

## About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-three private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 60,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income students who apply for the Wisconsin Grants are turned away every year for lack of funds. Each month Wisconsin Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites at WAICU member campuses for whom Wisconsin Grants have made a significant difference.

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## Bellin College student overcomes obstacles

Bellin College student Lucy Stedl of Maribel, Wisconsin, encountered a number of personal obstacles in her life. She overcame them through hard work, perseverance, community support, and student aid from the State of Wisconsin.

As a junior in the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences program, Lucy had several leadership



A junior at Bellin College, Lucy Stedl is majoring in radiologic sciences.

roles at Bellin College, and maintained an exceptional grade point average. She also found ways to regularly

give back to the community.

At the age of five, Lucy faced her first major personal tragedy. Her mother passed away unexpectedly in a car accident. Lucy commented, "When my mom passed away,

the small community I lived in was there to support my family and help us. I will be

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## Katy Zart leaves her mark at Northland

Thanks, in part, to assistance from the Wisconsin Grant, Katy Zart was able to leave a lasting imprint at Northland College during her four years there. A native of Fennimore, Katy quickly became a leader both on and off the Northland College campus. A student of English, writing, and communications, Katy also plunged into campus life by working in several different capacities: she was an events coordinator/assistant with the Career Education Center, a news reporter for the campus



Recent graduate Katy Zart studied English, writing and communications.

radio station (WRNC), a web marketing assistant with Northland's marketing communications office, and served as the vice president of the Communications Commission (CommComm),

the campus organization that oversees three student-run publications.

Her jobs at different offices in the Ponzio Campus Center made a difference. "Katy brought our applied learning initiatives into the 21st century

by developing an effective social media plan and incorporating time-saving technology into the Career Education Center," said Ms. Stacy Craig, the coordinator

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forever grateful to them.” Lucy’s father raised her and her two siblings. Lucy is grateful that he always supports them in all of their goals and dreams.

During the summer of 2013, tragedy struck Lucy’s family again when a tornado swept the Stedl home tearing through the backyard and knocking down two barns, a shed, a greenhouse and half of the family’s apple orchard. These unforeseen losses affected the family’s budget and their ability to pay tuition. After the destruction, community members and friends pulled together to assist Lucy’s family, and others affected by the tornado, to rebuild and restore.

As a result of the overwhelming support her family received, Lucy’s passion for public service grew. As soon as she was old enough, Lucy helped out in any way that she could. She played piano at her church. Later, she assisted with larger community events. She joined a

group called One Degree Youth Ministry, where she volunteers in the community by raking up leaves for the elderly, collecting items for a local food pantry, and hosting substance free activities for youth. In addition to going to college full time, Lucy works at three part time jobs during the school year. She shared that it feels good to know that her hard work along with the Wisconsin Grant will help fund her education and allow her to graduate with less debt.

After graduation, Lucy hopes to get a job in a hospital setting. When asked about overcoming personal tragedy and adversity, Lucy said, “Throughout our lifetime, we encounter many obstacles that we have to overcome. I believe that these help create our character and shape us into the people we are. We can either let them run us down, or we can overcome, learn, and move on.” Thanks to assistance from the Wisconsin Grant along with her hard work and perseverance Lucy is one step closer to realizing her dreams.



*Over 18% of Wisconsin private nonprofit students are racial/ethnic minorities, compared to under 14% of UW System students.*

*Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment survey, Fall 2013 data*

**Katy Zart** continued from page 1

of applied learning.

Under the guidance of Ms. Patti Fenner-Leino at the Career Education Center, Katy assumed leadership on a variety of projects. Katy applied her experience with the liberal arts by analyzing the merits of various technology-based enhancements to the well-established annual Northland Job & Internship Fair. As a result of Katy’s efforts, career fair participants, employers, and staff at the Career Education Center benefited from a more cost-effective and user-friendly platform.

Northland’s campus radio station, WRNC,

offered Katy additional opportunities to apply her communications training. “Katy was a great student to work with because of her desire to learn, her intelligence, and her inquisitive mind. She held herself and others to the highest standards of excellence,” said former WRNC manager, Ms. Danielle Kaeding.

Katy worked on many projects for the radio station, including breaking news stories beyond the scope of the Northland College community. Reflecting on these experiences, Katy considered her radio work to be the defining experience in her college career, noting that she “learned

how important it is to seek the truth in everything, and how powerful news stories could really be.” Katy participated in other communication forums beyond broadcasting, such as workshops on fiction and poetry.

The Wisconsin Grant helped make Katy’s transformative experiences at Northland possible. “Northland, and these work experiences, helped me realize that the people aspect of student affairs was far more important to me than the product aspect of marketing.” After graduation, Katy plans to study student affairs in graduate school.

**Wisconsin’s Private Nonprofit Colleges and Universities**

Alverno College *Milwaukee*  
 Bellin College *Green Bay*  
 Beloit College *Beloit*  
 Cardinal Stritch University *Milwaukee*  
 Carroll University *Waukesha*  
 Carthage College *Kenosha*  
 Columbia College of Nursing *Milwaukee*  
 Concordia University *Mequon*

Edgewood College *Madison*  
 Lakeland College *Sheboygan*  
 Lawrence University *Appleton*  
 Marian University *Fond du Lac*  
 Marquette University *Milwaukee*  
 Medical College of Wisconsin *Milwaukee*  
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design *Milwaukee*

Milwaukee School of Engineering *Milwaukee*  
 Mount Mary University *Milwaukee*  
 Northland College *Ashland*  
 Ripon College *Ripon*  
 St. Norbert College *De Pere*  
 Silver Lake College *Manitowoc*  
 Viterbo University *La Crosse*  
 Wisconsin Lutheran College *Milwaukee*

