



Jacob Zelinski is a senior at Marquette University studying public relations and writing-intensive English. He hails from Detroit, Michigan, where he graduated valedictorian from the University of Detroit Jesuit High School in 2015 and was presented with the Jesuit Secondary Education Association Award, given to a senior who is “open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice.” This award, paired with his love for storytelling and writing, inspired him to apply to the Foley Scholarship, which he was awarded in the spring of 2015.

Receiving the Foley Scholarship not only meant that Jacob and his family could afford Marquette University, but it also opened a world of opportunities for him, such as the opportunity to study abroad in Cape Town, South Africa, where he taught fifth grade English and studied grassroots organization and the theology of racial justice for five months of his junior year. He has also volunteered in New Orleans twice through the student group, MARDIGRAS.

On campus, Jacob is the president of the co-ed a cappella group, the Gold ‘n Blues, a campus tour guide, an avid Milwaukee runner, and a volunteer for the Marquette Wire. In his free time, he enjoys reading, arranging music, and writing short stories and poetry. After graduation, Jacob plans to join the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) for a year or two before moving back to the Midwest and continuing his education in hopes of becoming a teacher or counselor.