

# 2026 James F. Carlson Fine Arts Scholarships



*Sponsored by the Community Arts Council of Kankakee County*

The James F. Carlson Fine Arts Scholarship is sponsored by the Community Arts Council of Kankakee County. This award provides at least one \$300 scholarship for deserving Kankakee County high school and junior high students to attend a summer arts camp or arts program in the field of dance, music, drama, visual art, creative writing or other fine arts discipline. The Scholarship is named in memory of the late James F. Carlson, a long-time Arts patron and Past-President of the Community Arts Council.

## Who can apply?

Any student currently attending high school or junior high in Kankakee County may apply. Students must be participants in fine arts courses/activities at their schools. Students are also encouraged to participate in CAC-member organizations. ***A list of CAC members is available on-line at [www.communityartscouncil.org](http://www.communityartscouncil.org).***

## How will applicants be selected?

The scholarship committee will look at the following criteria:

1. Applicant participation in CAC-member organizations.
2. Successful participation in fine arts courses and/or activities within their school's fine arts programs and in the community.
3. Recommendation(s) of past or current fine arts instructor(s).

## How do I apply?

You will need to complete the following steps:

1. Fill out the Scholarship Application Form.
2. Complete an essay that answers the following questions: a) What do the Arts mean to you? b) What role do the Arts play in the community? and c) How will the art experience you've selected improve your skills and contribute to the community?
3. Submit letter(s) of recommendation from a past or current fine arts instructor(s).
4. If you participate in a CAC-member organization(s), submit a letter(s) of recommendation from an officer or member of that group (see **Who Can Apply?**).

Mail all of these materials in one envelope to Community Arts Council, Attention: Scholarship Committee, P. O. Box 562, Kankakee, IL 60901. **All materials must be postmarked by April 1, 2026 to be considered.** Materials may also be emailed no later than April 1, 2026 to [k3cacsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:k3cacsecretary@gmail.com) For questions, contact the Committee Chair, Bonnie Brewer at (815) 351-4443.



James F. Carlson Fine Arts Summer Scholarships  
**2026 Scholarship Application Form**

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. phone \_\_\_\_\_

email address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade (circle one)      7<sup>th</sup>    8<sup>th</sup>    9<sup>th</sup>    10<sup>th</sup>    11<sup>th</sup>    12<sup>th</sup>

List of Fine Arts courses completed and/or currently enrolled in:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Honors, Awards or Recognitions in Fine Arts received since grade 7:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Top five activities in fine arts: *(include contests, competitions, plays, musicals, art shows, recitals, etc.)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Community activities (include any CAC-member groups participated in):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Fine Arts camps or activities not included above.

\_\_\_\_\_

***Please attach your essay.***