

**KYVC Online Excellence Award Application**  
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## **CREATE YOUR BLACKBOARD HOMEPAGE**

Your first assignment is to set up your website in Blackboard. This will give your peers and your instructor a chance to get to know you a little better. Before you panic, let me add that you don't need any special web authoring skills to complete this assignment. There is a template in BB that you fill in and the website is created automatically. After logging in to BB, just go to TOOLS and click on EDIT YOUR HOMEPAGE. You might want to open BB and go to the homepage link right now; it will be easier for you to follow what I'm saying. The boxes you have to fill in within your homepage are self-explanatory, but I will explain in more detail what kind of information I'd like you to post in which box. You will also upload a photo of yourself and then tell us about your favorite websites. That's all. Your website is ready. This will be fun and easy, I promise. But you do need to think about what you want to write. So here is what you need to do.

For your Intro Message, you will compose an approximately 300-word piece that will tell the reader who you are and what kind of person you are. What's the most important thing about you? How do you want to portray yourself? What image do you want to project? What do you want people remember you by? You might like to include information about you as a writer and reader. I've just tossed out some ideas to get you going. Don't follow these questions rigorously. Consider this introductory narrative as a kind of diagnostic also. Write something that will show off your writing skills! Be sure to make it a fun for yourself and the reader. Write what you like and make it good!

For your Personal Information, please write another piece and give us the usual info that instructors request on the first day of class by way of introduction. Students usually sit in a circle and tell everybody what name they go by, etc. They talk about their families, the place where they were born and raised, their majors and minors, their career goals, past and current job(s) (PT or FT), hobbies and interests, as well as their achievements and experiences. Depending on what you say and how you say it, this kind of information can be very boring, but your job is to make it a fun read! Humor is always well received. Remember we want to have a great time!

Next you will upload your photo. The easiest thing would be to have someone take a digital photo of you. Most everybody has a digital camera nowadays. If you don't own one, try to rely on your friends and family, beg, steal, etc. You can also scan a regular photo in at Tate Page Hall, but that's more of a hassle. However, if that's what you want to do, I'll give you more info upon request.

To fill out these three boxes at the bottom of your homepage, you will need to do a little “googling.” Your research results, will provide the title, URL (web address), and description of three useful websites. You have several website options to choose from, but you only pick three. There is a catch though: websites can only be mentioned once in class. If another student has already posted a URL, you will need to look for something else so that sites don’t get repeated.

Here are your assignment options, please choose three. In the description space, please explain what the website is about, what gives the website authority (why can we trust the site), why you chose it, and how it is useful for us in this course.

1. Find a site that is relevant to the genre, subgenres, or definition(s) of creative nonfiction.
2. Find the homepage of a (famous) creative nonfiction author and tell us about him/her.
3. Find a book you have read or would like to read in one of the subgenres of creative nonfiction and tell us about it.
4. Find a site that all (serious) writers like us should be aware of and say why.
5. Find the homepage of a print or online journal associated with creative nonfiction where students could submit their pieces. Describe briefly the submission guidelines.
6. Find the homepage of a (famous) creative nonfiction writer who are also a professor at a university and introduce his/her scholarship.
7. Find upcoming conference and workshop websites associated with creative nonfiction.
8. Find advanced composition/creative nonfiction courses taught at other universities and tell us about the course content, course materials, and assignments.

And this concludes the description of the homepage assignment. If you have any questions, please post the under QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS on the Discussion Board and I’ll get back to you.

If you have already published a personal website elsewhere, please fill out this BB form anyway, but be sure to add your link. Please check your classmates’ websites and make friends with them by saying something nice about their site.

Have fun. Enjoy what you are doing.