VRA Midwest Professional Development Award 2020

Eligibility
- You must reside in a state represented by the Midwest Chapter: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, or Missouri.
- You must be a current member in good standing of the Visual Resources Association Midwest Chapter, or reside in a state represented by the Midwest Chapter and join the Midwest Chapter before the award is disbursed if you win and accept the award.
- Your out-of-pocket expenses must be more than the amount of the award.

Benefits
- $500 award to subsidize the costs associated with attending one professional development opportunity, such as a conference or workshop.
  - If the award recipient is not currently a Midwest Chapter member, they must become a chapter member before the check will be disbursed. Chapter dues are $15 for current VRA members and $25 to join the Chapter only and not the national organization Chapter Membership. Membership dues to join both VRA and the Midwest Chapter as a student are $80 or $115 for a new member. For more information, please see the Membership information page on the VRA website.

Tips for Completing Your Application

We look forward to reading your application! We find that successful applications have a few specific qualities, and here are some of the most important things to keep in mind:

- Be as specific and thorough as possible in your Professional Development Goals Statement
  - Aim for about 500 words or less.
  - Tell the Midwest Chapter Professional Development Award Working Group how attendance at this opportunity will directly benefit the work that you do, your studies, and/or your future career goals.
  - Think about how you will give back to VRA and the Midwest Chapter in advance, and mention this in your Membership goals Statement. Some ways to give back include:
    - Attending the Midwest Chapter’s Spring Meeting at the annual Visual Resources Association conference in Baltimore in March 2020.
    - Participating in the VRA community via the VRA listserv, participating in Chapter discussions through the Chapter Basecamp site, contributing to the VRA Bulletin, and/or participating in the VRA Mentoring Program