Nominations: Each regular member institution of the Council of Graduate Schools may nominate one person for an award in the field of humanities and fine arts. The effective date of degree award, or the completion of doctoral degree requirements and dissertation, must fall in the period of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013, inclusive, for the nominee selected. Such degree award or completion is to be confirmed by the institution's graduate dean or other administrative officer responsible for doctoral degree programs.

Materials: Each nominee must prepare an abstract (not to exceed 10 pages) of his or her dissertation, typed double-spaced on 8-1/2" x 11" white paper. In addition, appendices containing nontextual material, such as charts or tables, may be included. The nominee may also choose to include a brief CV as an appendix. The pages should be numbered, and each should bear the name of the nominee. Letters from three referees selected by the nominee, evaluating the significance and quality of his or her dissertation work, are to be included in the nomination materials. One of these letters is to be from the nominee’s dissertation supervisor, another from a member of the nominee's dissertation committee, and the third from a person of the nominee's choice. The institution’s graduate dean or equivalent institutional officer should send electronically the following to the Award Committee: abstract, nomination form, letters of reference, and a cover letter on the graduate school letterhead.

Nomination Form: The nomination form may be accessed at the CGS website. Please complete and submit the form by clicking on the “Submit my email” button on the form.

Deadline: All materials are to be submitted to the Award Committee electronically no later than July 31, 2013, in order to be considered. The subject line for the submission should read Humanities/Fine Arts. A small number of finalists will be selected from among the nominees, and the Committee will review their complete dissertations.

Award: The CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, consisting of an honorarium of $2,000 and a certificate of citation, will be presented at the annual meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools, December 4-7 in San Diego, California. Reasonable travel expenses of the recipients will be paid. Only the winner and the graduate dean from the nominating university will be notified prior to December 5.

Criteria: The Council of Graduate Schools will name an Award Committee whose members have established records in the disciplinary areas under consideration. At their discretion, additional consultation may be sought. The nominated dissertations should represent original work making an unusually significant contribution to the disciplines. Both methodological and substantive quality will be judged. The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the fields considered as Humanities/Fine Arts: history; philosophy; language; linguistics; literature; archaeology; jurisprudence; the history, theory and criticism of the arts; ethics; comparative religion; and those aspects of the social sciences that employ historical or philosophical approaches. If the dissertation is multi- or interdisciplinary in nature, at least one of these fields should comprise a significant portion of the work.

Address: All nomination materials should be sent to eflagg@cgs.nche.edu no later than July 31, 2013:

Please Note: The CGS/ProQuest Award operates on a two-year cycle in regard to fields of competition. The fields of competition for 2014 will be Social Sciences and Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering; for 2015, Biological/Life Sciences and Humanities/Fine Arts.