Gig Harbor Arts Commission

2026 Creative Endeavor Grant Application

- Please submit the completed application as an attachment to an email and send to cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov.
- Applications must be received by **March 2, 2026**.
- Funding recommendations will be announced at the Arts Commission meeting on March 17, 2026.

Date of Application	February 27, 2026		
Organization or Individual's Name	Peninsula Youth Orchestra	**Non-Profit?** ■ Yes ☐ No	
Name of Contact	Christy Jones		
If applicant is under the age of 18, please provide the name of an adult willing sign an agreement with the city on the applicant's behalf.			
Address	PO Box 2481 Gig Harbor, WA		
Phone Number	508-450-9992	**Email**	executive.director@harborpyo.o
Project Title	Youth Summer String Camp		
Date(s) of Project *Final project report and invoice must be received by **December 7, 2026**.*	August 10-14th 2026		
Amount Requested	$3200		
Total Budget *Attach detailed budget*	$		
Admission Charged	$none		
Donations Accepted		☐ Yes ■ No	
Is there at least one free or "pay what you wish" performance?		■ Yes ☐ No	
Has the applicant/project received grant funding in the past?		■ Yes ☐ No	
If funding was received before, was the project successful?		■ Yes ☐ No	
Please list other sponsoring agencies to whom you have applied.			

GIG HARBOR

"THE MARITIME CITY"

Please limit responses to 500 words or less, per question.

1. Provide a summary of the project for which you are requesting financial support.

We are asking for assistance from the Gig Harbor Arts commission for Peninsula Youth Orchestra's summer string camp. This week long, full day camp is for children ages 8-18 from beginning to advanced levels. Student rehearse daily in full ensemble and sectionals under the direction of experienced conductors. Our theme this year is Winter Wonderland, where we will incorporate holiday movie theme songs, and classics that we don't usually get to play during our normal season. It is an exciting and educational summer experience that offers growth, mentorship and creativity . During the week we utilize our conductors and professional musicians to enhance the learning opportunity and expose the students to new sounds and methods and help them see their potential for excellence. At the end of the week we hold a free public concert to showcase our learning in the Gig Harbor community. This shared experience of artistic development, creates bonds and a sense of accomplishment for all involved.

2. Describe the benefit to the community (see Funding Guidelines) and explain how this project will directly engage the audience and/or participants.

At our summer camp we are committed to keeping tuition affordable, offering need-based scholarships so that no student is excluded. For many participants, particularly teens, a group that often has fewer options for summer enrichment experiences, this is a week of musical growth, spending time with fellow students in an enjoyable educational environment. Younger students are also inspired by older peers. Students and teachers collaborate, foster creativity, and engage with the community as we highlight local youth talent during camp and at the concert. The event brings neighbors together to celebrate accomplishments. Local businesses help us to advertise the camp and concert and the businesses close by the concert pavilion location will benefit from an extra 200 people milling about that day. It is a wonderful week of bonding and shared commitment to the pursuit of artistic development and growth.

3. Explain how the city's funding will support this project. If the project can still be done without city funding, show how the requested funds will improve the project, even if only partially funded.

With funding received from the City of Gig Harbor, PYO can provide higher level/ more specialized musical performers to mentor and teach our students. Currently we are planning on Aaron Meyer, a professional violinist, come instruct the students with his student program that exposes students to his concert Rock Academy educational tools and allows them to jointly collaborate and play music with him, at any level, beginning to advanced. Spending time with professional musicians helps students see the potential of their learning and inspires them to reach higher. Peninsula Youth Orchestra always plans a camp for students, but with extra funding, we would also be better equipped to keep the teacher/student ratio lower and bring in specialists & assistants to allow for quality masterclasses and overall instruction. We aim to present a professional and lasting experience for students/ parents and community.

4. Explain how the project will target Gig Harbor residents or, if the event is designed to bring in visitors from outside the area, how you will advertise to potential visitors.

The summer string camp project encompasses the local Gig Harbor area, as parents drive the students to the camp each day. Our end of the week concert is held in Gig Harbor, at the Uptown Pavilion. We advertise in all the local Gig Harbor schools and homeschool groups, and in local family event websites to gain attention for our camp. Outside surrounding communities, such as Bremerton and Tacoma, are also are a focus, and we post in their online summer events sites, music stores, and use signage to draw from those areas. We often have students that attend from these locations as we are one of the only summer string camps in the local area, especially for beginners. For the concert, we publicize at surrounding businesses, streets, FB & Instagram pages, public schools, and city calendar to invite the local and surrounding community to enjoy our performance!

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Venue Accessibility Information

If this project involves a venue – is the venue ADA accessible*?	☐ Yes ☐ No
If you answered no, what considerations for accessibility have been made?	
**Accessible means that anyone in a wheelchair, scooter, walker, or on crutches or cane(s) can gain access and entry to and enjoy/participate in the event being held as can anyone who is temporarily able-bodied. This includes access to parking, building entry, and restroom/toilet facilities.*	

Please direct questions about the application or application process to cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov.

Peninsula Youth Orchestra 2026

String Camp Budget

Expenses

Planned $13,200

Income

Planned

Expenses

	Planned
Totals	*$13,200*
tuition assistance scholarships	$500
Food/snacks/hospitality	$600
Conductor Fees	$7,000
Artist/Band Fees	$2,000
Facility Rental Fees	$600
Sound & Light	$200
Supplies/ Music/ Games	$400
Theory Teacher/ assistants	$1,000
Marketing/ printing	$400
tshirts	$500

Income

	Planned
Totals	*$10,000*
Tuition/ Camp Fees	$10,000