



# Cather Circle

## Student Application

*The mission of Cather Circle is to prepare University of Nebraska–Lincoln women students for lifelong success in their careers and personal lives through mentoring and networking with successful alumnae and friends.*

### **The Members**

Alumnae members are selected for their accomplishments in their careers and civic activities and their desire to mentor University of Nebraska–Lincoln women students. All are highly successful women with a myriad of backgrounds and professions.

Students are chosen for their interest in personal and professional growth and in developing their leadership abilities.

*Past student members have gone on to rewarding careers and prestigious scholarships for higher degrees including Rhodes and Truman finalists and Fulbright Fellows.*

Since its inception in 1999, more than 280 alumnae and 400 students have participated in Cather Circle.

### **The Program**

Meetings are held each fall and spring at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus where attendees benefit from mentoring, professional development, and personal growth. Alumnae are provided the opportunity to reconnect with the University and share their wisdom as mentors and role models. Students are matched with mentors to assist them in their development and link them to jobs and internships across the nation in all fields.

A committee of Circle students and alumnae selects and plans the program for the meetings. The format varies, but tries to address the diverse interests of the members through speakers, panels and group discussions.

### **Eligibility**

All full-time female students in good standing (2.5+ GPA) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln may apply to be a Cather Circle Student.

### **Participation**

In order to reap the benefits of this program, students selected for participation are expected to attend both biannual meetings. This will require missing one Thursday and one Friday of classes, activities and work each semester. While letters are provided asking that the students be excused from classes for Thursday and Friday, students are expected to make every effort to work with their instructors to find alternative times to take tests, and make up labs and class work. Membership in Cather Circle requires a commitment of time from both alumnae and students for a successful experience.

Additional opportunities are available to participate on Cather Circle committees.

## **Terms**

Students are selected to serve a one-year term from July 1– June 30. If they meet participation requirements, they then have the opportunity to return to the program each subsequent year that they are enrolled as UNL students. Once a member, students do not need to reapply.

Upon graduation, students are eligible to become “Sibert” members (Sibert was Willa Cather’s middle name) for a period of time before becoming eligible to be considered for alumnae membership.

Membership fees are waived for the Siberts, allowing recent graduates the opportunity to stay connected to the program while launching their careers.

## **Cost**

The cost for students to participate in the program is \$25 per meeting. This money covers the cost of five meals and all meeting supplies and activities. Scholarship opportunities are available for students who need financial assistance to attend the meetings. There is no cost to apply to the program.

## **To Apply:**

Complete the attached application form and your answers to the essay questions. The form must be printed or typed. **Resumes are not necessary and will not be forwarded to the selection committee.**

All materials should be returned to the Wick Alumni Center, PO Box 80129, Lincoln, NE 68501-0129. **The application deadline is May 1.** You can also apply online at [www.cathercircle.com](http://www.cathercircle.com). All applicants will be notified of their status by mail in July.

# The Cather Circle

## Mentoring & Networking Program

### Application for Student Members

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address (next fall) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Number* *Zip Code*

Local Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*If Applicable*

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Hometown \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' names (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Number* *City* *State* *Zip*

Summer Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Class Standing (next fall):      Grad. Student      Senior      Junior      Sophomore

GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Month/Year \_\_\_\_\_

College/Major (*Ex: Arts & Sciences/Psychology*) \_\_\_\_\_

UNL/Community Activities \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Aspirations \_\_\_\_\_

Internship/Job/Volunteer Experience \_\_\_\_\_

Do you work during the semester?    Y    N    If yes, how many hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Cather Circle? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please answer the following questions with 250 words or fewer per question.**

1. Why do you want to join Cather Circle? Additionally, please discuss your willingness and ability to meet the participation requirements of the program.
2. Give an example of how your involvement in an organization or activity (student organization, work experience, community activity) made a difference to that program or organization.