Funds Distribution Report

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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.

Date of Award:
2025 Q3

Level:
$2,501 to $5,000

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

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 09271

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 [redacted] (Q3 2025 14.2) in 2025. Your contribution played a key role in our ability to sustain teen-led programs and create access to arts and community engagement for nearly 20,000 teens last year. We are thrilled to share more about the impact of your generosity in this 2025 Final Report.

Together, we are asking "what becomes possible when we have radical faith in teen leadership?" Radical faith means trusting teens' abilities, recognizing them as leaders right now, and giving them real ownership. TeenTix shifted teens from decision-makers to co-creators. From "when you're older" to "right now."

Your belief in teens as leaders is happening! Including for Rowan, who has participated in TeenTix's Pass Program, MTAC, Press Corps, and Creative Workforce:

> *"I am creating, contributing, and building spaces of my own and for other teens. When young people are given access to the arts, they lead and transform their communities. Arts access provides spaces where no one is minimized or questioned. For queer youth, for youth of color, for those navigating multiple identities, one art production or leadership space can be life-changing and life-saving. TeenTix is the only place to express my voice and fill the space that burned down.*
>
> *And that is what your support makes possible. Your contribution to TeenTix is an investment in artists like me. You help take off some of the barriers like the cost to see art. Each one of you can make it a reality where our voices and our stories can shine. I used to be a child in a velvet seat, dreaming of a different reality. Because of TeenTix and because of you, I am finally living in it."*

Grant support from the Tulalip Tribes was allocated to a portion of TeenTix's suite of teen education programs in 2025. These programs center youth as change-makers and culture-bearers: hands-on arts career workforce development; mentorship for teen

artists of color; and arts leadership development that influences the direction of Seattle's arts and culture scene.

This included:

The New Guard: In 2024-25, we worked with New Guard alumni and current Passholders to redesign the New Guard Program. The initiative included an extensive feedback process with youth - surveys, framework ideation, and focus groups - which then informed a redesigned model of the program. The program now gives teens direct and frequent connection with the staff of our arts partners and prioritizes a twofold goal of 1) increasing participant understanding of the local arts industry, and 2) offering TeenTix arts partners tangible ideas to improve their teen engagement.

A cohort of 12 youth ages 13-19 worked deeply with TeenTix and selected arts partners to give meaningful feedback from the teen perspective in 2025. The current cohort of 12 is still taking place from September 2025-June 2026. New Guard cohorts connected with fellow teen arts-goers by tabling at their schools, attended events at participating arts partners, and co-created teen engagement strategies with arts professionals at leading cultural institutions through three series of three facilitated conversations. The end goal of this engagement was to increase teen participation at each art partner. There was no cost to participate, and all New Guardians received stipends for their work.

Press Corps (Newsroom and Teen Editorial Staff): The Newsroom connected 88 youth ages 13-19 with opportunities in arts journalism and editorial leadership over two school years (24-25 and 25-26). The goal of the Newsroom was for teens to: 1) grow technical writing skills while learning teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and leadership; 2) explore career pathways in journalism, arts, and media; and 3) strengthen teen engagement and perspective in greater Seattle's arts and culture community.

The Newsroom offered young writers an opportunity to get hands-on experience as arts reviewers. Participants received free press tickets to the events they reviewed and went through an editing process with the Teen Editorial Staff, a group of 5-7 skilled peer editors, to ready their work for publication through TeenTix. Newsroom writers also published additional work at our media partners such as Encore and The Seattle Times. All teens were paid stipends for their writing.

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 2025, MTAC supported 25 teen artists working in digital and fine art, writing, and music. The program culminated in a public showcase at A/NT Gallery and their 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.

Pass Program: Through our Pass Program, we have formal partnerships with 108 arts organizations in the region who offer $5 tickets to our youth. In 2025, 7,285 new youth signed up for the program, for a total of 19,425 Pass holders in 2025. The Pass Program reduced financial barriers for youth to engage in diverse arts and culture experiences, while accessing an expansive community of arts-going peers in the greater Puget Sound and beyond. The Pass Program definitively increased teen engagement for arts institutions, contributing to the sustainability of the creative sector.

Other Program Updates: With new Executive Director and Program Managers joining TeenTix in 2025, it was a year of reflection on existing programs, and an opportunity to hone our approach to working with teens. Fundamentally, the program refinement that took place in 2025 centered our commitment to addressing the equity issues that young people face in accessing the arts and the level of facilitation necessary for teens to feel a sense of community and belonging in the arts. After years of collecting data, we made shifts in 2025 that will allow us to effectively meet the needs and dreams of both youth and the creative sector in 2026.

As part of this shift, TeenTix made the decision to pause the TeenTix Arts Podcast (TAP). The TeenTix team allocated resources and limited staff capacity more strategically in 2025-26. This resulted in pausing TAP while investing in a thoughtful youth feedback process that helped refine other program offerings, including the redesigned version of The New Guard mentioned above and re-launching in-school residencies.

Description and Number of Individuals Served

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 2025, TeenTix served teens who represented the following demographics:

- 7,285 new teens signing up for the TeenTix Pass in 2025, joining nearly 20,000 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

Amount and Description of Fees Paid
Teens participate in TeenTix programs free of cost. We are proud to pay teens for their time, skills, and expertise as young arts leaders. Teens in the Newsroom, The New Guard, and MTAC receive stipends following a detailed rubric that centers equity, attendance, and the depth of work they complete.

New Program or Initiatives
In 2025, TeenTix was awarded funds from Allen Family Philanthropies to launch a new program, Teen Connectors. The goal of Teen Connectors is to increase engagement and usage of the Pass Program by: engaging in an intensive marketing initiative to ensure teens learn about the Pass Program and TeenTix, and by facilitating "First Experiences," where first-time arts goers attend an arts event as a cohort, creating community and a sense of belonging in the arts and culture sector for teens. The first program activities will began in June 2026.

TeenTix re-launched in-school residencies in 2025. We implemented a 7-week arts criticism unit for high school youth that took place in the school day integrated with English Language Arts. Taught by bilingual, culturally responsive Teaching Artists, the program strengthened student ELA fundamentals in writing, vocabulary, analysis, and speaking/listening, while exposing them to multiple art forms and building creative competencies. Our partner school was Evergreen High School in the Highline School District. This residency introduced TeenTix to new teens and helped create a pathway to joining our other programs. We will launch four new residencies next school year.

Further, TeenTix Executive Leadership and Board have worked diligently to formally incorporate youth representation on our Board. The Board by-laws have been updated and voted on; we have welcomed three young people to the TeenTix Board of Directors.

Conclusion
Thank you once again for the Tulalip Tribe's support in 2025. In a difficult funding landscape, the Fund's ongoing support provides much-needed stability and positions us to provide high-quality education programs for teens in our community. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay Hastings, Director of Philanthropy at giving@teentix.org or 206-233-3959.

TEENTIX URL: teentix.org ***Photos from 2025 Enclosed***

2025 IN PHOTOS

Arts Outing at Chihuly



Tabling for Pass Program



Newsroom Fall Orientation



MTAC Artist at Work



Creative Workforce Interns



Teen Connectors Gathering

