

**Want to make a change?
That can be arranged...**



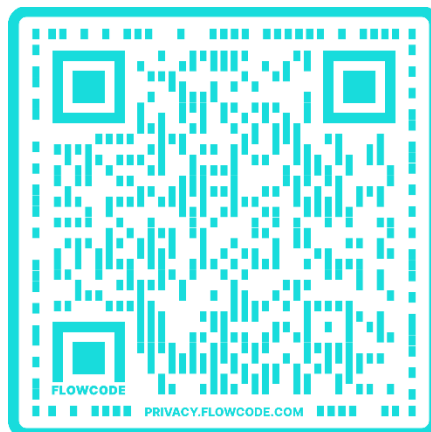
YOUTH
GRANTMAKERS IN
ACTION

2025-2026 Grant Application

APPLICATIONS DUE: Friday, January 30th

RECOMMENDED VIRTUAL GRANTWRITING WORKSHOP:

Wednesday, January 14th 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



For application and more information, scan the QR code or go to:

youthgrantmakersinaction.org

Or Contact Us:

yga@wsfoundation.org

Youth Grantmakers in Action

Youth Grantmakers in Action (YGA) of The Winston-Salem Foundation is a diverse group of youth from across Forsyth County that comes together to gain leadership experience, represent teens in their community, voice their opinions, and make grants to youth-directed projects that address community issues and challenges in Forsyth County. YGA is structured to support authentic, working partnerships between young people and adults in designing these community change projects.

Members of Youth Grantmakers in Action are selected each spring for the following school year. Youth between the ages of 15-18 can apply to The Winston-Salem Foundation to join YGA.

2025-2026 Youth Grantmakers in Action

Elizabeth Alfaro Ruiz
Lillian Brouillette
Josephine Cabana
Daryll Cherry Jr.
Drew Davis
Jack Galyon
Tyler Jones

Thu Anh (Iris) Le
Wenda McLaurin
Kritarth Mishra
Dwayne Nichols
Asha Pariyadath
Salem Pate
Zoe Simmons
Dominique Smith

Adult Advisors:

Kesa Jessup, The Winston-Salem Foundation
Megan Anderson, Facilitator and YGA Alum

Examples of Previous Grants

- Winston-Salem Youth Council to create public space for positive self-expression
- Kid's Café: Through a New Lens to fund a photo journal mentoring project
- Youth Advisory Committee to host a smoke-free basketball tournament for youth
- Youth Alternative Prom Committee to host an alternative prom for youth
- LaDeara Crest Youth Council to fund SAT preparation for youth
- Atkins High School HOSA to create a blessing closet filled with school and toiletry supplies for students
- Project Dosti to support youth refugees through language and academic skill

Guidelines for Funding

Basic requirements:

- Your project must have a positive impact on youth in Forsyth County.
- Your project must be planned by youth and carried out by youth.
- The majority of your group should be under the age of 18.
- Your project must be completed by August 31, 2026.
- At least two youth members from your group must be available for interviews on Saturday, February 21st.
- Each group must have an adult ally/advisor and a sponsoring organization. This sponsoring organization can be a community group or school.
- Each group must follow all recommended safety procedures when implementing their project.

Other things we want you to consider:

- Does your project have the potential to grow or make a lasting impact on youth in Forsyth County?
- Have you done research to find out whether your project is needed in the community? Has your project been done before, and if so, is there still a need for it?
- Is your project impactful and realistic, especially given projects must be completed by August 31st?
- Do the items in your budget align with the activities you intend to do for your project?
- If your project needs more funding than YGA may be able to grant, do you have other ways to obtain the money you will need to complete the project, or will you be able to complete it without additional funding? Be truthful in your budget and request for money.
- Does your project serve the greater community?

Examples of what we CAN pay for:

- Costs for an event, like costumes, equipment rental, space rental, awards, food, drinks, or music
- Technology
- Materials or supplies like sports equipment, games, books, school supplies or markers
- Postage, printing, copying, or design costs
- Contracted services (e.g. a caterer, guest speaker/instructor)
- Transportation costs (e.g. van rental)
- Personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves, disinfectant, and hand sanitizer

Things we WON'T pay for:

- Projects that are designed to make an impact outside of Forsyth County.
- Projects that are planned or led by adults.
- Salaries or stipends for adult allies, sponsors, or youth to carry out the project.
- Overhead that the sponsoring organization incurs.
- Illegal activities and materials.
- Anything that is not going to be directly used for the project.
- Projects that are discriminatory or that may bring harm to others.
- We will not pay for subscriptions.

Important dates to remember...

- **Wednesday, January 14th:** RECOMMENDED virtual grant writing workshop.
- **Friday, January 30th:** Deadline for submitting the online application
- **Saturday, February 21st:** Interviews with the groups that apply for a grant. You will be asked to participate in an interview with the youth grantmakers about your project on Saturday, February 21st. After you submit your proposal, we will contact you to schedule an interview time.
- **Late February/early March:** Notification of which projects will be funded.
- **Wednesday, April 15th:** A community celebration of the groups who receive grants. At least two youth representatives from your group must be available to participate if your project is funded.
- **Monday, August 31, 2026:** Written summary of completed project (including receipts and any photos, video, scrapbooks, etc.) submitted to Kesa Jessup (yga@wsfoundation.org) at The Winston-Salem Foundation. All funded groups must submit a summary.

If you have any questions, contact us via e-mail (yga@wsfoundation.org) or call at 336-231-0508.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How much money can we ask for?

A: While there isn't a minimum or maximum, YGA will have approximately \$7,500 to use for grants thanks to the continued generous support of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

Q: Can we pay ourselves to do the work?

A: No. However, we will pay for training or other services (like graphic design) that an adult or another youth might perform for you.

Q: Can I apply for funds as an individual?

A: We want to give money to young people who have already come together as a group. If you are an individual who has a great idea for a project, we can help you identify groups of youth who might be willing to work with you to apply for funds and carry out the project.

Q: What if our group doesn't have a sponsoring organization?

A: You must have an organization or school that will sponsor you. The organization will receive the check if you get funded. If your group does not have a sponsoring organization, contact us and we can help you identify potential organizations to sponsor your application.

Q: What should I expect for the interview on February 21st?

A: You will be greeted and interviewed by the youth of YGA. Please come prepared to answer questions about your project. The interview will be in a question-and-answer format; there is no need to prepare a presentation.

Q: What are our chances of getting the money?

A: There is no guarantee that if you apply you will get the money. Your proposal will be in competition with other youth-led projects for limited funding.

Q: If we receive a grant, how long will it take us to get the money?

A: We will let you know if you receive a grant in late February or early March, and if approved, your group will receive its check as early as March.

Q: Where does the money come from?

A: The money comes from a fund at The Winston-Salem Foundation that has been created from community donations. The fund is endowed, which means YGA has a permanent source of money for its grants. YGA members raise money every year to add to the fund so that it continues to grow.

Q: How do I become one of the youth who makes decisions about the grants?

A: We will be recruiting for new members of YGA in the spring of 2026. Contact Kesa at 336-231-0508 or yga@wsfoundation.org and ask to be put on the list. When applications become available, we'll send you one.

Q: Who should my project serve?

A: The youth of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County.

Q: What is the grant-writing workshop?

A: The workshop to walk you through the application. Before the workshop, you should review the application and come prepared to ask questions about the application. You do not need to start the application to attend.

GENERAL INFO

1. Name of youth-led group: _____

2. Name of project idea: _____

3. Amount of money you are requesting from us: \$ _____

4. One or two sentence description about what you want to do: _____

5. Lead youth contact information (The lead youth will be the primary contact):

Name: _____ Age: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Lead youth signature: _____

6. Contact information for your project's adult advisor (teacher, etc.):

Name: _____

Position, Organization: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Advisor signature: _____

7. Nonprofit organization or school sponsor:

Name of organization or school: _____

Contact name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

8. How did you find out about the Youth Grantmakers application? _____

9. Using a separate piece of paper, please list the names and ages of all the youth involved in this project.

A FEW WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In 1-3 pages, please answer the questions listed below, please include budget sheet on page 8. PLEASE TYPE YOUR RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS! If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact us at The Winston-Salem Foundation (336-231-0508 or yga@wsfoundation.org)

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. **Who are you, and what is your why for this project?** We want to know more about your group and how you got started. Tell us your focus, how long you have been around, and some of the experience and strengths you bring to this project.
2. **How did you come up with your project and who will impact? Approximate your impact.**
3. **What impact do you want your project to have on youth in the community?** Tell us about your short-term and long-term goals for the project and the positive impact you hope it will achieve.
4. **How much will things cost?** Use the budget form on page 8 to tell us the things you need to buy, how much they cost, what you want us to pay for, and who else is helping you pay for the project.
5. **(Yes/No) Will you still be able to complete your project if you do not receive full funding from YGA? Please elaborate.**

BUDGET WORKSHEET



NAME OF GROUP:

WHAT YOU NEED	ESTIMATE OF HOW MUCH IT WILL COST	AMOUNT YOU ARE REQUESTING FROM OTHER PLACES AND THE NAMES OF THESE PLACES	AMOUNT YOU WANT FROM YGA
TOTAL COST OF PROJECT ➡		TOTAL REQUESTED FROM YGA ➡	

See a sample budget on the next page.

SAMPLE BUDGET

NAME OF GROUP: DOING BETTER ON THE SAT

WHAT YOU NEED	ESTIMATE OF HOW MUCH IT WILL COST	AMOUNT YOU ARE REQUESTING FROM OTHER PLACES AND THE NAMES OF THESE PLACES	AMOUNT YOU WANT FROM YGA
30 SAT prep books	\$600 (\$20 per book)	None	\$600
3 pads of flip chart paper	\$60 (\$20 per pad)	None	\$60
Markers and pens	\$20	None	\$20
Snacks for trainings	\$200 (2\$ per person, at 25 people, for 4 sessions)	None	\$200
Training services of Pro SAT instructor	\$1000	Pro SAT instructor will donate all his time—worth \$1000	\$0
400 copies for flyers	\$40 (400 copies at 10 cents a copy)	Kinko's will give us 1/2 price on copies (we save \$20)	\$20
TOTAL COST OF PROJECT 	\$1,920	TOTAL REQUESTED FROM YGA 	\$900