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 1, 2026	
Organization or Individual's Name	Key Peninsula Farm Collective	**Non-Profit?** X Yes ☐ No	
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.			NA
Address	9013 Key Peninsula HWY, Suite D, Lakebay WA, 98349		
Phone Number	253-313-3796	**Email**	info@kpfarmtour.com
Project Title	Key Peninsula Farm Tour		
Date(s) of Project *(Final project report and invoice must be received by December 7, 2026.)*		September 26 & 27, 2026	
Amount Requested	$9,000		
Total Budget (Attach detailed budget)	$14,700		
Admission Charged	$0 (free)		
Donations Accepted	We have not in the past but looking into donation options		☐ Yes X No
Is there at least one free or "pay what you wish" performance?			X Yes ☐ No
Has the applicant/project received grant funding in the past?			X Yes ☐ No
If funding was received before, was the project successful?			X Yes ☐ No
Please list other sponsoring agencies to whom you have applied.	We have not yet formally requested any other funds for the 2026 Farm Tour. Past years grants have been awarded from Angel Guild, Bruce Titus Auto Group, Port of Tacoma, KPBA, City of Gig Harbor Lodging and Tax Grant, KP Parks and IGA/Ace Roundups. There have been various others over the		

	years to maintain the overall operating cost of our events. These rotate year to year

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

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

Organizational Mission and Community Impact

The Key Peninsula Farm Collective (KPFC) is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the working farms, rural heritage and agricultural enrichment on the Key Peninsula. We strive to support local farmers and the land stewards by fostering education, advocacy and collaboration that sustains a thriving agriculture community for generations to come.

The Key Peninsula Farm Collective hosts several events throughout the year- Our September *Farm Tour*, *June Blooms* and this year's newest addition: *Astrids's Lavender Festival*. Our events and programs bridge agriculture, arts, and community development- strengthening the cultural and economic fabric of our region while safeguarding its rural character.

The Key Peninsula Farm Tour: Celebrating Agriculture, Arts, and Community

For this grant application, we are seeking funding in support of the *2026 Key Peninsula Farm Tour*. Since 2006, the annual *Farm Tour* has become a signature community event, drawing more than 2,000 visitors each year to the Key Peninsula and surrounding areas. This attendance number could be under-realized as the farm tour website receives 10-15K unique hits over a three day period surrounding our events. This free, public celebration invites residents and tourists alike to experience firsthand the life, culture, and stewardship practices of our local working farms.

Held during the last week of September, the tour features more than a dozen host sites (and anticipating an increase to 15 this year), including family farms and community hubs such as the Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC) Fiber Arts Show and Gateway Park Apple Squeeze. Each location offers immersive, educational, and cultural experiences that reflect the diversity and creativity of our rural region.

Beyond showcasing agriculture, the *Farm Tour* serves as a vibrant platform for local artists and musicians. Participating farms, camps and community hubs host:

- Live performances by local musicians

- Demonstrations and exhibitions in fiber arts, photography, agricultural floristry, Basket making, as well as other farm and nature-inspired arts
- Hands-on workshops and educational booths; arts, lifestyle and agriculture
- Pop-up vendor stalls for artisans and value-added producers
- Food trucks featuring regional fare

Importantly, the tour also provides space for farmers and artisans who may not have the capacity to host visitors on their own property, ensuring equitable access and broader representation within the event.

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

Community Benefit and Engagement

The *Key Peninsula Farm Tour* generates meaningful economic, cultural, and social benefits for the broader community. By engaging with local residents as well as attracting visitors annually, the event drives direct revenue to local farms, artists, food vendors, and small businesses while increasing tourism to Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula. Visitors travel from surrounding communities to attend the tour, contributing to regional spending and elevating awareness of this region as a destination for agritourism, local arts, and rural cultural experiences.

Beyond economic impact, the *Farm Tour* fosters deep community engagement. The event creates welcoming spaces where residents and visitors interact directly with farmers, community hubs, land stewards, and artists—building relationships that strengthen trust, transparency, and appreciation for local food systems and creative work. Guests gain insight into sustainable farming practices, small scale gardening, homesteading skills, seasonal production, and the challenges and rewards of rural livelihoods.

Educational programming—including workshops, demonstrations, youth-friendly activities, and artist showcases—encourages hands-on learning and intergenerational participation. Families experience farms together, children engage with agriculture in tangible ways, and residents connect with volunteer and stewardship opportunities that extend beyond the event weekend.

Importantly, the *Farm Tour* supports local creatives by providing performance and exhibition opportunities that integrate the arts into an agricultural setting. Musicians, fiber artists, photographers, nature crafters, and agricultural florists contribute to a vibrant, festival-like atmosphere that reflects the character of the Key Peninsula. This cross-sector collaboration strengthens both the arts and farming communities while expanding audiences for each.

The event also builds long-term engagement. Visitors frequently return throughout the year to purchase products directly from farms, attend seasonal workshops, and explore additional community offerings. By connecting guests to a network of producers and artists, the *Farm Tour* cultivates repeat visitation and sustains local support long after these events.

Ultimately, the *Farm Tour* strengthens community pride and identity. It celebrates rural heritage while demonstrating the vitality and innovation of today's agricultural and creative entrepreneurs. By bringing together residents, visitors, farmers, artists, and small businesses, the event fosters connection, supports economic resilience, and positions the Key Peninsula as a thriving hub of rural creativity and sustainable agriculture.

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.

Use of Funds and Project Sustainability

The Key Peninsula Farm Tour is intentionally free and accessible to the public, ensuring that cost is never a barrier to participation. However, producing a high-quality, safe, and welcoming event involves significant annual expenses. Core logistical costs—including permits, insurance, sanitation facilities, and site coordination—combined with promotional efforts such as print and digital advertising, educational materials, and programming support, total approximately $15,000 each year.

Funding support directly strengthens the depth, equity, and reach of the event. Specifically, grant funds would enable the KPFC to:

- Expand paid performance opportunities for local musicians and artists
- Increase marketing and regional outreach to broaden tourism impact

- Enhance educational programming, demonstrations, and workshops
- Improve accessibility, signage, and overall visitor experience

Our KPFC leadership is committed to sustaining the event through sponsorships, partnerships, and careful resource management to cover each operational expense category.

However, without additional funding, the event would operate at a minimal level, limiting marketing reach, reducing stipends for artists and musicians, and constraining educational programming. Grant support transforms the *Farm Tour* from a functional event into a deeply impactful community and cultural experience—expanding tourism, increasing artist visibility, and strengthening economic outcomes for participating farms.

Through this event, we cultivate more than agricultural products—we cultivate connection, creativity, and rural economic resilience. Investment in the *Key Peninsula Farm Tour* supports local artists, honors rural heritage, strengthens small farms, and contributes to a vibrant and sustainable tourism economy that benefits the broader region.

For the outline above we are showcasing the scope of categories we seek funding from multiple organizations to ensure all operational costs are met: for example Key Peninsula parks offers a yearly $1500 grant that covers most of our sanitation stations for each site on the farm tour.

Outlined below is what we are seeking from Gig Harbor City- 2026 Creative Endeavor Grant: Total amount $9,000 as listed out below.

- $3000- Musician Stipend Fund. Last year we had 8 musicians who played across the Key Peninsula over the 2 day event (paid $200 per band for a 2 hour set). This year we are hoping to support 10 musicians and be able to offer a more competitive and fair industry rate of $300 per 2 hour set.
- $1000- Event and website Maintenance for www.kpfarmtour.com. This will cover new updates needed for modernizing the website and making future event calendars, maps and schedules to be updated faster and more cost effective for years to come.
- $5000- Marketing, Social media, paid advertising and content creation for 2026. This has been something the farm tour has never had in the budget but should we utilize this opportunity to promote our event will bring in overnight tourists, commuters spending time at local restaurants and shopping in the days before

and after the farm tour event. While working with a local media company who understands our region's needs, attractions and how to drive traffic to our website and reach new visitors through media engagement and paid advertising.

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.

Over the past year, the KPFC has transitioned to a farmer-led model—guided by a dedicated group of Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula residents. Committed to strengthening collaboration among neighbors, farmers, artists, and local businesses. This renewed leadership has sharpened our focus on sustainable growth, inclusive participation, and long-term community engagement.

To better serve local residents while also attracting visitors to the region, we are implementing a comprehensive three-stage marketing and engagement strategy designed to expand awareness, deepen connections, and support year-round economic vitality.

Stage 1: Year-Round Digital Hub (Currently Underway)

We are enhancing and rebuilding our website to serve as a dynamic, year-round resource for residents and visitors. In addition to promoting seasonal events such as *June Blooms*, *Astrid's Lavender Festival*, and the *Key Peninsula Farm Tour*, the updated platform will include a searchable directory of local farms, producers, and artisans.

For residents, this directory will make it easy to discover nearby farms, locate farmstands, and purchase products throughout the year. For farmers and artists, it creates sustained visibility beyond event weekends, supporting consistent income and customer engagement. The website will also highlight educational workshops, volunteer opportunities, and youth programming, strengthening community participation and agricultural literacy.

Stage 2: Strategic Marketing & Media Outreach (Funding-Supported Expansion)

Support from the Gig Harbor Arts Commission would directly strengthen our second stage: coordinated print and digital marketing designed to drive traffic to the new website and increase awareness of seasonal events.

This phase includes:

- Print materials distributed in Gig Harbor and surrounding communities during local events like the GH waterfront farmers market.
- Regional media outreach to expand audience reach
- Targeted social media campaigns, content creation and paid advertising.
- Cross-promotion and collaborations with local businesses and arts organizations.

Our marketing efforts are intentionally dual-focused:

1. **Engaging Local Residents** – Promoting educational workshops, youth programs, volunteer opportunities, and community gatherings that encourage participation and stewardship.
2. **Attracting Regional Tourism** – Positioning the Key Peninsula as a destination for agritourism, local arts, live music, and seasonal celebrations.

By amplifying visibility across platforms, we generate sustained excitement for in-person events while supporting local artists, food vendors, and small businesses that benefit from increased visitor traffic. Event sponsors will be recognized on our website and in promotional materials.

Stage 3: Ongoing Engagement & Visitor Retention

To maintain momentum beyond seasonal events, we will implement regular communications that keep residents and visitors informed about farm activities, workshops, and artist collaborations. We also plan to develop an integrated map of farms and farmstands across the Peninsula, encouraging self-guided exploration and repeat visits.

This resource will increase visibility for emerging producers, strengthen local purchasing habits, and promote year-round agritourism. By making it easy to find and support local farms, we cultivate lasting relationships rather than one-time attendance.

Together, these strategies ensure that the KPFC serves local residents with accessible, year-round resources while attracting regional visitors who contribute to the area's economic vitality. By strengthening marketing, expanding visibility, and deepening engagement, we are building a sustainable ecosystem where agriculture, arts, and tourism work together to support a thriving rural community.

Venue Accessibility Information

If this project involves a venue – is the venue ADA accessible*?	X Yes ☐ No
If you answered no, what considerations for accessibility have been made? As answered Yes above we also acknowledge that some locations on the farm tour contain uneven ground or mud. Each host site offers ADA restrooms and parking but there may or may not be areas not accessible due to terrain of pastures and farm layouts. All of our community hubs; fire station, library, Civic Center, Red Barn Youth Center and Gateway Park are ADA accessible.	
**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.*	

2026- KPFC Yearly Operating Budget

Category	Item	Amount
Key Peninsula Farm Collective - General	Website Upgrade - Cash needs	$5,000.00
	Website Upgrade - Donated services	$0.00
	Donation Submission App	TBD
	Future Event planning	$ 2,250.00
	General Fund Total	**$7,250.00**
Lavendar Festival (June)	Permits	$300
	Insurance	$100
	Marketing	$200
	Music	$300
	Other	$300
	Event Total	**$1,200**
Farm Tour (Fall)	County Permits	$ 2,000.00
	Event Insurance	$ 700.00
	Murrey's Porta Potties	$ 2,000.00
	Fall Apple Squeeze	$ 1,000.00
	Marketing	**$ 5,000.00**
	Music/Entertainment	**$ 3,000.00**
	Website Maintenance/Promotion	**$ 1,000.00**
	Event Total	**$ 14,700.00**
	Total	**$ 23,150.00**

KEY PENINSULA FARM COLLECTIVE

9013 Key Peninsula Hwy NW, Suite D, Lakebay WA 98349
email: info@kpfarmtour.com
website: kpfarmtour.com

Grant Funding Request- Designation Letter

- Mission Statement: The Key Peninsula Farm Collective is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the working farms, rural heritage and agricultural enrichment on the Key Peninsula. We strive to support local farmers and the land stewards by fostering education, advocacy and collaboration that sustains a thriving agriculture community for generations to come.

On behalf of the following, acting as a member on the board of Directors for the Key Peninsula Community Council and the Director of the Key Peninsula Farm Collective, I am authorized to seek funding relevant to our organizations operating needs.

Grant funding and community donations allows us to operate our annual events, like June Blooms, Astrid's Lavender Festival and our widely popular Fall Farm Tour. Sponsorship supports our goals for promoting agricultural engagement, agrotourism and education with and for the residents and visitors of the Key Peninsula region in Pierce County Washington. We strive to create thriving communities in rural spaces where there otherwise would be limited access to these resources.

Thank you for your consideration and for your organization's support to help enrich the lives of KP residents. Should we be awarded any sponsorships or grants a check should be made to *'Key Peninsula Community Council'* whose 501c3 is listed below.

Sincerely,

Christie Tackett

Director, Key Peninsula Farm Collective (formerly the 'KP Farm Council')

Operating under the 501(c)(3) Organization of the Key Peninsula Community Council (KPC)

IRS Tax ID #37-1491409, Date of Incorporation June 21, 2004

1) **Gateway Park**
10405 Highway 302, Gig Harbor

2) **Moon Mountain farm**
14218 124th Ave NW, Gig Harbor

3) **Astrid's Lavender Farm**
13617 Thomas RD SW, Gig Harbor

4) **Key Center Fire Station**
8911 Key Peninsula Hwy NW

5) **Red Barn Youth Center**
15921 84th St NW, Lakebay

6) **Grand Farms & My Haunted Forest**
17616 S Vaughn Rd NW, Vaughn

7) **Key Peninsula Community Services**
17015 9th St Ct NW, Lakebay

8) **Home Grown**
719 Key Peninsula Hwy Nw

9) **Creviston Valley farm**
3421 Creviston RD SW, Lakebay

10) **Longbranch Improvement Club Fiber Arts Show**
4312 Key Pen Hwy SW , Longbranch

11) **Longbranch Homestead Collective Longbranch Community Church**
16518 46th St SW, Longbranch

12) **Sound View Camp**
8515 KP HWY SW, Longbranch

Getting there from

Seattle

Follow I-5 S and WA-16 W to Purdy Dr in Pierce County. Take the exit toward WA-302 W/Purdy Ky Center from WA-16 W

Bremerton

WA-3 S and WA-16 E to HWY 302

Olympia

Follow I-5 N and WA-16 W to Purdy Dr in Pierce County. Take the exit toward WA-302 W/Purdy Key Center from WA-16 W

SPONSORS

GIG HARBOR
"THE MARITIME CITY"

Key Peninsula
KPC
Community Council

Port of Tacoma

Key Pen Parks

The Angel Guild

GW CREATIVE

Pierce County

KPCS
Food Bank
Senior Center
Senior Meals

The Mustard Seed Project
OF KEY PENINSULA

HEMLEY'S
SEPTIC SERVICE

KEY PENINSULA FARM TOUR & HARVEST FESTIVAL

Visit the website
to plan your route
or hop on a shuttle!

Sept 28th & 29th

KPFARMTOUR.COM

1. Gateway Park

10405 Highway 302, Gig Harbor 98329
Park here for shuttle bus North Loop 9/28
Info Booth 9/28 & 29 10am-4pm
Corgi Round-up 10-1pm 9/28
races begin at 10:30, games to follow
Kayla Hunsacker dog nail demo & trims 10-1pm
Best Friend Forever K9
Handmade Pawsitive Pet Apparel & Accessories
Apple Cider Squeeze 9/29, 10am-4pm
Puget Sound Pizza food truck 9/29
Mary Farr-acoustic folk/Americana 9/29 noon-1:30

2. Moon Mountain Farm 9/28 10-4

14218 124th Ave NW, Gig Harbor 99329
Kids craft table-Minter Creek PTA
Flower Photo Booth
Oracle card readings -Calisto collective
Native plant talk 10-11
Fresh leaf indigo Dye demo 1-2 Followed by brief tour of natural dye garden
Soundscapes-Soullective healing 12 & 2

3. Astrid's Lavender Farm 9/28 & 29 10-4

13617 Thomas Rd NW Gig Harbor 98329
Kids Halloween Costume Contest Sat 28th 3pm

Essential oil distillation demo 11am in shop
Farm tours
Face painting
Harpist Yoli Ruffu hourly 11am-3pm

4. Key Center Fire Station 9/28 10-1pm

8911 KP Hwy N Key Center
Hot dog sales by KP Lion's Club
& Volunteer Firefighters
Live Fire Demos
Station "open house"

5. Red Barn Youth Center 10-4

15921 84th St NW Key Center 98349
Tour the Youth Center facilities & gardens
Sports Courts open
Art Activities
Key Peninsula 4H Club -info table
& friendship bracelet craft

6. Grand Farms 9/28&29 10-4
& My Haunted Forest

17616 S. Vaughn Rd NW Vaughn 98394
Visit the Northwest's Premier Halloween Haunt for a preview experience at "My Haunted Forest" opening for the season by ticket September 28th
6pm "Low Scare" and
7 pm-close for "Full Fright Experience"
Visit Grand Farms Arena for
equine demos 9-29 10am & 2:30p
Pony rides 10a-4p 9/28 and 11a-2p 9/29
Key Peninsula Business Association info booth
"Belfair Pop" & "Ice Cream and Go"
Parking in lower lot
Please-no dogs

7. Key Peninsula Community Services

17015 9th St Ct NW, Lakebay 98349
9/28 10-4
Lunch of Soup bread & pie by $ donation
Harvest Pumpkin (vegetarian)
Hearty Beef Stew
Rummage sale to support programs
Music by The Down Home Band 1-2pm

8.Home Grown

719 Key Peninsula Hwy NW 9/28&29 10-4
Sustainable Hemp farm-
learn about building with "hempcrete"
Photo booth in Hemp field
Raw Honey, CBD Goat Soap & CBD Salve
Pierce County Conservation District

9. Creviston Valley Farm 9/28 & 29 10-4

3421 Creviston Rd SW, Lakebay 98349
Food Backpacks 4 Kids has recently partnered with CVF for a new program called "Food 4 All" to provide fresh produce for local families.
Kids activities all day rock painting & yard games
Classic Rock by The Improvement Club Noon-2
Ladybug release 11am 2pm
sack lunches available $8
Birdhouse kits $20
"Book on a Bus" travelling library 1 free book per
Key Peninsula Beekeepers - demos in Apiary

10. Longbranch Improvement Club

Fiber Arts Show 9/28 10-4
Featured Artist Sheryl Low Quiltmaker
Covid-19 & Flu Vaccine clinic
Vintage Car Display
Vendors & community organization outside
All fiber artists indoors
Puget Sound Pizza food truck
Shuttle Bus parking/pick up South Loop

11.Longbranch Homestead Collective
Longbranch Com Church 9/28 10-4

Workshops and demos on all things Homestead!! From Compost to Organic gardening & preserving the harvest! Chickens for eggs and meat. rabbits and dairy animals- & "Kefir How to"
Kids activities, photo ops & historic display
Bluegrass Music with Ebenezer's Geezers 11, 1 &3

12.Sound View Camp 9/28&29 10-4

8515 KP Hwy SW, Longbranch 98351
Tour the camp and learn about the many programs offered throughout the year.
9/28 Store, Campfire, Farm Open, Camp Tours (leaving on the hour), Archery. Boating 1-4
9/29 Store, Campfire, Farm Open, Camp Tours (leaving on the hour), Archery
10-12: Tidal Exploration 2-4 Boating