



**MARITIME
WASHINGTON**
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
Shaped by Sea & Story

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Maritime Washington National Heritage Area Awards Grants for Interpretation Projects

WASHINGTON STATE – Eight organizations across Washington State are receiving funding for projects that support our region’s maritime heritage by creating engaging, accessible, and interesting opportunities for residents and visitors alike to learn about the incredible water-based stories of our region.

Since time immemorial, people have settled along the saltwater shores of what is today Washington State, supported by the rich maritime resources for food, shelter, inspiration, trade, and transportation. Today, Washington’s shores continue to serve as home to many vibrant maritime cultures, and these grants will help to share their stories.

This first round of grants from the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area supports organizations throughout the region in their work to interpret maritime heritage. Washingtonians rely on community institutions like museums, seaports, nonprofit organizations, local governments, Tribes, and regional educational facilities to *interpret* history and culture. Beyond simply providing information, interpretation connects us with stories and places in an accessible, meaningful, and connected way. These grants will support that goal and help visitors and residents to learn more about Washington State’s maritime heritage.

Maritime Washington is awarding over \$60,000 in total funding to the [Burke Museum](#), [Harbor History Museum](#), [Grays Harbor Historical Seaport](#), [KMRE/Kulshan Community Media](#), [Orca Network](#), and [Westport South Beach Historical Society](#) for a wide range of interpretive work. These projects will include physical spaces, vessels, podcasts, interactive displays, and signage available to the public. Two additional technical assistance awards—valued at \$30,000—are granted to the [City of Anacortes Museum](#) and the [Southwest Seattle Historical Society](#) to facilitate strategic planning for future interpretive projects.

The Maritime Washington National Heritage Area is thrilled to announce this grant opportunity, the first round of the new Maritime Washington Grant Program. “We’re proud to be able to support such wonderful organizations and their important work to share Washington State’s diverse maritime stories,” said Program Director Alex Gradwohl. “We received many fantastic applications for this funding, demonstrating both the breadth of wonderful stories to be interpreted along our shores and the need for additional resources to bring these initiatives to life.”

Maritime Washington will open an additional round of grant funding this spring and encourages all those engaged in celebrating, maintaining, and sharing our state’s maritime heritage to [subscribe to its bi-monthly newsletter](#) to stay informed of upcoming opportunities. For more information, please contact Maritime Washington staff at mwnha@preservewa.org.

The [Maritime Washington National Heritage Area](#) is a non-regulatory, regionwide partnership program that strengthens, shares, and connects our state’s maritime communities and resources across 3,000 miles of saltwater shorelines. We know that the peoples and organizations along Washington’s saltwater shorelines can have limited opportunity to collaborate and celebrate their vibrant water-based cultures—often leaving Washington’s maritime heritage under-appreciated. That’s why Maritime Washington partners with diverse, cross-sector organizations to connect the maritime community, protect our resources, and connect residents and visitors alike with our state’s maritime heritage. Designated by Congress in 2019, Maritime Washington is facilitated by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation with support from the National Park Service.