Contest Rules
The contest is open to all registered Bryn Mawr College undergraduates. Each contestant should submit a concise statement (500-1000 words) explaining their book collection and how it began, and an annotated bibliography including all items in the collection. Most collections include 20-50 books. The collection must be owned by the student. It may be on any subject, a single author, or a group of authors, and may include manuscripts and graphics. Each finalist will give a short presentation and show five examples from their collection to the judges. Evaluation will be based on motivation, coherence of the collection, originality, accomplishment, and condition of the works entered. Monetary value is not a determining factor. Most years there is a first and a second prize, but the judges may decide to award two firsts, two seconds, or any other combination of prizes. Prizes will be presented at the Awards Assembly.

Background of the Contest
Seymour Adelman, who gave his own collection of books and manuscripts to the College Library, believed that students are often collectors without realizing it. He established this prize in order to encourage students to think about their books in a new way.

How to Enter
Submit your statement and list, with name, phone number, e-mail address, mail box number, and class year to: Marianne Hansen, Curator of Rare Books, Canaday Library, by 9 am Thursday, March 22, 2018. Judging will take place in late March. Remember to take advantage of Spring Break to bring sample books for the judging back, or have them sent to you if necessary. If you have any questions, want to know more about previous entries, or just want to talk about your collection, call 610-526-5289 or write mhansen@brynmawr.edu. Fuller information about the contest, and a list of books on book collecting, is available at: https://www.brynmawr.edu/lits/seymour-adelman-book-collectors-prize

Do not hesitate to enter this contest; you may well already be a book collector!

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