



2026 WFAA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

VERY IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thursday, February 26th, 2026 - midnight

***The application must be completed and submitted in one sitting.
There is NO save function – you will NOT be able to come back to it later.***

ELIGIBILITY – You must reside in McHenry County

Up to seven \$2500 scholarships will be awarded to current graduating High School seniors who reside in McHenry County in recognition of their abilities and contributions to the fine arts. The award will be based on demonstrated ability in the arts and completed application requirements.

TALENT SHOWCASE AT WOODSTOCK OPERA HOUSE – Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Scholarship recipients must be available to perform in the Annual Woodstock Fine Arts Association (WFAA) Talent Showcase on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the Woodstock Opera House.

The WFAA Scholarship Committee will select your performance from your application submissions. We encourage performances to run from 3-6 minutes long.

#1 - APPLICATION DEADLINE and NOTIFICATION

**Applications and documents must be received on or before the
APPLICATION DEADLINE of Thursday, February 26, 2026 at midnight.
Scholarship Award Winners will be notified on or before Friday, March 13th, 2026.**

The Google Form Application must be completed and submitted in one sitting. There is no save function; you will NOT be able to come back to it later.

No partially completed, scanned or altered applications will be accepted.

#2 - CHOOSE YOUR CATEGORY OF ART

Please choose only one category and only one application per student will be accepted.

Performing Arts: Voice

Performing Arts: Dance

Performing Arts: Instrumental (solo piece, not ensemble)

Performing Arts: Acting

Performing Arts: Musical Theater

Visual Arts: Fine Arts / Graphic Arts

Visual Arts: Theatrical Costume / Set Design

Creative Writing

#3 – PREPARE DOCUMENTATION – VIDEO LINKS / POWERPOINTS /.PDFs

Performing Arts Categories

- Please submit TWO PERFORMANCE QUALITY video links – suggested length 3-6 minutes.
- Actors should include one monologue.
- Please introduce yourself and include the title of piece.
- Accompaniment is encouraged for performance arts applicants, as it adds strength to your audition.
- Acting and Musical Theater: Please identify yourself in the production.

Visual Arts Categories

- Please submit a Power Point of 6 images of your best work. Include on the Power Point a description of each medium, your process and inspiration for each piece.
- Theatrical Costume / Set Design: Please describe your specific contribution to the production.

Creative Writing Category

- Please submit THREE .pdf writing samples no more than 5 pages each in length.

#4 - MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VIDEO LINKS

- Provided video links should be **publicly accessible without restrictions** for ease of review by WFAA. **Meeting your personal privacy comfort level with your video platform of choice is your responsibility.**
- Whichever sharing service you use (YouTube, Dropbox, Google Drive) please make sure under “Manage Access” or “Share” that you grant viewer access. If you are uncomfortable granting full access in GoogleDrive, please email melaniefeerst@gmail.com and she will send you the email addresses of the committee members. **THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS ACCESS TO VIEW YOUR TALENT LINKS.**
- Please remember to test your links and ensure the links you provide are functioning **EVEN WHEN YOU ARE LOGGED OUT OF THE SHARING SERVICES.** Please do not submit links that are locked and require a password.

#5 – REQUEST THE FOLLOWING

TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- One letter of recommendation needs to be from a school counselor or instructor.
- One from an individual who is familiar with your involvement in the arts.
- Neither letter of recommendation can be from someone to whom you are related.
- These letters are required to be on letterhead and emailed by the author to scholarship@woodstockfinearts.org with the applicant's name in subject line.

TRANSCRIPT

- Transcripts must be submitted via email by your counselor or school administration to: scholarship@woodstockfinearts.org. Please put applicant's name in subject line.

#6 – ABOUT ME

Please email a .pdf (with your name in subject line) with the following information to scholarship@woodstockfinearts.org

ESSAY (Required) - 500 words maximum. Please describe how you will use your talent and interest in the arts in your future and discuss accomplishments of which you are proud. We emphasize the importance of original work and the value of your individual perspective. Your essay should reflect your personal effort and intellectual contribution.

- **LIST OF COLLEGES THAT ACCEPTED ME and INTENDED MAJOR (Required)**
- **PERFORMING ARTS (Required for all applicable Performing Arts categories)**
Please list (*where applicable*)
 - Title of Work you are performing
 - Composer, Playwright or Author of original work
 - Indicate if your performance is an original work by yourself
 - Please identify yourself and/or describe your individual contribution to the production.
 - Provide the name of your accompanist.

#7 – FILL OUT THE APPLICATION (remember you must complete in one sitting!)

LINK <https://forms.gle/euDzh7VjctYam1Ks5>

- CHECK BOX: I have downloaded and reviewed the Application Requirements. I understand that incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- CHECK BOX: I am available to participate in WFAA's Talent Showcase Thursday, April 9, 2026 at the Woodstock Opera House.
- student name (first and last) / cell phone / personal email
- street address / city, state, zip
- residency: check box: I live in McHenry county / I do not live in McHenry county.
- parent(s) / guardian(s) name / phone numbers – cell and landline / email
- name of high school
- school counselor name / email
- how did you hear about the WFAA scholarship?

- choose your category of art (step #2)
- upload url documentation links (Video, Powerpoint or .PDF)
 - URL Link #1
 - URL Link #2
- CHECK BOX: I have read the application requirements (section 5 and 6) and will submit transcript, two letters of recommendation and ABOUT ME document to scholarship@woodstockfinearts.org.
- Sign Photo and Video Release
 - Signed by Student or Parent (if student is under 18 years of age)
 - ALL APPLICANTS MUST SIGN WAIVER (if under 18, your parent must sign) which gives WFAA permission to use photography / video / submitted work in print and online publications, presentations, websites or social media. No royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable by reason of such use.

<h3>IMPORTANT DATES</h3>

Thursday, February 26, 2026

Application Deadline

Friday, March 13, 2026

Scholarship Award Winners notified by this date

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 7:00 pm

Talent Showcase at the Woodstock Opera House

<h3>QUESTIONS?</h3>

Contact Melanie Feerst at melaniefeerst@gmail.com or call 847.894.3589