

ArtsWA | Washington Youth Arts Leadership FY25 Program Application Guidelines

[APPLY HERE](#)

What is WAYAL?

The [Washington Youth Arts Leadership \(WAYAL\) Program](#) is an annual cohort of youth and young adults (ages 16-19) from across Washington State. WAYAL leaders work with the Arts in Education (AIE) team at [ArtsWA](#) to explore and amplify the role of arts engagement in their communities. Young artists build community among their peers, gain leadership and communication skills, and explore arts careers with mentors in the field. Youth leaders receive a stipend for their participation.

What will selected WAYAL cohort members do?

- Explore careers in the arts and cultural sector.
- Refine multimedia communication skills.
- Engage in activities as an artist and critical thinker.
- Gain understanding of the creative economy, arts funding and related policy.
- Build community among their artist peers across the state.

Important Dates:

- Application & Nomination Opens: **April 15, 2024**
- Application Deadline: **July 11, 2024, at 5:00pm**
- Notification to WAYAL cohort members: **September 6, 2024**
- Cohort virtual retreat: **October date TBD (2 hours)**
- WAYAL Program: **October 2024 – May 2025**

Who Can Apply?

Application or Nomination: Youth ages 16-19 (by October 2025) may apply directly to this program. Mentors, teachers or community members may also nominate a youth artist from their communities; once nominated, youth will be contacted to complete the entire application in order to be considered.

Eligibility: Applicants/nominated youth must be:

- Between the age of 16-19 (by start of cohort, October 1, 2024).
- A Washington State resident.
- Living within the state of Washington throughout October 2024 - May 2025.
- Engaged in arts or cultural activities **beyond** school-related assignments.
- Interested in building leadership skills and working with youth across the state.
- Able to attend 9-12 afternoon online seminars (October – May); contribute to a collaborative project; and participate in at least 2 learning or leadership opportunities (in-person or online) outside of seminar time.

How Does ArtsWA Select WAYAL Members?

Evaluation and Scoring Panel

A panel of artists and educators evaluate eligible applications to the WA Youth Arts Leadership (WAYAL) Program. Panelists use scoring criteria to give a numerical score to each application. An application's final score is the combined average of all panelists' scores. Top scoring applications from each ArtsWA-defined region are selected for the WAYAL program. Panelists will assign each application a score between 1 -30 using the evaluation and point system below. 30 points is the highest possible score for this application.

1. Artistic Practice (10 points possible)

- a) Engagement with art making/creative practices
- b) Artist Work Sample

2. Artistic Aspirations (10 points possible)

- a) Interest in exploring creative careers
- b) Interest in joining the WAYAL Program

3. Community Engagement (10 points possible)

- a) Interest in amplifying youth voice/input in art spaces and policies
- b) Experience with working collaboratively on projects

Application tip:

- **Saving:** Save your WA Youth Arts Leadership (WAYAL) application form as you work on it by clicking the "Save Draft" button located at the end of this webpage. You can log out and log back in, take a break, or work on your application over several days without losing your information.
- **Required Questions:** Questions marked with a red asterisk '*' must be completed before you submit your nomination. You will not be able to submit your application if any required questions have been left unanswered.
- **Submitting:** Once you have completed your application, click the "Submit" button at the end of this webpage. You will receive an automated email confirming that your application has been successfully submitted.
- **Print or download** a copy of your application form by navigating to your "Personal Submissions" account list. Click on your application submission. This will open the submission's details page, where you can click the Download button in the upper right of the viewing box.

Questions?

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