

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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Concordia University Student Uses Graphic Design to Help University

During her time in college, Lindsey Weber has gained knowledge from more than just the classroom. A senior at Concordia University, Lindsey is working toward a bachelor's degree in graphic design with a double minor in hospitality & event management and in German.

Recently, Lindsey has been lending her graphic design talents to Concordia to accomplish a longtime



Lindsey Weber of Colgate is majoring in graphic design.

critically important goal of the Social Work Department.

Lindsey, a native of Colgate,

Wisconsin, was approached by Dr. Janice Staral, director of the Social Work Department at Concordia, last spring to help with the production and design of a historical timeline display. Not only did Lindsey help with the process, but she also took over as lead designer and executed many

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Stritch student views education as investment in her future

Cardinal Stritch University senior and Milwaukee native Stephanie Grepo is making the most of her college experience. The political science major already has accomplished a great deal and she has no intention of slowing down.

As a high school student struggling with the financial challenges of college, Stephanie quickly placed Stritch at the top of her list. Her mother, an alumna, earned a nursing degree from Stritch and encouraged Stephanie to



Stephanie Grepo of Milwaukee is studying political science.

learn more about her options there.

"When we toured campus, I was struck by Stritch's focus on integrating values in daily life," Stephanie said. "There

is an authentic willingness to foster creativity, support new endeavors, and create a tight-knit community that encourages leadership."

During her first two years on campus, Stephanie, singing in the choir, was active in student

government, participated in the Interfaith Leadership Trip with Rhodes Scholar Eboo Patel, and organized a three-part series to increase awareness about human

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aspects of this important project.

“This project has been a dream that I have had for a long time,” said Dr. Staral. “I’m excited to see its completion and am grateful to Lindsey for her ability to bring this project to life.”

According to Lindsey, it is her strong passion for graphic design, an area of study she discovered through a personality assessment, which helped make the project successful. “I chose graphic design based on my interest in art and collaborating with people on creative projects,” said Lindsey.

In addition to the project and a full class schedule, Lindsey is also a resident assistant (RA) and works in Concordia's Marketing Department. According to Lindsey, without the Wisconsin Grant these types of opportunities would not be possible. “The Wisconsin Grant ensures that I continue my studies here,” said

Lindsey. “Without it, I may not be able to remain a full-time student and an RA here on campus.”

And Lindsey couldn't be happier. “I absolutely love the personal, family feeling at Concordia. There truly is something special about being enrolled at a Christian university, surrounded by people with the same love of God and passion for furthering other people's lives and dreams,” said Lindsey. She also likes the personalized education and extracurricular opportunities available at a private, nonprofit school like Concordia.

Upon graduation next year, Lindsey anticipates working in the graphic design or event planning industries in the Milwaukee area. Until then, Lindsey will be focusing her time on her studies, being an RA, and designing for Concordia's Marketing Department. In her free time she will continue to work on freelance graphic design projects for friends and family.



In Fall 2013, 27% of the new students at Wisconsin's private nonprofit colleges and universities were transfer students.

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey 2013

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trafficking. As a junior, she further expanded her educational experience by studying abroad at the University of Chester in Cheshire, United Kingdom.

Though she was happy to return to Wisconsin and Stritch, Stephanie believes that the experience shaped her both as a student and as an individual seeking to develop her leadership skills. “Being a leader involves listening to and negotiating different opinions, values, and ideas,” Stephanie explained.

She added that spending several months living in the small town of Chester, where

the university is located, reinforced the value of a tightknit community that she came to treasure through Stritch. “Stritch teaches me to embody the Franciscan values, especially in creating a caring community,” Stephanie said. “Too many leaders today are personally driven. I want to be community driven.”

A self-described “go-getter,” Stephanie considers her extracurricular activities’ time well-invested in both the university and her own development. She is grateful that she can focus on her classes and extracurricular activities. “Without the support of the Wisconsin Grant, I would

be much more stressed out, less creative, and ultimately have less time for studies and service,” Stephanie said.

Knowing how a supportive and engaged community can make all the difference, Stephanie plans to pursue a career in human resources and hopes to someday transfer those skills to a career in government. “The Wisconsin Grant is truly an investment in the state's future,” explained Stephanie. “The financial support it provides will allow developing leaders, like me, to step back into our community and pursue professional and personal leadership roles.”

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 Manitowish
 Viterbo University La Crosse
 Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee

