Description:
The Macomber Travel Grant is awarded to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in the USC Roski School of Art and Design. Selected through a competitive process, the $7,500 prize will support projects involving research-based travel, the production of new art work, and a public presentation of the new work.

A maximum of four prizes will be awarded annually at the discretion of the Dean of the Roski School, in consultation with the School’s faculty: up to two for undergraduate Roski Majors (BA or BFA); up to one for an MFA candidate, and up to one to an MA (or dual degree) candidate. The winners will be recognized at the Annual Student Show and Award Ceremony in May at the Fisher Museum.

Undergraduate award winners are expected to present an exhibition in the spring semester of their senior year in the Helen Lindhurst Gallery. The MFA award winner is expected to present an exhibition in the fall semester, a year after graduation in the IFT Gallery. The MA award winner is expected to make a public presentation, which may be in the form of a lecture, during the spring semester of their second year. Dates will be agreed in advance with the faculty committee leader, mentor, and the Dean.

Eligibility:
Applicants must be third year undergraduate Fine Arts majors (BA or BFA), who will begin their senior year the fall following the award; current 2nd year MFA graduate students; or 1st year MA graduate students. Students are allowed to submit team proposals, but the financial award will remain the same ($7,500) and will be shared.

Project Eligibility:
The student’s application must include a proposal and a budget of expenses for travel related to the research, development, production and presentation of an independent art project.

Faculty Mentor:
Students must work with a faculty mentor, chosen by the student, and agreed in advance by the mentor. The “Agreement to Serve as a Mentor” form must be completed at the time of the application. This faculty mentor will help the student develop the proposal as well as guide the student through the different phases of the project from start to finish. Faculty mentors cannot be on leave during the academic year that the project takes place. Adjunct faculty can mentor students with advance permission from the Vice Dean of Faculty.

Travel:
Awardees must notify the Roski School of their travel plans and emergency contact information in advance of their proposed travel. Prize money will be distributed after July 1 after the submission of full travel information to Penelope Jones, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. Winners will be given the appropriate forms upon receipt of the award.

Value of Prize:
The prizes are available in the fixed amount of $7,500 to cover: travel costs (transportation and accommodation), production, and presentation. Roski School will produce a postcard announcement/invitation for students. The prize will be paid to recipient upon selection and completion of necessary paperwork. Once funds have been disbursed, the prize recipient is responsible for all expenses related to his or her travel presentation. Please note that the award money is taxed. Tax withholdings vary for individual students. Recipients should expect as much as $1,000 or even $1,500 to be deducted for these purposes.
Assessment of Applications:
The Prize will be juried by members of the full-time faculty of the Roski School of Art and Design and approved at the discretion of the Dean of the Roski School.

Application Deadline:
All applications must be received on SlideRoom by March 30, 2016 at 5pm. Please submit your application online at roski.slideroom.com where you will find a specific application for the Macomber Travel Grant. A tutorial for uploading materials is available when you sign up for SlideRoom.

Applications must be submitted on SlideRoom, and will include:
1. Student information including full name, cell phone number, email address, local and permanent address.
2. A statement of intent of up to 500 words, including: (a) proposed project and goals, including how you would benefit from this opportunity; (b) travel plans; (c) the relevance of proposed destination(s) to individual practice or research; (d) anticipated outcome of research; and (e) plans for presenting the resulting work.
3. Supporting materials, such as additional information and links to websites.
4. Completed Budget form.
5a. FOR BA/BFA/MFA applicants: Samples of art work to include up to a total of 10 still images and/or 3 clips from videos (not more than 5 minutes each). Label images as follows: Artist's name_imageNumber.jpg The assessment of your proposal by the committee will be based in part by your ability to convey a coherent overview of your work through your visual examples. Please include the title, dimensions, and materials under each image. You may also include a short description.
5b. Completed Agreement to Mentor form, uploaded as a PDF.

Next Steps:
Students who are selected to receive awards will be asked to complete the “Agreement to Exhibit” form or the “Agreement to Exhibit in the MFA Roski Gallery” form in advance of the exhibition. These forms will be made available to the selected student.

For Questions Contact:
Penelope Jones
Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
USC Roski School of Art and Design
HSH-101
213.740.9153
penelope@usc.edu