Polanki

Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee www.polanki.org

2026 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 2025-2026 academic year in an accredited degree program
3. Current or past 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

Award amounts range from $1000 to $5000, based on applicants' 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, typed, and submitted on separate pages attached to the form. Please include your name on each page.
3. Complete Part 5, sign and date.
4. 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.
   Send your materials to: Polanki College Achievement Award, PO Box 341458, Milwaukee, WI 53234 **OR email** to info@polanki.org
4. **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
5. Applications must be **postmarked or emailed no later than January 10, 2026. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**
6. Awards will be presented at the annual Polanki College Achievement Awards Tea on **Sunday, April 26, 2026, 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. A group photo may be posted on Polanki's social media and in our newsletter.

For additional information about the awards or to download an application form, go to www.polanki.org. Direct questions about the application procedure to info@polanki.org.

2026 POLANKI COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD APPLICATION

Please type or print legibly

Part 1 – PERSONAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____
First Middle Last

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
City State Zip

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

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

COLLEGE CURRENTLY ATTENDING: _____

STANDING (Check one): ☐ JUNIOR ☐ SENIOR ☐ GRADUATE STUDENT

DEGREE(S) SOUGHT: _____

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: undergraduate_____ graduate (if applicable) _____

MAJOR / AREA OF SPECIALIZATION: _____

PREVIOUS COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED_____

Degree(s) _____ Number of years attended _____

IF AN UNDERGRADUATE, DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND GRADUATE SCHOOL? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐ **UNDECIDED**

In what field? _____ Where? _____

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

a) COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS; your role and dates (years):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

b) VOLUNTEER WORK/COMMUNITY SERVICE; your role and dates (years):

_____

_____

_____

_____

c) WORK EXPERIENCE, including your position and dates (years):

_____

_____

_____

_____

KEY HONORS/AWARDS:

_____

_____

_____

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

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

☐ **Polanki Member /Name(s): _____**

☐ **School** ☐ **Internet** ☐ **Other: _____**

Part 2 – POLISH HERITAGE:

On a separate page, 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 (**attach a separate page):**

In a well-written **origina**l essay of up to 750 words, discuss how your Polish heritage and/or your involvement with Polish culture has influenced your personal and academic development and what part you expect it to play in your future life course. Describe any special interests. **Include specific examples.**

Part 5 – SIGNATURE:

Name and Address of parents and/or other family members/close friends to be invited to the Awards Tea, if you are selected as a recipient of a College Achievement Award:

Name(s) _____

Address(es) _____

_____

If I am selected as a College Achievement Award recipient, I agree to receive my award in person or by proxy during the Awards Tea on Sunday, April 26, 2026, at the Polish Center of Wisconsin in Franklin, Wisconsin.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____