

**Community Arts Projects
2026 funding recipients**

ALLIANCE FOR ACCESSIBILITY

Instagram: [@alliancefor.accessibility](https://www.instagram.com/alliancefor.accessibility)



About the Organization: Alliance for Accessibility educates the public on ableism, the barriers people with disabilities face daily, and ways to break down those barriers. The organization teaches disability etiquette and reduces ableism through hands-on experiences that simulate what it may feel like to live with a disability. Alliance for Accessibility also works to close the digital divide by making electronic and online materials more accessible, trains organizations on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, and provides advocacy and skills training to help individuals live independently.

About the Funded Project: The We Are Not Forgotten Showcase is a community celebration of music, poetry, dance, and artistic expression performed by people with disabilities. Rooted in lived experience, the project embeds accessibility into every aspect of performance, programming, and marketing. Too often, artists with disabilities and artists of color are excluded from professional platforms and overlooked in cultural programming. The showcase also raises awareness about the dismantling of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation, which once enforced the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Without oversight, children with disabilities risk losing the equitable education.

ASIA PACIFIC CULTURAL CENTER

website
Instagram:
Facebook:

About the Organization:

About the Funded Project:

BAREFOOT COLLECTIVE

barefootcollective.org
Instagram: [@barefootcollective](https://www.instagram.com/barefootcollective)
Facebook: [@thebarefootcollective](https://www.facebook.com/thebarefootcollective)



About the Organization: Founded in 2008, Barefoot Collective delivers inclusive, engaging, high quality dance programming in Tacoma. They foster relationships with fellow artists and community-based organizations, host open-level community dance classes and gatherings, produce performances onstage, online, and outdoors, and perform at events throughout the South Sound.

About the Funded Project: Barefoot Collective produced a free 2-day dance performance in Wapato Park, featuring dancers of all experience levels. Rooted in modern dance, infused with cultural and contemporary forms, dances focused on the theme of connection within this neighborhood-based public park.

BLACK NIGHT MARKET

blacknightmarket.com

Instagram: [@blacknightmarket](https://www.instagram.com/blacknightmarket)

[@poetryafterdark](https://www.instagram.com/poetryafterdark)

Facebook: [@BlackNightMarket](https://www.facebook.com/BlackNightMarket)

[@poetryafterdarkwa](https://www.facebook.com/poetryafterdarkwa)



About the Organization: Black Night Market Events was created to uplift Black-owned businesses, artists, and creatives by providing intentional, community-centered spaces that promote economic empowerment and cultural celebration. Its mission is to circulate dollars within the Black community while fostering connection, visibility, and creative expression. BNM Events produces programs such as Poetry After Dark, an intimate spoken-word experience centered on healing and storytelling; Art Soiree, a curated event highlighting visual artists and creative collaboration; and Holiday Black Night Market Events, which support seasonal shopping while celebrating culture and community. Together, these experiences create meaningful impact by honoring creativity and building sustainable community support.

About the Funded Project: The Black Night Market's 2026 funded project will support three core public programs: the Holiday Black Night Markets, the Black Art Soiree, and Poetry After Dark Open Mic experiences. These events provide accessible, culturally rich spaces that highlight BIPOC artists, musicians, poets, and small business owners in Tacoma. The Holiday Markets and Black Art Soiree are free, family-friendly events featuring live performances and curated vendors, while Poetry After Dark offers intimate evenings of spoken word and live music. Together, this programming strengthens community connection, increases economic opportunities for artists and entrepreneurs, and expands public access to multidisciplinary arts and culture.

CAPOEIRA VIDA

tacomacapoeiracenter.com

Instagram: [@tacomacapoeira](https://www.instagram.com/tacomacapoeira)



About the Organization: Capoeira Vida's mission is to honor the roots of Capoeira Angola and to maintain its traditions. Through rhythm, movement, history, and language, their programs create space for self-expression, healing, connection, and growth. Capoeira Vida's work to maximize access to the empowering elements of Capoeira Angola to Tacoma communities began in 2011 with free monthly rodas and financial aid. Today, Capoeira Vida is proud to offer free weekly programs and more to the intergenerational communities of Tacoma.

About the Funded Project: Capoeira Vida provides weekly classes and monthly events for youth and adults as well as summer camps for kids. Its programs teach and share the vibrant African-Brazilian cultural art of Capoeira Angola, combining movement, music, and self-defense into a powerful and enriching experience that honors history, language, and heritage.

CARIBBEAN QUEENS

caribbeanqueens.net

Instagram: [@caribbeanqueenswa](https://www.instagram.com/caribbeanqueenswa)



About the Organization: Caribbean Queens began in 2022 as a grassroots collaboration among Caribbean, women-owned businesses. Founded by Julie Davidson, a local entrepreneur with Caribbean roots, the first event took place at her kombucha taproom on 6th Avenue, providing small business owners with a space to showcase their products and share their stories. From that humble beginning grew the inaugural Caribbean Queens Festival in 2024, which far exceeded expectations—drawing more than 700 attendees and making a lasting cultural impression on Tacoma.

About the Funded Project: The Caribbean Queens Festival is a free, one-day community celebration of Caribbean culture planned for August 16th at Theater Square in Downtown Tacoma. The festival invites residents and visitors to experience the rhythms, flavors, and colors of the Caribbean through music, dance, art, and food. It is a joyful space where families, the Caribbean diaspora, and the broader Tacoma community can come together to celebrate diversity and connection.

CHINESE RECONCILIATION PROJECT FOUNDATION

crpftacoma.org

Instagram: [@crpftacoma](https://www.instagram.com/crpftacoma)

Facebook:

[@ChineseReconciliationProjectFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/ChineseReconciliationProjectFoundation)



About the Organization: The Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation (CRPF) is a non-profit organization that advances empowerment and advocacy by way of the Chinese Reconciliation Park and through annual cultural events and educational programs, such as the Music at the Park Festival, the Tacoma Moon Festival, and the Walk for Reconciliation Against Racism, encouraging greater cultural literacy and public acknowledgment of historical and ongoing systems of injustice. Through ceremony, storytelling, and shared presence, the CRPF aims to empower event attendees to confront racism, reject revisionist histories, advocate for equity, and build a more inclusive future.

About the Funded Project: In 2012, the CRPF organized the inaugural Tacoma Moon Festival, introducing the Asian traditions of the Mid-Autumn Festival and the Legend of the Chinese Moon Princes to attendees, while sharing the arts and heritage of Tacoma's many immigrant cultures through stage performances, crafts, and other activities. Since then, this annual festival has grown into a beloved event in Tacoma by creating a unique space for underrepresented groups to publicly share their art, stories, and traditions. Through this event, the CRPF hopes to strengthen cross-cultural understanding, increase access to the arts, and build pride and visibility for Tacoma's diverse communities.

SING TACOMA

website

Instagram:

About the Organization:

About the Funded Project:

FOSS WATERWAY SEAPORT

fosswaterwayseaport.org



About the Organization: The mission of Foss Waterway Seaport (the Seaport) is to celebrate Tacoma’s rich maritime heritage – past, present, and future. The Seaport is located on Tacoma’s waterfront, in a historic building and provides equitable year-round inclusive and engaging maritime education to the whole of Tacoma’s communities.

About the Funded Project: The Foss Waterway Seaport's Salmon Art Project is a collaborative art piece that addresses the need for increased environmental awareness, stewardship, and human connection. Artistic projects allow articulation of understanding that written or spoken language may otherwise hinder. The Salmon Art Project is an opportunity for students to transform what they have learned about the science of salmon into an expressive community art piece, a practice which is increasingly more important due to the nature of intersecting disciplines. Approximately 1,600 students from Tacoma Public Schools will participate in the project this year.

GREENTRIKE

greentrike.org



Instagram: [@cmtacoma](https://www.instagram.com/cmtacoma)


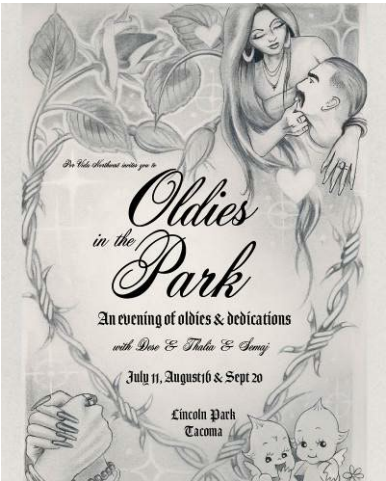
Facebook: [@ChildrensMuseumofTacoma](https://www.facebook.com/ChildrensMuseumofTacoma)



About the Organization: Greentrike’s mission is to “Honor Children. Champion Play.” They do this by nurturing children and supporting the adults who care for them, advocating for and modeling equitable access to playful experiences for children, youth, and families, and powering programs and initiatives for early learning and play in Pierce County. Greentrike programs include: two children’s museums, Pierce County-wide school-readiness programs, after-school learning opportunities for school-age children, enrichment preschool, outreach family STEAM nights, programming for children experiencing special needs, and more. After 40 years of operation, Greentrike has become a cornerstone of the community and a resource for generations of families.

About the Funded Project: Sparks is a free, drop-in arts education workshop that makes creative expression accessible to all families. Held weekly in the art studio of the Children’s Museum of Tacoma, Sparks invites children and caregivers to explore a variety of artistic materials and techniques together. Workshops emphasize process over product, encouraging imagination, experimentation, and shared creativity. Activities use simple, affordable materials so families can continue creating at home, extending the learning experience beyond the museum.

<p>HILLTOP ARTISTS</p> <p>hilltopartists.org Instagram: @hilltopartists Facebook: @hilltopartists</p> 	<p>About the Organization: Founded in 1994, Hilltop Artists is an arts and youth development organization connecting young people to better futures through glass arts education, mentorship, and leadership development. Each year they serve more than 750 Tacoma and Pierce County youth, ages 12–25, providing inclusive access to rigorous artmaking in glass and related arts, mentoring from trusted teaching artists, and holistic wrap-around services.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Hilltop Artists students will create, and distribute, 1000+ hand-crafted glass art pieces throughout Tacoma on February 17, 2026, as part of Monkeyshines, Tacoma's beloved Lunar New Year treasure hunt. Production will run January 1 - February 15, 2026, at their hot shops in Hilltop Heritage Middle School and Silas High School. The public treasure hunt launches at dawn on February 17th and continues city-wide throughout the month with most items found within two weeks. The event is completely free and open to all residents of Tacoma. Hilltop Artists is one of the largest contributors of glass art to Monkeyshines.</p>
<p>LINCOLN DISTRICT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION</p> <p>lincolndistrict.org Instagram: @lincolndistricttacoma Facebook: @LincolnDistrictTacoma</p> 	<p>About the Organization: The Lincoln International Business Association is dedicated to strengthening the Lincoln District by championing small businesses, preserving the neighborhood's rich cultural heritage, activating community events, and driving economic growth that benefits everyone who lives, works, and shops there.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: The Lincoln District Lunar New Year Festival celebrates and honors Asian traditions while welcoming the community to mark the Lunar New Year together. Now in its 36th year, the festival brings thousands of residents and visitors to Tacoma's Lincoln District for a vibrant cultural celebration featuring traditional performances, food, a marketplace, and family activities. The free community event highlights the rich Asian heritage of the neighborhood while supporting small businesses and creating a space for cultural connection and celebration.</p>
<p>MUSEUM OF GLASS</p> <p>website Instagram: Facebook:</p>	<p>About the Organization:</p> <p>About the Funded Project:</p>

<p>NORTHWEST SINFONIETTA</p> <p>website Instagram: Facebook:</p>	<p>About the Organization:</p> <p>About the Funded Project:</p>
<p>ONE TABLE SHOW</p> <p>onetableshow.com Instagram: @onetableshow</p> 	<p>About the Organization: Founded in 2024, One Table Show is a quarterly series of live one-hour shows showcasing Tacoma talent and taking place at ‘one table’ sets in neighborhood bars, restaurants, or cafes around the city. For each performance, directors collaborate with performers to develop characters, original short scenes, and monologues, rehearsing scenes in advance but leaving plenty of room for on-the-spot improvisation. With a commitment to casting performers who reflect the diverse cultures and communities of Tacoma, and showcasing a combination of topical drama, sketch comedy, and improv, each performance is free and open to the public, ensuring accessibility for all.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: In their “Building the Table” workshops, the One Table team will draw on their unique collaborative process for live, site-specific, theatrical performances to guide workshop participants through One Table's entire production model - from venue selection and story ideation, through casting, rehearsal, and performance. The result will give participants (whether they are otherwise experienced or inexperienced in theater production) a working knowledge of One Table's creative process and prepare them for the possibility of creating and/or performing in future One Table Shows.</p>
<p>POR VIDA NW</p> <p>porvidanw.com Instagram: @porvidanw</p> 	<p>About the Organization: Por Vida NW is a Chicana-led event production company specializing in cultural programming, sustainable fashion, placemaking, and music and arts event production across the PNW. Por Vida NW produces events that celebrate culture, activate public spaces, and strengthen neighborhoods. One of their signature events, Tacoma Sunday Market, is a beloved flea market and part of a portfolio of events and activations that draw tens of thousands of attendees annually. Central to this work is a commitment to prioritizing BIPOC businesses and artists. Through intentional, community-centered events, Por Vida NW cultivates community and creates spaces for culture to thrive.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Oldies in the Park is a free community gathering featuring local DJs and a host spinning oldies and taking dedications from guests, celebrating a genre of music with deep roots in Chicano, Black, and Filipino cultures that continues to</p>

serve as a shared soundtrack across generations. Pack a picnic and settle in with your friends and family for a Sunday evening of oldies music. The event is intentionally free and vendor-free, creating a space focused on community, not commerce.

QUEER NORTHWEST

queerartsproject.org



About the Organization: Queer NW is a LGBTQ+ organization that focuses on creating events and activities for the community through its programs, such as the Queer Arts Project, which produces art workshops in partnership with community organizations, including Tacoma Glassblowing Studio.

About the Funded Project: This funded project is helping produce Queer NW's second mural in Tacoma. Their first mural was completed in 2025. This new mural will continue the theme of the first, raising awareness this time of transgender issues.

SENCO CREATES!

senco253.org

Instagram: [@senco253creates](https://www.instagram.com/senco253creates)

Facebook: [@SencoTacoma](https://www.facebook.com/SencoTacoma)



About the Organization: The South End Neighborhood Council (SENCo) is one of 8 Neighborhood Councils created by the City of Tacoma in 1992, to serve as a conduit for community concerns and collective solutions to neighborhood challenges.

SENCoCreates! is the Public Works Subcommittee, focused on beautification efforts around the South End. SENCoCreates! Believes in the power of public art to create welcoming spaces, particularly for community members who feel left out of the public discourse. SENCoCreates! has directly experienced the joy of community from a beautification project that doesn't spark gentrification. They are neighbors helping neighbors, because they love the South End!

About the Funded Project: The Wright Avenue Mural brings specific community-focused beautification to a neighborhood in the South End, providing some positive impacts to a community needing mitigation from the I-5 Corridor. While the Lincoln District nearby is one of the few recognized business districts in the South End, the community around it is diverse, economically challenged, and faces critical health impacts from the nearby highway system with no greenbelt. SENCo Creates! hopes this mural project will bring some mitigation and positive mental health impacts to a historically underserved neighborhood.

<p>SHERIDAN ELEMENTARY PTA</p> <p>sheridan.tacomaschools.org/about/pta</p> 	<p>About the Organization: Sheridan PTA is a small non-profit formed by more than 60 volunteer family members and staff at Sheridan Elementary. They strive to uplift the morale of their school community by creating opportunities to gather and serve together, as well as providing funds for miscellaneous activities throughout the school year.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Sheridan PTA is creating a welcoming and colorful outdoor mural at Sheridan Elementary, intended to bring joy to the families of its more than 500 students and the rest of the community in the Eastside of Tacoma. Artist Saiyare Refaei will be creating the mural.</p>
<p>TACOMA ART MUSEUM</p> <p>tacomaartmuseum.org Instagram: @TacomaArtMuseum Facebook: @TacomaArtMuseum</p> 	<p>About the Organization: Founded in 1935, Tacoma Art Museum (TAM) enriches South Puget Sound communities through a year-round calendar of art exhibitions, education programming, and community events. The organization’s vision is focused on an advancement of Pacific Northwest artistic voices and a commitment to youth programs. The museum aims to promote these values through a culturally responsive schedule of exhibitions and free community-based events.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Dia de los Muertos festival 2026 will take place on Sunday, November 1 at Tacoma Art Museum (TAM). The event will be free and open to the public with free parking available. Festival programming will be family-centric and include a range of arts activities, traditional live music performances, and culturally responsive traditional celebrations. Community Art Projects funding will support TAM's free admission model for this event, directly empowering TAM to provide artists and performers fair compensation for their participation and provide free admission to all festival attendees.</p>
<p>TACOMA ARTS LIVE</p> <p>website Instagram: Facebook:</p>	<p>About the Organization:</p> <p>About the Funded Project:</p>

TACOMA CITY BALLET

tacomacityballet.com

Instagram: [@tacomacityballet](https://www.instagram.com/tacomacityballet)

Facebook: [@TacomaCityBallet](https://www.facebook.com/TacomaCityBallet)



About the Organization: Tacoma City Ballet has been dedicated to providing after-school and summer dance education to the diverse youth of Tacoma for 70 years. TCB has also been offering Open Adult classes for the last five years and plans to bring Dance for Wellness to the senior residents of Tacoma in 2026. These programs are soundly supported by the organization, which has dedicated its most esteemed teachers to the effort. The community also continues to support the project by attending classes and contributing to the growth of adult dance opportunities in Tacoma.

About the Funded Project: Tacoma City Ballet (TCB) believes in teaching the technique and tradition of ballet and other dance forms in a supportive community that encourages both artistic and personal growth for all people of all ages. TCB believes that historical exclusion and marginalization due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, economics, disability, or age, should not be a barrier to experiencing dance. To reduce the financial obstacle, they have been offering two Open Adult classes for free every week, the other three classes are low-cost at \$10 per class, and their Dance for Wellness classes will be free of charge.

TACOMA LIGHT TRAIL

tacomalighttrail.org



Instagram: [@tacomalighttrail](https://www.instagram.com/tacomalighttrail)

Facebook: [@TacomaLightTrail](https://www.facebook.com/TacomaLightTrail)



About the Organization: The Tacoma Light Trail is a free annual winter festival of light art in downtown Tacoma that feature outdoor performances on New Year's Eve, dragon parades, lumens concerts, a lighted bike ride, illuminated art throughout downtown, and much more from November - January.

About the Funded Project: Tacoma Light Trail's New Year's Eve Celebration is a joyful, free, family friendly event that will take place on Tollefson Plaza December 31, 2026 from 6pm-10pm. The event includes a parade led by a fire breathing dragon, a blessing from the Puyallup Tribe, a DJ, performances by a variety of local artists including Tacoma's Poet Laurette, Asia Pacific Cultural Center's dance and fire troupes, and many more. There will be art making booths, interactive light art features, food trucks and free hot tea available.

<p>TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS - ARTS DEPARTMENT</p> <p>tacomaschools.org Instagram: @tacomaschools Facebook: @tacomaschools</p> 	<p>About the Organization: In partnership with parents and community, Tacoma Public Schools provides a comprehensive educational experience that is rigorous, individualized, and enables students to contribute to a changing and diverse world.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Tacoma Public Schools held the inaugural TPS Secondary Art Exhibition at the downtown Main Tacoma Public Library in the Handforth Gallery. The exhibit hosted art produced by students from 13 middle and high schools across Tacoma on the theme "Between the Mountain and the Sea." The exhibition ran January through March 2026 with an opening night celebration held on January 28th.</p>
<p>THE CHAYAH MOVEMENT</p> <p>website Instagram: Facebook:</p>	<p>About the Organization:</p> <p>About the Funded Project:</p>
<p>THE METHOD SKATEBOARDS & COFFEE</p> <p>themethod253.com Instagram: @themethod253 Facebook: @themethod253</p> 	<p>About the Organization: The Method is a full-service coffee shop and core skateboard shop located in downtown Tacoma. The Method serves as a community hub for skateboarding, art, music, and creative culture. It offers specialty coffee, skate goods, apparel, and a welcoming space for art exhibitions, and community gatherings.</p> <p>About the Funded Project: Skate of the Art 2 is a collaborative skateboard art exhibition presented by The Method and Open Sesame Gallery & Books. Building on the success of the inaugural 2024 show, the exhibition features original artwork from 24 artists who transform blank skateboard decks into one-of-a-kind works of art. By using skateboards as the substrate, the show celebrates the intersection of visual art, skateboarding culture, and community creativity, showcasing a diverse range of artistic styles and perspectives in a non-traditional gallery setting.</p>
<p>TRÍO GUADALEVÍN</p> <p>website Instagram: Facebook:</p>	<p>About the Organization:</p> <p>About the Funded Project:</p>

VISION253

website
Instagram:
Facebook:

About the Organization:

About the Funded Project:

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

washingtonhistory.org

Instagram: [@washingtonhistory](https://www.instagram.com/washingtonhistory)

Facebook: [@washingtonhistory](https://www.facebook.com/washingtonhistory)



About the Organization: The Washington State Historical Society partners with communities to explore how history connects us all. Founded in 1891 and now in its second century of service, the Washington State Historical Society is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and vividly presenting Washington’s rich and storied history. The Historical Society offers a variety of services to researchers, historians, scholars, and lifelong learners and operates the State History Research Center and the Washington State History Museum.

About the Funded Project: The IN THE SPIRIT Arts Market & Northwest Native Festival is an annual celebration of Native arts and culture. This free community festival is guided by a Native advisory committee and features live music, art, a fashion show, artisan vendors, interactive activities, food, and free museum admission. IN THE SPIRIT is hosted collaboratively by the Washington State History Museum, Tacoma Art Museum, and the Museum of Glass.

WAYOUT KIDS

juneteenthwa.com

Instagram: [@juneteenthwa](https://www.instagram.com/juneteenthwa)

Facebook: [@juneteenthwa](https://www.facebook.com/juneteenthwa)



About the Organization: For over 15 years, Building Youth Through Music/WayOut Kids has been dedicated to delivering impactful community programs for youth and families. Through after-school and summer programs, educational videos, and community events, they aim to educate children and the community on essential academic and social lessons crucial for their success in the classroom, at home, and in life.

About the Funded Project: Juneteenth Celebration – A Road to Economic Freedom represents culture and freedom for our community. This dynamic celebration brings together resources and opportunities in healthcare, finance, housing, trades, and small business. With more than 15,000 attendees in 2025, 150+ vendors, over 40 sponsors, and 50+ volunteers, the event features guest appearances by national and local artists, as well as state, county, and city officials. It’s a community gathering! There’s something for everyone! Enjoy live music, a dedicated kid’s zone, face painting, and countless vendors for your shopping needs—fun for the whole family.