

Application for Youth and Young Adult Project Grants

The UUA's Office of Lifespan Faith Engagement's
Youth and Young Adult Scholarship Committee



We welcome Unitarian Universalist youth (high school-aged) and young adults (18–35 y.o.s) to apply for community project grants. Read on for more information and application instructions! Our scholarship committee will accompany UU young people selected for these grants, in addition to financial support. Don't hesitate to reach out. We ask that you plan to carry out your project during one of our granting cycles:

Spring Cycle

Application due February 1st

Applications reviewed February 1-5th

Follow-up conversations February 8–12th

Money dispersed by February 28th

Project execution approx. March 1st – May 31st

Summer Cycle

Application due June 1st

Applications reviewed May 31st–June 4th

Follow-up conversations June 7–11th

Money dispersed by June 30th

Project execution approx. July 1st – September 30th

Winter Cycle

Application due October 1st

Applications reviewed October 4–8th

Follow-up conversations October 11–15th

Money dispersed by October 29th

Project execution approx. November 1st – January 31st

What makes “a project”?

The scholarship committee prioritizes funding and support for community-based projects organized by UU young people. Let your imagination soar! Examples of projects might include:

- Organizing the congregation to transfer the deed of the congregation to indigenous nation ([read here about land reparations](#))
- Organizing a winter shelters for families living without homes in the church building
- Organizing a medic training for the congregation’s young adult group to attend protests and other direct actions
- Organizing your community to collectively write a community song

What might you mean by “community”?

Communities can come in many forms, and they don’t need to be explicitly Unitarian Universalist. Examples of communities impacted by these projects might include:

- A congregation
- A youth group
- A student union
- A campus group
- A community center
- A neighborhood
- A district/regional young adult or youth committee

How might funding be used?

Examples of uses of funding might include:

- Attending a training on land reparations
- Purchasing materials and equipment needed for the project
- Buying a subscription for some needed technology
- Attending a songleading workshop
- Engaging in other forms of leadership development
- Per diem costs (travel, food, lodging, etc)

So, how to apply?

The initial application process includes two parts: your project description and a letter of support. Read on about how to realize these two parts.

Application Details

Your application

In total, your application should be around 500 words written, or a 5 minute video, or a 5 minute voice memo). It includes:

- Your name/s, and the pronouns you use (if any)
- Granting cycle (ie. Spring, Summer, Winter—see dates above)
- A description of the community/ies you are doing your project in
- A description of your project
- A request for funding and how you'd use that funding to support your project

A letter of support

This can come from someone in the community you're working within. It could be a minister, director of religious education, a board president, a youth group leader, a social justice committee, a community center director, a professor, or another community leader. We ask that their letter include:

- Their role in the community
- An understanding of what your project is, and their support for it
- Resources (people power, skills, funds, meeting space, technology tools) available in the community to help make this project happen

How to submit your application

If you have questions throughout the process, don't hesitate to reach out to us! The scholarship committee (Rev. Sara Green, Rev. Stevie Carmody, Jennica Davis-Hockett, and Alex Sherwood) value relationship, and we're quite friendly.

When you're ready to submit, send the two parts of the application to yayaministry@uua.org. Please include "YaYA Project Grant Application" in the subject line. It's okay to follow up with us, to make sure we got it!

What happens next after submitting

You should hear from us about a week after the application deadline. We may set up a follow-up conversation with you/your team to hone the proposal. Once a project is selected, you'll meet regularly with a member of the scholarship committee for support on the project. Once the project is completed, we'll ask you to share out to the wider UU community about your project.