of above.
3. Appeal and interest of the manuscript.
4. Amount of research involved.
5. Basic grammar, composition, form and writing style, readability and flow.
6. Only the writing is evaluated, accompanying illustrative materials are not considered by the judges but are encouraged if manuscript is chosen as the winner and is published.

**Publication Policy:** Winning articles will be published during the following year. Some manuscripts may be held for publication for an indefinite period. Authors wishing to withdraw their manuscripts from consideration for publication in the *Historical Review* are asked to do so in writing. Manuscripts must be withdrawn prior to publication in any other periodical. The editorial board reserves the right to edit any article chosen for publication in the *Historical Review*.

**Copyright Policy:** Our copyright policy provides for one-time publication of material in the *Historical Review of Berks County*. We retain the right to reproduce any article published in the *Historical Review* on BHC's website: <http://www.berkshistory.org>. We request that authors refrain from republishing articles that have appeared in the *Historical Review* for a period of at least one year and on republication include the notation: "This article was previously published in the *Historical Review of Berks County* and cite the issue volume, number and year.

**Award:** The winner will receive a \$250.00 cash award. There is only one winner and the committee reserves the right to withhold the award if judging criteria is not met.