

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

LitiArts

Address:

1201 2nd Ave, Ste 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Contact:

(832) 479-9159
<https://litiarts.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Our mission is to empower youth of color through literacy, arts education, and mentorship, nurturing their personal identity, well-being, and equitable access to educational opportunities.

Date of Award:

2025 Q2

Level:

\$500 to \$2,500

For more information, please read the attached report from LitiArts.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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LitiArts

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Final Report

Report Code: Q2 2025 14.2

Organization: LitiArts

Project: The Identity Journal

Website: <https://www.litiarts.org>

Identity Journal: <https://theidentityjournal.org>

Project Summary

On behalf of LitiArts, thank you for supporting The Identity Journal. Your investment helped make possible an identity-affirming literacy and arts initiative rooted in our Washington-based programming, empowering youth to explore their communities, identities, and creative voices through writing, visual arts, and storytelling.

Through a series of arts-integrated workshops held here in Seattle, youth engaged in creative writing, visual art, reflection, and collaborative discussion while building confidence in their voices and identities. The project culminated in the publication of the inaugural issue of The Identity Journal, a digital publication showcasing original youth writing and artwork, alongside a community celebration honoring the young authors and artists. The journal serves as a lasting digital archive that preserves youth stories and ensures their voices remain accessible to families, educators, and communities.

This project advanced our mission of expanding access to literacy and arts education while creating meaningful opportunities for young people to see themselves as writers, artists, and leaders.

Project Outcomes

With support from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions, LitiArts was able to:

- Launch the inaugural issue of The Identity Journal, featuring original writing and artwork by youth.
- Provide identity-affirming literacy and arts programming, based in Seattle, that encouraged creativity, self-expression, and reflection.
- Support youth in developing confidence as writers, artists, and storytellers.
- Celebrate participants through a public exhibition and digital publication that shared their work with families and the broader community.
- Expand access to high-quality arts and literacy experiences for youth in the South Seattle community.

Total Number of Recipients Impacted

Direct Youth Participants: 20–25

Family Members and Community Members Engaged: 50+

Total Individuals Impacted: 70–75+

Additional Project Outputs

- Number of youth authors: 11
- Number of original written pieces published: 11–15
- Number of original artworks created: 20+
- Number of digital journal issues launched: 1 (Inaugural Issue)

Project Highlights

The Identity Journal represents much more than a publication. It serves as a lasting archive of youth voices and demonstrates what is possible when young people are provided with supportive spaces to create, reflect, and share their lived experiences.

Participants explored themes including identity, belonging, culture, family, and community while developing literacy and artistic skills that will continue to serve them beyond the program.

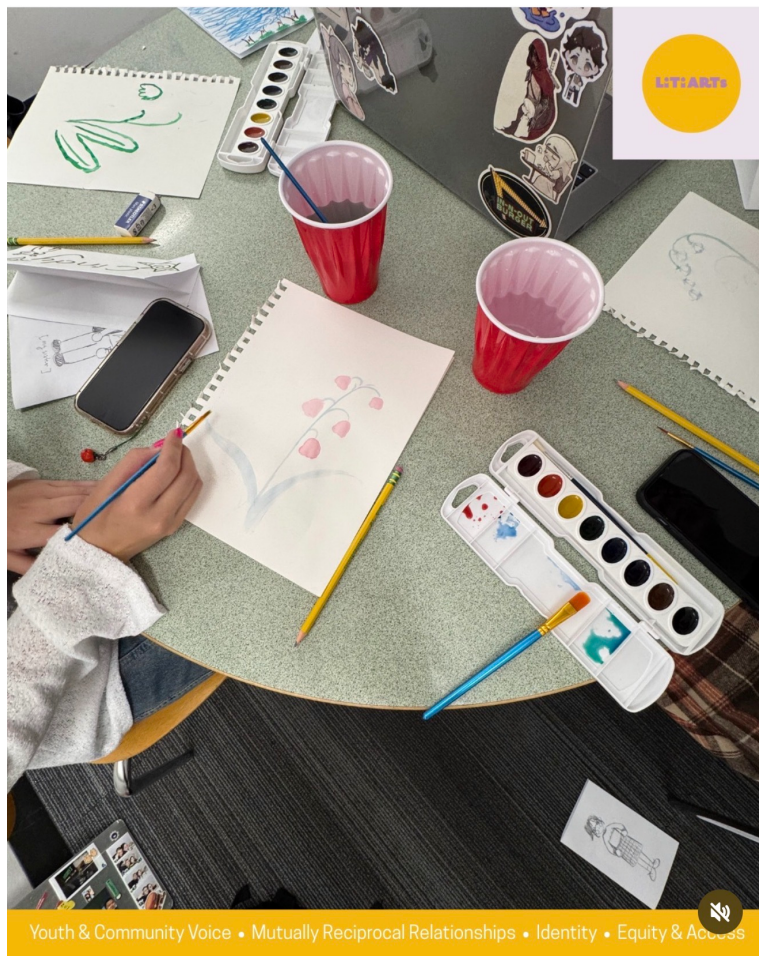
Project Photos

Below are a few moments from the workshop series that culminated in the launch of The Identity Journal.

Workshop Sessions



Students participated in collaborative literacy and visual arts workshops where they explored identity, storytelling, and creative expression.



Youth experimented with watercolor, writing, and artistic techniques while developing original creative pieces.



Participants proudly shared their completed artwork during one of our workshop sessions.

Published Youth Voices

The project culminated in the publication of the inaugural issue of *The Identity Journal*, highlighting original writing and artwork created by youth participants. Through the journal, young people shared their stories with families, community members, and readers beyond the classroom, affirming their voices as authors and artists. While the project was rooted in our Washington-based programming, the publication also welcomed contributions from youth across the country, extending the reach of this Washington-grown initiative. The full inaugural issue is available to read at theidentityjournal.org.

Meet a Few of Our Writers

Below is a small selection of youth writers whose work appeared in the inaugural issue.

MEET THE WRITER

Title of Work: **"Angel"**

ANYA PETERSON



Anya Peterson is a junior in high school in Seattle, Washington, who began writing poetry as a way to process emotion and find language for what felt difficult to name. Through writing, she has learned to put her inner world into words and share what she carries.

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Spring Writing Contest Spotlight

MEET THE WRITER

Title of Work: **"How It Feels to be Braided Me"**

MARLEY ROSS



Marley Ross is a passionate writer and social justice activist in the 11th grade in Washington, D.C. Since the age of twelve, she has cultivated a love for creative writing and activism and hopes to pursue a career in law.

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Spring Writing Contest Spotlight

MEET THE WRITER

Title of Work: **"the bruise beneath the bruise beneath the bruise"**

MADELINE CHANG



Madeline Chang is a writer whose work explores belonging, identity, and cultural inheritance within immigrant families. Through intimate storytelling and reflection, they examine the tension between love and expectation and what it means to navigate multiple worlds at once.

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Spring Writing Contest Spotlight

MEET THE WRITER

Title of Work: **"Inheritance of Belief"**

SAHASRA BHIMAVARAPU



Sahasra B is a high school student and writer who explores themes of personal growth, human connection, culture, and identity. She is an avid reader of mysteries and thrillers and brings that same appetite for depth and tension to her own stories and essays.

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Spring Writing Contest Spotlight

Looking Ahead

The success of The Identity Journal has strengthened LitiArts' commitment to expanding youth-centered literacy and arts programming in Washington state. Building on this inaugural issue, we are continuing to develop future editions that will provide even more young people with opportunities to publish their work, celebrate their identities, and contribute to their communities through creative expression. We look forward to building out The Identity Journal further, including adding a mentorship component that pairs young writers with experienced authors and editors.

Thank you again for your generous support and for investing in the creativity, leadership, and voices of young people.

With gratitude,
 Dr. Lakeya Afolalu
 Founder & Executive Director, LitiArts