



Polanki

Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee

www.polanki.org

2024 COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

POLANKI'S annual College Achievement Awards recognize students who have demonstrated high achievement and who are committed to understanding, preserving, or disseminating Polish culture and or language.

Criteria:

1. U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident
2. Junior, senior or graduate status during the 2023-2024 academic year in an accredited degree program
3. Wisconsin resident OR attending a Wisconsin college or university
4. Of Polish ancestry OR have studied Polish language, history, society, or culture OR significantly engaged in Polish culture
5. Minimum 3.0 GPA on a four-point scale preferred
6. Applicants are limited to no more than two awards in their academic career. Past recipients may reapply:
 - (1) as a graduate student if they previously received an award as an undergraduate
 - (2) if they completed the course of study for which they previously received an award and are pursuing a new degree in another accredited degree program

Awards: The following awards are a sample of the awards that may be offered with amounts ranging from \$1000 to \$2000

- **Vera Buczkowski Memorial Award** for an outstanding student in any field
- **Copernicus Award** for an outstanding student in a science field
- **Robert J. Leonard Memorial Award** for a student engaged in dance or theater
- **Victor Podlaski/UWM Polish Studies Award** for a UW-Milwaukee student
- **Stanley F. and Helen Balcerzak Award** and other specially-funded memorial awards for students in any field

PLEASE NOTE: All applicants will automatically be considered for all awards for which they meet the qualifications.

Application Instructions:

1. Complete Part 1 (see next page) by printing legibly using a black ink pen or typing on the application form.
2. Complete Parts 2-4 in English, typed, and submitted on separate pages attached to the form. Please include your name on each page.
3. Attach one college-issued transcript for each college attended (unofficial transcripts are acceptable).
Alverno College applicants: please request a class rank or some standard of your academic performance relative to that of other students.
4. Send your materials to: Polanki College Achievement Award, PO Box 341458, Milwaukee, WI 53234
5. **UWM applicants:** In addition to this application, UWM students who wish to be considered for the Victor Podlaski/UWM Polish Studies Award must also complete UWM's application at uwm.academicworks.com.
6. Applications must be **postmarked no later than January 8, 2024**. Only complete applications will be considered.
7. Awards will be presented at the annual Polanki College Achievement Awards Tea on **Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 2 pm** at the Polish Center of Wisconsin, 6941 South 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132. Awardees are expected to attend the Awards Tea to receive their award and, as part of the acceptance, to make a brief (1-2 minute) presentation about their academic background and their interest in Polish Culture.

For additional information about the awards or to download an application form, go to www.polanki.org. Direct questions about the application procedure to joanne.barndt@gmail.com, (414)-962-5634 or to Polanki Awards, PO

2024 POLANKI COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Please type or print legibly.

1. **APPLICANT'S NAME:** _____
First Middle Last

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
City State Zip

HOME PHONE : () **EMAIL:** _____

I AM ☐ a U.S. citizen ☐ a legal permanent resident.

2. **PARENTS' NAMES:** _____
Mother's Name Father's Name

ADDRESS: _____
City State Zip

HOME PHONE : () **EMAIL:** _____

3. **COLLEGE CURRENTLY ATTENDING:** _____

DEGREE(S) SOUGHT: _____

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____ (Check one) ☐ JUNIOR ☐ SENIOR ☐ GRADUATE STUDENT

MAJOR / AREA OF SPECIALIZATION: _____

4. _____
Previous college(s) attended Degree(s) Number of years attended

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5. If an undergraduate, do you plan to attend graduate school? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNDECIDED

In what field? _____ Where? _____

6. **KEY VOLUNTEER WORK/ EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES / ORGANIZATIONS:** _____

7. KEY HONORS / AWARDS: _____

8. Have you received a Polanki Award in the past? ____ NO ____ YES Year of award: _____

9. How did you learn about the Polanki College Achievement Awards? (Please check all that apply):

Polanki Member: _____ ☐ School ☐ Internet ☐ Other: _____

Part 2 – POLISH CONNECTION

On a separate page,

1. Describe your exposure to, and/or familiarity with, the Polish language and Polish culture.
2. List any Polish ancestors or other connections to Poland

Part 3 – CAREER PLANS

On a separate page, in 100-150 words, describe your personal, academic and professional plans for the future.

Part 4 – ESSAY

On a separate page, in 500-600 words, choose one of the following topics and research that topic exploring a variety of sources (library, internet, etc.). Write an engaging, well organized critical analysis of your chosen topic. Properly identify all your sources and clearly identify your opinions as your own. Include a list of all sources used to write your essay.

A. Poland's Importance in World History

In a well-researched, well-supported essay, describe an event in Poland's history that was also important for American, European or world history. Present your own opinions and conclusions about the event's significance for both Polish and non-Polish audiences.

B. Current Polish Culture and Me

Get to know one Polish work of art, literature, musical composition, dance, or cinematography created since 2019. Research the author(s) and the artistic-cultural background of the work. In a well-written and well-supported essay, present the work (with its cultural context), describe your developed personal reaction(s) to the work, and present your own opinions about the work's value to both Polish and non-Polish audiences.

Part 5 - SIGNATURE

If I become a winner, I agree to give permission to POLANKI to publish my essay (properly attributed to me as its author) in its member newsletter.

If I become a winner, I agree to receive my award in person or by proxy during the Awards Tea on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at the Polish Center of Wisconsin in Franklin, Wisconsin.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____