The Leo Schelbert Prize is awarded to the best submitted undergraduate or graduate research paper. The topic can be anything that relates to the mission of the Swiss American Historical Society, which focuses on increasing an understanding of Swiss and/or Swiss-American history.

Dr. Leo Schelbert was an historian and professor emeritus at the University of Illinois-Chicago who died in 2022 at age 93. Dr. Schelbert was born in Kaltbrunn, Canton St. Gallen in 1929. He got his PhD from Columbia University and taught at the University of Illinois from 1971-2003.

Dr. Schelbert focused on Swiss emigration history, writing several books and an encyclopedia about Switzerland. As President of the Swiss American Historical Society for many years, he was a great mentor and leader.

To submit a paper or to learn more, go to: https://www.swiss-american-historical-society.org/leo-schelbert-prize and submit by email to Prof. Robert Sherwood at rsherwoo@gmc.cc.ga.us by June 1st.