



52nd Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival

2026 Michael J. & Aimee Rusinko Kakos Literary Arts

Scholarship Application

Postmark Deadline: May 31, 2026



The purpose of the Michael J. and Aimee Rusinko Kakos Scholarship, administered by the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival, is to demonstrate commitment to the Westmoreland County community and to foster the continuing education of a prospective college or university student planning to study literary arts.

Qualifications:

1. High School Student must be a Westmoreland County resident or a full-time College student attending an accredited College or University.
2. Applicants must be planning to enroll or are currently enrolled full-time in a literary arts program at an accredited College or University.

Requirements:

1. Completed application; must be postmarked or emailed by May 31, 2026.
2. Copy of high school or College/University transcript; GPA must be 3.0 or above.
3. Personal statement to include career goals, accomplishments, experience to date in the arts, academic distinctions/honors received, work experiences, and involvement with community outreach or volunteerism. Please do not exceed three (3) pages, double space.
4. One letter of recommendations from a guidance counselor or English faculty member.
5. A minimum of three (3) pieces of your work/writing style; identify each piece with the title and page number.
6. Recipient is asked to attend the award presentation on Thursday, July 2, 2026 at the 52nd Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival Opening Ceremony. This is not required and does not disqualify you from receiving the award.

The \$1,000 award is a one-time scholarship that will be paid directly to the college or university. The scholarship must be applied during the academic year in which it was awarded.

Students related to a member of the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival Board of Directors, Scholarship Committee or a Festival employee are not eligible to participate.

Please complete the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

High School: _____

College/University you hope to attend: _____

Planned Major: _____



The Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

The Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival is a 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information of the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Participation or registration does not imply endorsement.

Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival, 252 Twin Lakes Road, Latrobe, PA 15650

E-mail: info@artsandheritage.com Phone: 724-834-7474