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# SanPietro Summer Travel Prize

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# About the FASA Office

Lauren Stolper, Director

Elizabeth Nugent, Assistant Director

Location: 3rd floor, room 319, Center for  
Student Services

FASA Office Library – Rm 319

SanPietro Website:

<https://fasa.caltech.edu/fellowships/sanpietro>



# Craig SanPietro '69

“Since leaving Caltech in 1969, I have traveled through more than 50 countries, mostly in the third world. This travel has greatly enriched my life and I want to make similar experiences available to Caltech students. Hopefully, this travel can immerse you in unusual cultural and physical situations that challenge you and make you feel more alive.”

Mr. SanPietro passed away recently, but made an additional gift to the prize endowment to show his value of the prize. Craig launched his own company, Craden Peripherals, manufacturing specialized computer equipment ranging from automated parking systems to dedicated printers for banking applications and Craden printers became the national standard.



# Craig SanPietro '69

On his journey to becoming a founder and CEO, Craig also designed a replacement disk drive controller for IBM, returned to Caltech to earn his M.S. and to built an off-road VW, spent three months driving the Pan-American Highway to Panama, designed a 1,000 chip spacecraft telemetry system for NASA, and contributed to the programming for the Lunar Landing Module.

After retiring, Craig worked as a volunteer to restore several nearby 19th century water mills near his home outside of Philadelphia to working condition and took great joy introducing young people to the mechanical workings of those mills, as well as the fresh cornmeal that was their end-product.

# Travel expands your horizons.

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*Challenge yourself by going to new locations that are not familiar to you. Do not be afraid to think outside the box! You can travel in the U.S.*

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Check out in detail what there is to see in a location – don't miss important sites you are not aware of.

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Think about camping versus all hostels or hotels. Use public transport, but also consider walking or cycling as part or the primary part of your experience.

- Current sophomores, juniors, and seniors
- Must be 18 years of age by application deadline
- Must be enrolled at Caltech for **all terms in current academic year and enrolled fall term after** your trip.
  - Seniors exempt from fall enrollment after return.
  - Sophomores & Juniors must be enrolled for **fall term 2025**
- No GPA or citizenship requirement -- **keep visas in mind**
- Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing throughout prize process– cannot be on leave. For winter and spring terms you must be enrolled & on campus. The prize is forfeit if you go on leave or leave Caltech, for either an individual or for pair travelers; **trip is forfeit if one traveler backs out of trip.**

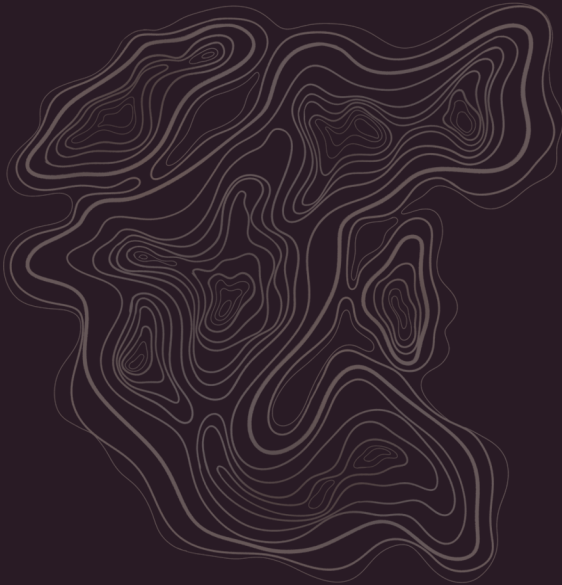




- Can travel alone or in a pair
- 2 - 12 weeks (14 days on the ground minimum- not counting arrival & departure day!)
- Start date: After Commencement seniors or completion of work for spring term. End date – weekend prior to start of fall CIT instruction
- Interesting & well thought out travel
- Feasible, intriguing, & well-planned proposal!

### No “double dipping” for travel

If you are working abroad or doing research abroad, we only pay for your travel from the work or research location to your SanPietro proposed destination provided it is on the same continent.



- Travel to/from a work or research, etc. destination is not covered.
- If you propose travel to a continent different from the foreign work, research, etc. location, departure must be Home or California unless foreign travel departure is less expensive.

**Example 1.** *If you are doing research at CERN and want to do a post or pre-CERN trip to Italy, your travel by train, bus or flight to your first destination in Italy and return to Geneva, SZ is paid only—not the travel to and from Geneva from Caltech, other California major airport, or your US home.*

- **Example 2.** *You work at CERN and want to travel to Belize, only fare from a Calif. or US home destination will be covered—not travel from Geneva to Belize unless cheaper or same!*



- Applicants will need to check with their insurance policies to make sure they are covered for emergency health coverage in the proposed SanPietro travel countries.
- Applicants must also confirm they have evacuation insurance coverage in case of natural disaster, serious injury, pandemic situation, etc.
- Cannot travel to a country that has a quarantine requirement over 48 hours.
- Travel cannot be deferred to another year for any reason.
- Travel **MUST** take place during the Caltech summer term.

- Go somewhere you’ve never been before –can do US travel
- Quality not quantity
- Get off the beaten path
- Research, research, research!  
Books, blogs, online articles
- Budget, budget, budget
- Check U.S. Dept. of State Travel Warnings: [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)

## “DON'TS”

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- Try to squeeze in too many locations or activities
- Underestimate food costs!
- Weather in summer is not conducive to travel
- Rely on guided tours-only day tours allowed!
- No private car or motorcycle rental
- Ask to go to a dangerous place, e.g., a location in conflict/unrest, or kidnapping/detainment of foreigners



- Outbound & return airfare (LAX, SFO or US home airport). Exceptions are if return to home abroad is cheaper than return to Caltech. No breaks in return trip
- Intra-country (within the country), intra-city (within the city), inter-city (travel between cities)
- International travel between countries
- Bus, train, metro/subway/trolley, Uber, walking, cycling, flights, ferry, etc.
- There are many ways to research routes and costs online

### Accommodations

- No “couch surfing” but AirBnB & similar OK
- No luxury style accommodations; must be practical and affordable for a traveling college student
- Hostel prices are listed per person
- Small hotels/B&B’s can be less expensive than hostels
- Consider *legal* camping
- No staying with relatives or friends

There are a number of great examples in the library.

- Remember to list everything in **USD**.
- Consider rate and fee changes. *During the summer months, prices may change for activities.*
- Meals, accommodation, museum tickets, day tours reasonably priced activities that enhance the trip and roundtrip airfare and local within a city and between destinations travel are covered items.

For further information, attend the SanPietro Budget meeting and/or visit the FASA Library for past examples.



## **The SanPietro is taxable.**

Tax for US citizen or resident will be based on IRS and State Supplemental Income Tax Regulations, which require 22% Federal and 6.6% CA-State withholding.

FICA tax (7.65%) and CA-SDI (1.1% *for 2024*) is required to be withheld unless the recipient is a student enrolled full time at time of payment.

### **Non-Resident:**

Subject to 22% Federal and 6.6% State tax withholding.

Not subject to FICA or CA taxes.

**DUE April 6**

**Application:**

1. Essay – all applicants
2. Second Essay for Pairs ONLY
3. Travel proposal, which includes:
  - Cover page
  - Itinerary
  - Very clear annotated Map of proposed route
4. Budget in US dollars
5. Cost breakdown-round to tens
6. Unofficial transcript
7. TWO letters of reference
8. Optional 3rd peer reference



# Authentically YOU

**These proposals must be purely your own work:**

- Do not copy itineraries from the blogs, the internet, or books
- Can use internet as a resource-do not copy. Everything must be your writing/own words

- No buddy trips or tag along trips-one person picks destination & does all the work.
- No “zigzag” itineraries – stay in one geographic area & don’t have too many countries. One to four countries work best.
- No adding extensions onto pre-existing travel plans with friends.
- No hobby trips
- No political trips
- No business-oriented trips
- No expensive activities or luxury travel such as concerts, Michelin starred restaurant meals, expensive day tours, etc.

- No car or motorcycle rental
- No travel to familiar locations
- No “discovering your roots” trips or theme trips that dominate travel (e.g., foodie trips or trying to visit every monastery in France)
- No “cozy” trips (e.g., staying put in one spot)
- No superficial trips (e.g., Scandinavia is not just major cities, i.e., Oslo, Stockholm, Copenhagen)
- No hobby trips (e.g., trip is all about mountain climbing)
- Trip is not adventure travel *but* should be adventurous for you within your comfort zone.



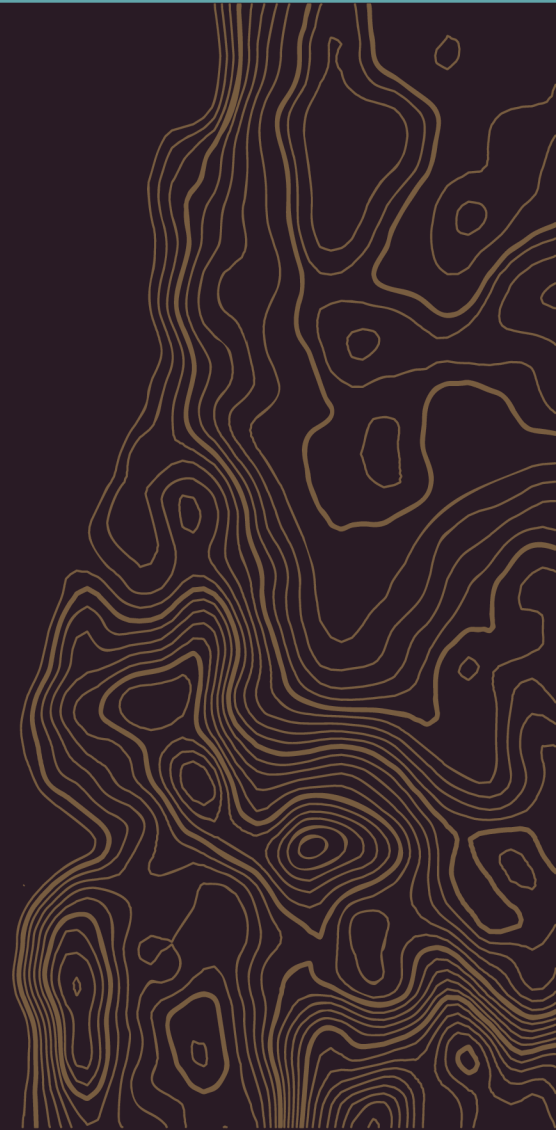
## **Internet research**

### **Publications**

- New York Times Travel
- National Geographic
- Lonely Planet

### **FASA Library**

- Previous winners' proposals and reports
- Travel books
- Articles about travel



## **FASA Office & Library**

**Open daily, 8am -- 5pm  
(closed 12-1 for lunch)**

- Rm. 319, Center for  
Student Services



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# Questions?

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