

2026 CRITERIA FOR THE GALENA CULTURAL ARTS ALLIANCE/HELLO GALENA RECOGNITION AWARDS

The purpose of the “Arts Recognition Awards” program of the Galena Cultural Arts Alliance is to encourage young artists in Jo Daviess County in the further development of their talents.

The program is administered by a committee appointed by the GCAA President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

The Alliance has set aside \$500 to be awarded at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. The scholarship candidate will be from one of the following fields: **Creative Writing** (literature, poetry, plays) **Performing Arts** (music, drama, dance, speech) and the **Visual Arts** (2 dimensional and 3 dimensional art including but not limited to painting and sculpture).

The timetable for the awards will be as follows:

1. Applications are ready by January 15, 2026.
2. Deadline for applications: postmarked on or before March 15, 2026.
3. Decisions are made in April.
4. Official announcements are made by May 1, 2026 with the recipients, who are available, to be honored at GCAA’s Annual Picnic celebration in June and at the award winners’ school award ceremonies.

Applicants must be:

1. Seventeen years of age to twenty-three years of age.
2. Graduating senior of a Jo Daviess County high school.
3. In one of the following categories of interest: Creative Writing, Performing Arts, and Visual Arts.
4. Willing to fill out an application with:
 - a. relevant biographical information as well as a description of awards received, the years and character of artistic involvement, lessons taken, groups, productions or concerts that they have been a part of, written works or articles that they have written and been published or remain unpublished, etc.
 - b. an essay, not to exceed five hundred words, on how they see their talent evolving and their vision for their future in the arts.
 - c. submit a reference letter from a teacher or fellow artist plus, if they wish, a personal reference letter from a friend, clergy, community leader or family member.

APPLICATION

2026 GALENA CULTURAL ARTS ALLIANCE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Category (Circle One): **Creative Writing, Performing Arts, Visual Arts**

Schools, classes, workshops, lessons attended: _____

Groups, productions, concerts in which you were active or published articles, poems, or other works you have written: _____

Awards or honors you have received or recognition you have been given in the press, by peers or by teachers: _____

Name of School you plan to attend next year and your declared Major and Minor at that school:

On a separate sheet of paper, **type** an essay of no more than 500 words on “How you see your talent evolving and your vision for your future in the arts.” **Also** include a reference letter from a teacher, fellow artist, plus if you desire, a personal reference from a friend, clergy, community leader or family member.

Send the completed application with essay and references to:

**Galena Cultural Arts Alliance
Attn: Lynn Giles
Box 6013
Galena, IL 61036**

The completed application with essay and references may also be submitted by email to:

lynngiles@lynngilesphotography.com

Application Postmark Deadline: March 15, 2026