



OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

2026 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION

1. PLEASE FILL IN THE FOLLOWING FORM AND ATTACH THE SIGNED COPY TO YOUR LETTER OF INTEREST.

Applicant Organization: _____ Years in operation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name and title of authorized organizational contact: _____

Name of project for which funding is requested: _____

Amount of funding requested: _____ Geographic area to be served: _____

Certification of Tax Status:

☐ We are a 501-(c)-3 charitable or non-profit organization. Tax ID Number _____

Signature of Authorized Organizational Contact _____

2. PLEASE ATTACH A LETTER OF INTEREST (OF TWO PAGES OR LESS) THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- a. The history and purpose of your organization.
- b. The project or event for which you are requesting funding.
- c. The aspect of the project or event that the OYC funds will support.
- d. Organizational funds or other sources of funds committed to the project.
- e. Anticipated benefits of the project, activity, or event – the importance of the project to community strength and vitality.
- f. If applicable, which OYC supported community event your project will coordinate with such as Opening Day of Boating Season, Foofaraw, Parade of Lighted Ships or other. (See examples and information about them below in 'Major Community Events Supported by OYC in 2025'.)
- g. How the project aligns with the OYC interests and values.
- h. The estimated number of people who will participate in the project, activity, or event.
- i. How the project, activity, or event will increase OYC's visibility among local residents as a constructively-engaged community partner through local media, social media, and other means.

Please email signed application with letter of interest to:

Don Sloma, OYC Community Grants Coordinator

slomadon@duck.com



OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

2026 OYC COMMUNITY GRANTS

OVERVIEW

- Established in 1904, among the Olympia Yacht Club's (OYC's) purposes are "to encourage and promote ... seamanship and navigation, and to provide and maintain suitable facilities..." As such, OYC interests and values include improving the strength and vitality of the waterfront, the downtown, the marine environment, water sports, relevant education and training and the greater community.
- This year, the OYC is committed to awarding grants to eligible non-profit organizations for projects and events that inform and improve the community and are aligned with these OYC interests and values, especially those closely coordinated with OYC led or sponsored events or activities.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

- An organization may request funding up to \$2,000.

Applicant Organization Eligibility

- Preference for funding will be given to organizations that are:
 - Categorized as nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations under Sec. 501-(c)-3 of the US Tax Code;
 - Governed by active boards of directors;
 - Established organizations, not start-ups, and which have, in most cases, operated successfully for at least three years.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY AND PREFERENCES

- Projects, activities, or events proposed for funding must be aligned with the interests and values of the OYC.
- Preference will be given to projects, activities, or events that are closely coordinated with OYC supported events such as Open Day of Boating Season, Foofaraw, Parade of Lighted Ships or others (See examples and information about them below in 'Major Community Events Supported by OYC in 2025'.)
- projects that are unrelated to the water, boating, or the aquatic environment will be considered if they will otherwise improve the social fabric of our community.
- Preference will be given to projects, activities, or events whose primary benefits will accrue to Olympia or neighboring communities in Thurston County.
- Preference will be given to projects, activities, or events that:
 - Will be open to participation by wide swaths of the public;
 - Will give the most community visibility to OYC's contribution, purposes and values; and,
 - Will be actively promoted by the grantee through local media, social media, and other mechanisms.
- Funds awarded must be expended by grantees by the end of calendar year 2026.



OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Our intention is to have one funding round as outlined below. However, if all available funds are not awarded in this round, we may hold a second round later in the year.

Timeline	Action
1/5	OYC posts grant application on its website, announces grant availability, purpose and criteria to members, asking them to pass on information to eligible organizations. Previous grant recipients will also be notified.
2/10	Letters of interest due from eligible applicant organizations.
3/15	OYC reviews applications, selects successful recipients & notifies their primary contacts
3/15 – 12/31	Grantees use funds for projects and events.
10/1-12/8	Grantees provide a brief written, and if requested, an oral progress report to OYC summarizing the project, activity, or event outcomes/successes/metrics
12/31	Grant funds must be fully spent; grantees provide any updates in a final written report

EXAMPLES OF MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORTED BY OYC IN 2025

These are some of the major community wide events OYC has organized, coordinated or sponsored in past years. OYC Community Grants may be awarded for activities adjacent to, or closely coordinated with these or similar events that meet our other grant making criteria.

Event	Typical Month	Description
Opening Day of Boating Season	Early May	https://www.theolympiayachtclub.com/event-details/south-sound-opening-day-of-boating-season
Olympia Harbor Days	Late August Early September	https://www.harbordays.com/
Foofaraw	Early September	https://thurstonchamber.com/events/foofaraw/ https://www.theolympiayachtclub.com/foofaraw
Parade of Lighted Ships	Early December	https://www.theolympiayachtclub.com/event-details/olympia-yacht-club-parade-of-lighted-ships