



2023 Ruth DeYoung Kohler Scholarship for Artistic Excellence

Application Procedures

Graduating seniors from Sheboygan County high schools or those homeschool students who live in Sheboygan County who plan to pursue a career in the arts are invited to complete an application for the Ruth DeYoung Kohler (RDK) Scholarship for Artistic Excellence. The Kohler Foundation will consider all fields of artistic endeavor including: writing, theater, instrumental and vocal music, music composition, the visual arts, dance, and more. This scholarship awards up to \$100,000 to a private or Top 20-ranked out-of-state public institution, or up to \$50,000 to any other public institution over four years. Amounts may vary. **Identifying exceptional talent is our primary focus, not grades or test scores.**

Unlike other Kohler Foundation scholarships, **individuals must apply directly to the Kohler Foundation for the RDK Scholarship**, rather than being nominated by their high school.

General categories of art have their own submission criteria. In each case, you are asked to submit a portfolio through our online submission process. In cases where an applicant needs to submit a performance video, Kohler Foundation assists in making that video, at **no cost** to the student. Low quality videos have hampered the foundation's evaluations in the past --- **please** take advantage of this service to allow your talent to be shown to its fullest extent. All videography will be done by Kohler Co. personnel. **It is strongly recommended that students use this service. Contact Kohler Foundation for more information.**

Submission Instructions:

1. Application materials should be submitted to Kohler Foundation electronically via the Kohler Foundation's online submission form. A **complete** submission will include:
 - a. Student Information Form
 - b. Ruth DeYoung Kohler Scholarship Application
 - c. Portfolio Materials/Additional Information Sheet
 - d. Letter of Recommendation(s) (Letter(s) from school principal, school counselor and/or teacher or letter from a non-teacher/instructor... i.e. coach, club advisor, employer, community leader/member, etc. is also accepted.)
2. Kohler Foundation's Scholarship Committee will then review all Sheboygan County applicants and choose several finalists to be interviewed. If you are invited for an interview, please feel free to bring recent additions to your portfolio not included in your original application.
3. Kohler Foundation will inform a school representative or homeschool educator, not the applicant directly, if an award is to be made. Awards are presented at the appropriate high school scholarship ceremonies and are kept a surprise.

Application Deadline to Kohler Foundation on or before February 13

Applications are to be submitted via our online submission portal. Attachments are limited to 25MB, in the event that a larger file should be included, you should submit the file via [wetransfer.com](https://www.wetransfer.com) to bridgitt.zielke@kohler.com.

RDK Scholarship information can be found here:

<http://www.kohlerfoundation.org/scholarships/2023-rdk-scholarship-application>

You may direct all questions about eligibility, submission or selection to bridgitt.zielke@kohler.com or call 920-458-1972.

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Criteria for Music, Theater and Dance

Music:

Instrument

- Instrumental evaluation is based on a consideration of Tone Production, Technique, Rhythm, Intonation, Interpretation, and Phrasing.
- Composition evaluation is based on a consideration of Musical Ideas, Musical Structure, and Control of Medium.
- Repertoire choices should be imaginative, contrasting (lyrical, virtuoso, dramatic), adventurous, reflecting the artist's individual choices as if for a recital.

Jazz

- Evaluation is based on Improvisation, Technique, Rhythm, Interpretation, Tone Production, Diction, Intonation, and Phrasing.

Voice/Theater

- Evaluation is based on Tone Production, Technique, Diction, Rhythm, Intonation, Interpretation, and Phrasing.
- Student is judged on the basis of the actor's ability to demonstrate: Concentration, Control of Material, Flexibility and Versatility of Voice, Movement, and Expression.

Dance:

- Evaluation is based on Technique, Presentation, Musicality, Phrasing, and Artistry.

Required Material

1. A digital video of student performing must be submitted consisting of three to four segments with a playing time of no more than two (2) minutes each (total playing time 6-8 minutes).
2. Selections should display a full range of technical skill and interpretive ability.
3. The video must be submitted electronically via our online submission process or via wetransfer.com. **Video recording assistance is available through the Kohler Foundation at no charge to the student. Please contact the Foundation to request assistance.** The digital video recording done by Kohler will be submitted directly to Kohler Foundation on the applicant's behalf.
4. The student should submit an additional information sheet with their RDK Scholarship application form, listing the following information for EACH piece being performed on the video:
 - Artist/Composer's full name
 - Title of work(s)
 - Total playing time

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Criteria for Visual Arts, Photography, Film and Video

Visual Arts

- Ceramics, Costume Design, Drawing, Graphic design, Jewelry Making, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Textile and Fiber Design, Theater Set Design.

Photography

- Portfolio that conveys feelings, creates emotional interest or expresses a visual point of view...demonstrates original thinking, artistic commitment, and a willingness to take creative risks.

Film and Video

- Evaluation is based on the knowledge of film/video production with an emphasis on expressing an artistic point of view, an ability to effectively communicate ideas using moving images, and a willingness to take creative risks.

Required Material

1. Visual Arts & Photography

A student may submit photos of their work via our online submission form or if the files are too large, via wetransfer.com. Works submitted should illustrate the student's best personal works, not necessarily class assignment pieces. Students should take care to ensure the photos they submit are of high quality, showing their work in the best possible light. Each photo/image file should be labeled with the following information in the file name:

- Student's last name
- Photo/artwork title or number (ex. 1-7)

2. Film and Video

Film and video productions should be approximately four (4) minutes in length. A student may submit photos of their work via our online submission form or if the files are too large, via wetransfer.com. Two (2) different productions showing the artistic abilities of the artist are required.

3. Student should also submit an additional information sheet with their Application, listing the following information for EACH piece being submitted:

- Title of work(s)
- Date completed
- Specific Medium
- Length of video, if applicable

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<https://kohlerfoundationinc.wufoo.com/forms/2023-ruth-deyoung-kohler-scholarship/>

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Criteria for Creative Writing

Works are evaluated based on Language, Originality, Imagination, and Overall Excellence.

Required Materials

1. Submit a Portfolio of works in one or more of the following categories:

Poetry – Up to, but not more than six (6) poems

Short Story – Up to, but not more than three (3) stories (or portions thereof)

Novel – A section of a novel preceded by a description of the complete work

Play or Script – Up to, but not more than two (2) scripts (or portions thereof) for dramatic performance

Expository Writing – Up to, but not more than three (3) essays

2. All submissions should be submitted via our online submission form, with the student's name in the upper right hand corner of each page. **Submissions should not exceed 20 pages total.**

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