



# Funds Distribution Report

---

**Recipient Organization:**

**TeenTix**

**Address:**

305 Harrison St  
Seattle, WA 98109

**Contact:**

(206) 233-3959  
<https://www.teentix.org>

**Organization's General Goals:**

TeenTix builds a bright future for our region by empowering young people to take an active role in shaping their arts community as audience members, critics, influencers, advocates, patrons, and leaders. To date, TeenTix has engaged over 170,000 teens in nearly 200,000 arts experiences at 150+ Arts and Community Partners.

---

**Date of Award:**

2024 Q3

**Level:**

\$500 to \$2,500

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

8802 27th Ave NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

**TulalipCares.org**

Disclaimer: This report may be a summary of content provided by the recipient, not always complete quoted material.



EMPOWERING TEEN ARTS AUDIENCES SINCE 2004

305 Harrison Street, Seattle WA 98109 • 206.233.3959 • www.teentix.org

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions  
Attn: Marilyn Sheldon  
8802 27th Avenue NE  
Tulalip, WA 99271

Dear Ms. Sheldon and friends at Tulalip Tribes,

On behalf of TeenTix’s staff, board, and teens, thank you and the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund for your \$█████ grant (Q3 2024 14.2) in 2024. Your contribution played a key role in our ability to sustain teen-led programs and create access to arts and community engagement for nearly 7,200 teens last year. We are thrilled to share more about the impact of your generosity in this 2024 Final Report.

Your contribution supported our work to create access to arts and community engagement for 7,173 teens last year. All TeenTix programs are shaped by the teens themselves, ensuring that we remain relevant and impactful. By placing teens in leadership roles, we help them develop hard skills like strategic decision-making, project management, public speaking, and arts criticism. These experiences not only nurture confidence and engagement but also equip teens with the tools to shape broader cultural conversations. In fact, 95% of participants report feeling more confident exploring the arts and empowered to share their voice after participating in our programs.

**Key activities and highlights include:**

- **Pass Program** provided thousands of teens (ages 13–19) with free and \$5 tickets to live arts and cultural events across Washington. This year, 7,082 new teen members joined, expanding the program’s reach and impact. TeenTix also grew its network to 106 Arts and Cultural Organizations and 44 Community Organizations, strengthening connections between arts institutions and youth-serving groups. With a streamlined events calendar and teen-curated social media, TeenTix effectively connects young people to experiences that resonate with them—80% report they are more likely to attend an event based on TeenTix’s recommendations. By fostering accessibility, TeenTix is helping diversify audiences at local cultural institutions and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the arts community. Additionally, in collaboration with our Board’s Tech Committee, we developed a website feature that allows teens to check in at events using a QR code, making attendance tracking more efficient.
- **Press Corps: Newsroom and Teen Editorial Staff (TEDS)** engaged youth in arts journalism, providing opportunities to lead editorial projects, develop their voices as critics, and build essential media skills. In 2024, 59 teen writers and editors produced 22 commissioned pieces for media partners like The Seattle Times and 80 articles for the TeenTix Blog, establishing them as active voices in the arts community. Press Corps operates through two key components: the TEDS and the Newsroom. TEDS serves as a peer mentorship program where youth editors guide their peers through the editorial process—from event selection to drafting, editing, and publishing. This structure prioritizes teen perspectives, ensuring coverage of

events that resonate with young audiences. In the Newsroom, teen writers receive professional editorial mentorship, refining their skills while contributing to a broader cultural dialogue. Beyond writing, the program fosters critical thinking and collaboration. The editing process is designed not only to strengthen each piece but also to encourage deeper engagement with the practice of writing. Through constructive dialogue, both writers and editors learn to articulate their opinions, refine their arguments, and develop a stronger understanding of arts criticism as a collaborative and contributive practice within the cultural community.

- **TeenTix Arts Podcast (TAP)** provided a platform for teens to share news, perspectives, and interviews within the arts sector while gaining hands-on experience in media arts and the technical work of podcasting. The program engaged 8 teen hosts and produced 10 episodes on YouTube and Spotify, covering a wide range of arts, culture, and youth-focused topics. Episodes featured interviews with local artists and musicians, including Satpreet Kahlon, Alex Stone, Vivi Annis, and Riotgrrl's Allison Wolfe. Discussions explored diverse subjects such as sticker-making, the origins and impact of oil painting, the role of nonprofits in the arts ecosystem, and queerness in horror.
- **Mentorship for Teen Artists of Color (MTAC)** partnered with Colorization Collective, an organization led by TeenTix alumni. This program provides young artists of color with mentorship from practicing artists, fostering their artistic development across multiple disciplines. In 2024, MTAC supported 29 teen artists working in digital and fine art, writing, and music. The program culminated in a public showcase at A/NT Gallery and online gallery, providing participants with a platform to share and sell their work. Five teaching artists guided this cohort, bringing expertise from diverse creative fields, including writing, illustration, design, poetry, film, and music.
- **New Guard** offered young people the opportunity to take on leadership roles at TeenTix while gaining hands-on experience in arts administration and advocacy. In 2024, 12 youth leaders played a key role in shaping TeenTix, attending 8 arts outings and participating in 6 Community Partner Residencies at ACT Theatre, Meany Center, and Seattle Opera. New Guardians engaged in educational workshops, panels, and working sessions focused on youth arts advocacy, career exploration, and community building. Members also contributed to TeenTix's outreach efforts through social media takeovers, posterage, and a How-To toolkit for Arts Partners that encouraged peers to use their TeenTix Pass and helped create a more welcoming, inclusive arts community.
- **Creative Workforce Development** provided skill-building internships and mentorship opportunities in digital marketing, nonprofit management, program creation, journalism, event planning, and more. In summer 2024, TeenTix hosted 12 paid interns working a collective 1,000 hours over 6 weeks. We partnered with programs such as Seattle's Office of Economic Development, Bumbershoot, University of Washington's Employment Program, Seattle Youth Employment Program, YMCA, TIPS, Northwest Folklife, YouthCare, Highline Public Schools, Seattle Public Schools, and Big Picture Schools.

### **Financials:**

**2024 Expenditures:** \$636,233

**2024 Funding Sources:**

*Individual Contributions:* \$151,477

*Earned Revenue (Pass Program, Media ads, Commissions): \$64,828*

*Special Event Contributions: \$108,749*

*Government Grants:*

4Culture, \$4,500

ArtsWA, \$17,480

City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, \$48,275

City of Seattle C.A.R.E. \$4,600

City of Seattle Office of Economic Development, \$50,000

*Foundations & Corporate Support:*

ArtsFund, \$ [REDACTED]

Common Great, \$ [REDACTED]

Fales Foundation, \$ [REDACTED]

Foundry10, \$ [REDACTED]

Islands Fund, \$ [REDACTED]

Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation, \$ [REDACTED]

Nesholm Family Foundation, \$ [REDACTED]

Norcliffe Foundation, \$ [REDACTED]

Seattle Center Foundation, \$ [REDACTED]

Seattle Colleges, \$ [REDACTED]

Suquamish Tribes, \$ [REDACTED]

Tulalip Tribes, \$ [REDACTED]

Post pandemic, TeenTix has been working diligently to serve the teens in our community while navigating a continually shifting landscape. The organization invested funds in 2023 and 2024 in operational upgrades, long overdue salary adjustments, and focused staffing expansions to respond to contemporary programmatic needs and our long term vision. These necessary adjustments outpaced our ability to complete a multi year effort for considerably expanded capacity funding in no small part due to a developing fundraising team that has been historically under staffed. The fall and winter of 2024 has been spent in deep organization wide assessment and recalibration with the support of Kayti Barnett-O'Brien, a consultant from Scandiuizzi Krebs. We are confident in our strategy, budget, and programmatic ambitions for 2025 and while our continued need for public and private support remains as vital as ever, we anticipate this year to reflect the focused adjustments we've made to our operations.

**Youth Served**

Over the last 21 years, TeenTix has engaged and served thousands of teens across Washington. We prioritize young people from historically marginalized and underserved communities, including those who are BIPOC-identifying, LGBTQ+, experiencing poverty, and least likely to have access to the arts.

In 2024, TeenTix served 7,173 teens who represented the following demographics:

- 7,095 new teens signing up for the TeenTix Pass in 2024, joining another 52,500 who currently hold active passes
- 50% identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color
- 20% speak at least one non-English language in the home
- 50% identified as LGBTQIA+ and nonbinary or gender nonconforming
- 20% qualify for free or reduced school lunch

Teens participate in TeenTix programs free of cost. We are very proud to pay teens for their time, skills, and expertise as young arts leaders. Teens in the Newsroom, New Guard, TAP, and MTAC receive monthly stipends of \$15-\$50. Youth in our Creative Workforce Development programs receive hourly rates at minimum wage.

### **TeenTix News and Updates**

TeenTix is reimagining The New Guard program to better meet the needs of teens and Arts Partners. Through surveys and feedback from current members and alumni, we are refining the program to emphasize youth leadership, advocacy, and community engagement. By strengthening youth involvement and deepening connections between teens and arts institutions, the new model will empower young voices and shape the future of arts engagement.

In September 2024, TeenTix welcomed Donovan Olsen (they/them) as Teen Programs Manager. Donovan's teaching philosophy prioritizes process over product, centering learning through collaboration and curriculum. They foster peer-to-peer learning and encourage teens to take an active role in shaping their experience through formative assessment, creative problem-solving, and a non-hierarchical approach to leadership.

In February 2025, Laurie Lynch (they/them/she/her) joined TeenTix as Executive Director. Laurie is an artist, educator, and activist dedicated to amplifying youth voices and driving meaningful change. With a background in theatre-making, arts activism, and community leadership, Laurie has worked extensively in theatre for social change and youth-centered advocacy. They have served on the City of Tacoma Human Rights Commission, hold an MFA in Contemporary Performance from Naropa University, and earned a BA in Theatre Arts and Dance from California State University Los Angeles.

Laurie's leadership marks an exciting new chapter for TeenTix. As Board President Andre Gougisha stated, "TeenTix is a longstanding cultural anchor within Seattle—born from a collective vision that youth participation and leadership in the arts are central to the future of our communities. Laurie brings a wealth of experience in the arts, education, and youth advocacy, and we are excited to partner with them to lead our efforts."

Laurie shares this vision: "I am thrilled to be joining TeenTix and to be part of the amazing young folks' journey toward creating an arts and cultural community in the Puget Sound area and beyond that represents their voices."

### **Conclusion**

Thank you once again for Tulalip Tribes' support in 2024. Because of steadfast supporters like you, TeenTix helped hundreds of young people find personal growth, leadership, and life skills through our program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay Hastings, Director of Philanthropy at [giving@teentix.org](mailto:giving@teentix.org) or 206-233-3959.

### ***Photos from 2024 Enclosed***

TEDS Coffee with the Critics Panel



New Guard Community Day at ACT



Newsroom Fall Orientation



MTAC Show at AN/T Gallery



Creative Workforce Interns



TAP Episode Recording

