

OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

\$1,000,000

Washington State Tribes have long fought to preserve their culture, art, and language, despite historic legal and cultural suppression.

In 2023, Washington State approved funding for Indigenous arts and culture, marking the first time the state has supported equitable access to these resources.

Despite this initial investment, Indigenous people remain underrepresented in the creative economy. ArtsWA's Tribal Cultural Affairs (TCA) program aims to address these disparities, but more funding is crucial.

We request an additional \$1,000,000 to expand the reach of the Tribal Cultural Affairs program, address and repair past inequities, and ensure equity for the generations to come.



Photo courtesy of Tulalip Tribes of Washington.

What \$1,000,000 will fund

Funding will support all Washington Tribes, individual Native artists and culture bearers, and Washington-based Native arts non-profit organizations.

\$225,000 in additional funding to support the 29 Federally recognized WA Tribes

- » Current funding only allows TCA to offer \$18,000 per Tribe. We must increase this amount to \$25,000 to make a significant impact for Tribes.

\$230,000 for Evergreen Longhouse collaboration

- » Master artists mentorship programs
- » Professional development workshops

\$230,000 for the Potlatch Fund collaboration

- » Language revitalization programs
- » Since Time Immemorial education for youth
- » Small business capacity building for Native artists

\$100,000 additional Tribal Cultural Affairs funds

- » Additional funds will allow TCA to increase outreach, add workshops, partnerships, programming and build an artist directory

\$215,000 Funding for Billy Frank Jr. Statue Project

- » Statewide billboard and bus ad campaigns
- » Maquette crating and transportation to Indigenous-centric events around the country

The investment

This funding will greatly enhance state partnerships with Tribal entities and Native arts and culture organizations. It will provide substantial accessible funding for Tribes and Native artists to provide cultural programming for their communities.

The initiative will integrate with ArtsWA's broader programs and support underserved Tribal populations, making Washington a leader in national Tribal arts and culture support.