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	March 2, 2026		
Organization or Individual's Name	Peninsula Art League	**Non-Profit?** ■ Yes ☐ No	
Name of Contact	Robin Avni, President		
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	P.O. Box 1422, Gig Harbor, WA 98335		
Phone Number	206-795-9311	**Email**	robinavni@peninsulaartleague.org
Project Title	National Fine Art Show Community Events		
Date(s) of Project *Final project report and invoice must be received by **December 7, 2026**.*	Saturday, November 14th to Thursday, December 3, 2026		
Amount Requested	$2,250		
Total Budget *Attach detailed budget*	$14,475		
Admission Charged	$ For this event, the museum provides a reduced rate on their admissions fees with $7 for adults; $3 for children.		
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.	The Gig Harbor Vintage Aero Museum is our core sponsor with owners Bill, Bob and Marilyn Juranich, and CEO Brandon Baimbridge support this event with a reduced rental fee. We seek other partners/grants to offset costs.		

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

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

The National Fine Art Show (NFAS), now in its 24th year, is Peninsula Art League's annual prestigious juried art exhibition celebrating excellence in two- and three-dimensional artwork and photo/digital art showcasing local, regional and national artists to the Greater Gig Harbor community.

Thank you to the Arts Commission for your past support of this event (formerly the Open Juried Show). Last year, the entire show was in jeopardy as the venue where we held the show for many, many years unexpectedly increased our rental from $2500 to over $14,000. We would not have been able to host the show and make it accessible and affordable to visitors, and artists, without moving to a lower cost location and the City's supporting the 2025 award. We are happy with our new home at the Gig Harbor Vintage Aero Museum (VAM) and are returning to the venue for our 2026 event – thanks to the ongoing support of the VAM's founders and executive director.

We discovered that with the change to an open format exhibition space, attendees found the art among the vintage aircraft very inviting and would linger longer, while the artists liked how the open space was a better venue for displaying their art. The combination — beautiful fine art and vintage aircraft — broadened the art experience by creating an exchange between past and present; reshaping how the Gig Harbor community experiences art. Feedback on our new venue from artists, attendees, and patrons has been overwhelmingly positive.

For 2026, we are planning to increase the scope and depth of the event:

-- PAL will increase our artist acceptance rate from 93 to 115 due to the abundant space available with the VAM open format. Last year, PAL received 400 submissions from 157 artists from local, regional and national artists (including New York, Hawaii, Minnesota, Florida, California and more). Due to a targeted traditional and digital marketing campaign this was PAL'S largest submission pool ever. We limited our acceptance as we were new to the space; we now know we can easily showcase more art and artists, as well a more diverse range of large 2D and 3D art.

-- Plans are in motion, once again, to hire a notable and credible museum curator to jury the Show; we are in discussion with two.

-- We are moving the Opening Night reception and Awards ceremony to Saturday night November 14th, we look to expand the invite list and continue to use a local caterer and musician to provide a memorable experience for artists and other attendees..

-- In addition to the Show itself, we are planning additional community-focused activities during the Show's three-week run, including FREE Family Day at the Museum and Art Show including art activities for children and young adults, a on-site community "Plein Air" painting event, and a presentation coordinated with the Peninsula School District high school students highlighting the relationships between aviation, technology, and art.

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

PAL's commitment to hosting the 24th National Fine Art Show at the Gig Harbor Vintage Aero Museum plays a pivotal role in fostering the promotion of art and cultural exchanges throughout the region. With the change of venue and calendar dates (the show now falls in November) the NFAS becomes a highlight in the regional calendar, offering a unique destination for out-of-town family visitors and friends during fall visits -- and especially as we will be open over the Thanksgiving holiday on Friday and Saturday.

With a distinguished juror, a diverse range of artistic works in a variety of mediums, substantial awards and recognition, as well as this year's plan to add educational experiences for the community-at-large, the reputation of the NFAS continues to offer a premier art experience for Gig Harbor citizens, visitors, and members of the surrounding communities.

As mentioned above, with the support of the Creative Endeavor Grant PAL wants to increase public access to the arts. To do so, we are planning additional community-focused activities and events that will occur during the Show's three-week run.

-- On Friday, November 27th, we plan to host a FREE Family Day at the museum with creative activities for children and young adults, to be accompanied by a parent(s). Aside from art activities with special "guest" instructors from Gig Harbor and local arts organizations, students and their parents will be able to tour the NFAS and the amazing aircraft at the VAM.

-- On Saturday, November 21st, our local Plein Air painting group will host a paint-in on-site for the community to come and join in, or simply observe.

-- As part of our programming during the NFAS, we are planning to offer an on-site presentation to either the Peninsula School District (PSD) Aviation Academy students or PSD CTE Art and Technology students that will highlight the relationships between aviation, technology, and art/design. We began the conversation last year with the designated parties, and the goal is to execute this year.

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.

PAL would not be able to offer these unique, no-charge Community Events associated with the National Fine Art Show without the funding from the City. In a time of increased costs and limited arts grants, including a state reduction in arts grants, we are hoping to build upon the success of this 24-year-old Gig Harbor event and offer robust programming for youth and their families and the community with the help from the Creative Endeavor Grants. With the space available at VAM and the ability to showcase more artists, and engage with larger community groups, there is an amazing opportunity to offer unique art programming that would otherwise not be available to the Gig Harbor community.

The requested Creative Endeavor Grant funds will be targeted specifically at providing FREE community-focused programming for 2026 and making this event accessible financially so that members of the public are not excluded based on ability to pay admission. PAL is looking to provide a FREE Family Day over the Thanksgiving weekend, hosting a range of art activities. The grant money will help to cover museum entrance fees, provide art materials, documentation of the event as a model for community partnership, and the cost of guest art instructors. In general, sponsor a no-cost, uniquely tailored art education opportunity for youth, high school students, and the arts community-at-large For the run of the NFAS, already in place is a reduced admissions rate provided by the museum owners Bill, Bob and Marilyn Juranich, and CEO Brandon Baimbridge. They have generously discounted their regular admission fees at $7 for adults; $3 for children (7-12), children under 7 are free.

PAL welcomes the opportunity to display the City of Gig Harbor name and logo, this acknowledgment would be specifically tied to these Community Events in all digital and traditional promotional marketing materials for the NFAS. In addition, the City logo would appear on all PAL related material that acknowledge PAL's community sponsors throughout the year such as website, social media, newsletter, posters (Summer Art Festival and NFAS) and other marketing efforts.

Note: If the requested funds were only partially funded, we would look to see what we could do with a smaller amount of funds. The majority of the costs are centered around the FREE Family event, therefore this event would be in jeopardy.

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.

PAL's primary target audience is Gig Harbor and our adjacent communities in Pierce and Kitsap counties, as well as families and friends visiting the area over the holiday weekend. Our secondary market reaches beyond those boundaries and includes the entire Northwest region as we attract artists from beyond our community borders, and in turn their family and followers. With our targeted marketing, we expect to repeat last year's draw of show artists from around the United States including Oregon, Idaho, New York, Minnesota, California, Florida, and Hawaii. Our new location has become an added bonus due to its unique proximity to the Gig Harbor Narrows Airport where visitors on private planes come and go with our museum signage in clear sight.

We have an experienced marketing committee who find the most effective ways to promote and publicize this event. PAL allocates budget for a variety of promotional efforts such as press releases, calendars listings, printed posters, street signage, rack cards, and social media campaigns. We intend to continue our robust marketing efforts with local magazines and news publications; and collaborations with Pacific Northwest arts organizations. Once again, PAL will produce an online show catalog showcasing the juried artwork, our sponsors, and the show's juror. Plus, we provide a social media publicity package for all participating artists to share through their social media networks and contacts.

This year, PAL is already planning coordination the Gig Harbor Visitor's Bureau to build upon their coverage and great promotion from last year's events including the show's Opening Night and awards ceremony along with their targeted promotions throughout the three-week span of the event.

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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 ART LEAGUE
Bringing Community to the Artist and Art to the Community

2026 Budget - PAL National Fine Art Show

			PROPOSED 2026
INCOME	NFAS INCOME	$	13,250
	- CaFE Submissions	$	8,250
	- Donations	$	500
	- 2026 Grants Goal	$	4,500
	- Art Sales (10%) TBD	$	-
EXPENSES	NFAS SHOW EXPENSES	$	11,575
	- Awards	$	3,700
	- Damage Deposit	$	-
	- Juror	$	850
	- Printing	$	100
	- Security/Parking	$	425
	- Musician	$	-
	- Publicity for All Events	$	1,700
	- Reception	$	2,000
	- Hosting PAL Annual Meeting at Show	$	150
	- Supplies	$	150
	- Venue	$	2,500
COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY-FOCUSED EVENTS	$	2,900
	- FREE Family Day	$	1,200
	- Artist/Teacher Instructors for Family Day	$	500
	- Art Supplies for Family Day	$	500
	- Refreshments	$	150
	- Plein Air Paint-in Event	$	250
	- Peninsula School District Event	$	300
	NFAS 2026 TOTAL COSTS	**$**	**14,475**
	NFAS NET		**(1,225)**