

Albany County and City of Laramie Community Partner Organization Funding Request Application FY2027

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH 2026 AND WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF ALL PREVIOUS FINAL REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

The City of Laramie and Albany County provide funding to local community partner organizations through their annual budget making processes. Organizations receiving these funds do not operate within the formal structure of city or county governments but may utilize support from these governments to achieve their missions or fund special projects. Community partner organizations generally have a strong presence within the community and provide vital services, products, or activities that serve to improve the community in a variety of ways. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding. For-profit entities are ineligible.

Historically, organizations requesting funding fall within the following three categories:

Recreational/Arts and Culture: These organizations exist to promote, sustain, and develop recreational, cultural, and leisure activities within the community. These organizations may also sponsor educational and community events and celebrations designed to encourage a diverse cultural and active lifestyle while promoting a strong sense of community.

Social Services: The primary objective of these organizations is to support or engage in activities designed to enhance the wellbeing of individuals and families within the community. These organizations provide a variety of services that focus on basic human needs, access to programs and services designed to maintain human dignity and health, and the overall welfare of citizens.

Civic Organizations/Quasi-Governmental: These organizations have been established within our community to A) work for the overall improvement, advancement, and economic health through civic involvement, economic development initiatives, and fostering community spirit; or B) provide services, programs and other opportunities for the betterment of the community through the organization of Joint Powers Boards or other Quasi-Governmental Organizations that work collaboratively with the City of Laramie and/or Albany County on shared goals, concerns, and interests.

This Community Partner Funding is available from funds collected via Albany County's 5th Penny Tax and historically has funded approximately \$250,000 in County requests and \$235,000 in City requests. In their sole discretion, the City and County each reserve the right to waive any informality in any application and/or reject any application.

Organizations can submit a request to both the City and County. If an organization is awarded funding, the organization is solely responsible for its costs including, but not limited to, operations, personnel, taxes,

maintenance, and insurance coverage against public liability and property damage.

Priority of requests is as follows:

- Requests that improve the community.
- Requests that are not more than 20% of organization's general operating budget and do not exceed \$20,000 each from City or County.
- Requests to either City or County that are less than 20% of organization's general operating budget but in excess of \$20,000 are considered on a case by case basis and may affect the priority of the organization's request.
- Demonstration of multiple revenue sources for organization.
- The number of people served by organization.
- Clear identification of those who benefit from the organization's work.
- Demonstration of the organization's partnership with other organizations in the community.
- Requests that do not duplicate efforts already existing in the community.

For-profit entities are not eligible to apply. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding.

Presentation dates are as follows:

City-Only and Joint City/County Applicants:

March 24th, 2026 beginning at 5:30pm.

City Hall-Council Chambers, 406 Iverson Ave.

County-Only Applications:

April 7th, 2026 beginning at 9:30 am

County Courthouse, County Commissioners Room, Room 105.

*****Send presentation materials to Nancy Oakland-Potter noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13th*****

Schedule for Decision Making Process and Availability of Funds:

City: Laramie City Council intends to make its preliminary funding decisions in early to mid-April 2026 and final funding decisions will be announced upon adoption of the City's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. The City's award payments to successful organizations will be made on or around August 1, 2026, pending receipt of the fully executed agreement.

County: The Albany County Commissioners make their final funding decisions upon the adoption of the County's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. Agreements will be sent to successful organizations in July 2026. Pending the County's receipt of the fully executed Agreement, the County's award payments to successful organizations will only be made on a reimbursement basis.

All information on this form and all requested documentation must be complete and submitted before the application will be considered. Applications that are incomplete or are missing required materials may be rejected. If there are additional questions from City Council or the Albany County Commissioners after review of the applications Nancy Oakland-Potter or Bailey Quick will reach out to the organization for additional information.

Contact the following for assistance:

City of Laramie: Nancy Oakland-Potter, noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org, 307-721-5226

Albany County: Bailey Quick, grants@albanycountywy.gov, 307-721-1803

Email *

board-chair@laramiepridefest.com

The organization has read, understands, and agrees to the above guidelines? *

Yes

No

Applicant Information

Please provide the following information about your organization:

Organization Name: *

Laramie PrideFest

Contact Name, Title: *

Courtney Titus, Board Co-Chair

Mailing Address: *

710 E. Garfield St. Ste. 343 Laramie, WY 82070 or 1667 N. 9th St. Laramie, WY 82072 in case of returned mail issues

Contact Phone: *

307.287.0841

Contact E-Mail: *

board-chair@laramiepridefest.com

Type of Organization: *

- Recreation/Arts and Culture
- Social Service
- Civic/Quasi-Governmental
- Non-Profit Agency (501(c)(3))
- Not-for-Profit Agency (501(c)(4) or 501(c)(7))
- Other: _____

Are you a first time applicant for Community Partner Funding? *

Yes

No

Requested Amount from the City of Laramie: *

Enter dollar amount only

15000

Requested Amount from Albany County: *

Enter dollar amount only

0

Will this amount be used to leverage additional funds through grants or other means? *

Yes

No

If yes, indicate the dollar amount of additional funds that will be leveraged.

\$7,000

Provide examples of grants the organization has received in the past 2 years. *
(Excluding prior City of Laramie and Albany County Community Partner Funds programs)

None

List organization board of director(s), indicating officers. *

Board of Directors: Courtney Titus (she/her), Board Co-Chair; Eli Palmer (they/them), Board Co-Chair; Audri McCurdy (they/them), Secretary; Dylan May (he/him), Treasurer; Cori Carpio (she/her/ella), Board Member; Logan Heard (he/him), Board Member; Sarah Streeter, Board Member

Advisory Board Members: Nicholas Jesse (he/him), Kellie McCleary (they/she), Rachael Laing (they/them), Anna B Rader (she/her), Mel Cody, Kevin Rossi

Description of request:

Provide a detailed explanation of how the requested funds would be utilized by the organization. *

Include any additional funding sources and amounts received by the organization. Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Laramie PrideFest is requesting Community Partner funding to support the direct costs associated with planning and producing our annual PrideFest programming, which has taken place each June since 2017 and now includes more than 15 community events across Laramie.

Requested funds would primarily support event production and infrastructure expenses required to safely host public events. These costs include venue rentals, event permits, liability insurance, sound and lighting equipment, stage and technical equipment, and other production expenses necessary for gatherings such as Pride in the Park and additional PrideFest events held throughout the city.

Funding would also support stipends for local artists, musicians, and drag performers who contribute to PrideFest programming. Laramie PrideFest prioritizes compensating queer local artists and performers whenever possible. As the community's only LGBTQ-focused nonprofit organization—and one led entirely by volunteers—PrideFest reinvests the resources it receives directly back into the local community. Supporting artists and performers strengthens Laramie's creative economy, provides opportunities for emerging talent, and fosters an arts environment that encourages young creatives to build careers and community here in Wyoming.

Importantly, nearly every PrideFest expense is paid to local businesses, venues, artists, and service providers. Infrastructure rentals, printing, supplies, and production needs are sourced from Laramie businesses whenever possible, meaning Community Partner funding circulates directly back into the local economy while creating welcoming spaces for queer residents and allies.

Additional program expenses include supplies and materials for community workshops and activities, as well as marketing and outreach costs including posters, printed materials, website hosting, digital promotion, and ticketing platform fees.

Many PrideFest events are intentionally offered free or low-cost to ensure accessibility for families, students, and community members. Community Partner funding helps offset these costs and allows PrideFest to continue offering diverse public programming.

In addition to this request, Laramie PrideFest receives support through individual donations, local sponsorships, and revenue from ticketed events, raffles, and merchandise sales. Between April and August 2025 alone, the community contributed \$23,826.62 through these sources, demonstrating strong community support.

Describe the positive effects and benefits the requested funds would provide to the organization and the community, including goals the organization hopes to accomplish. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Community Partner funding would allow Laramie PrideFest to continue providing accessible arts, cultural, and community programming that serves residents across Laramie and Albany County. As the only nonprofit in the region dedicated specifically to LGBTQ+ Pride programming, PrideFest plays an important role in creating spaces for connection, visibility, and belonging for a vibrant but historically underserved part of the community.

Since beginning in 2017 with a single event, Pride in the Park, Laramie PrideFest has grown into a multi-day celebration that now includes more than 20 events annually and welcomes over 2,000 participants each year. These events bring together residents, students, families, artists, volunteers, and local businesses through performances, workshops, outdoor activities, community discussions, and family-friendly programming.

Community feedback consistently shows that participants value PrideFest as a welcoming environment where they feel safe, respected, and included. Attendees, performers, and volunteers highlight the importance of affirming community spaces, opportunities for local artists, and events that are affordable and accessible. Feedback has also identified areas for growth, including expanding accessibility, increasing venue capacity, improving event communication, and creating more opportunities for year-round programming.

These priorities align with a growing number of requests from community members for additional events, social spaces, educational programming, mental health support, mutual aid efforts, and expanded arts programming. Demand has increased significantly following the reduction of diversity, equity, and multicultural programming at the University of Wyoming in 2024, which previously served as an important hub for community connection.

While PrideFest cannot replace those services on its own, the organization has seen a clear increase in outreach and requests for community programming. One of our core goals is to grow responsibly and sustainably so we can expand accessible events, support local artists and organizers, and respond thoughtfully to community needs.

Community Partner funding would support that work by improving accessibility, expanding event capacity, and helping PrideFest continue building programming that fosters belonging, creativity, and connection throughout Laramie.

Describe your organization's partnerships with other organizations in the community and how your organization avoids duplication of efforts while carrying out impactful work in your service area. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Laramie PrideFest works in partnership with a wide range of local organizations, businesses, artists, venues, and community groups to create programming that is collaborative and distributed across Laramie rather than centered in a single location.

PrideFest events regularly take place in partnership with community spaces, faith groups, organizations, and local businesses including Cowgirl Yarn, O'Dwyer's Public House, Canterbury House, Regal Fox Theater, the Gryphon Theatre, the Ruffed Up Duck Saloon, Night Heron Books & Coffeehouse, the Laramie Railroad Depot, Washington Park, and Laramie City Hall. These partnerships allow PrideFest to host events throughout the city while supporting local venues, businesses, and community spaces.

PrideFest also collaborates with organizations such as Meadowlark Performing Arts, Wyoming Equality, the Matthew Shepard Foundation, PFLAG Laramie, SAFE Project, and the Shepard Symposium on Social Justice, along with numerous local artists, vendors, and advocacy groups. Events like Pride in the Park serve as a shared platform where nonprofits, artists, and community organizations can table, share resources, and engage directly with residents. Pride in the Park also creates opportunities for City boards, commissions, and public initiatives to connect with a broad and diverse audience of residents who may not otherwise encounter those outreach efforts.

Rather than duplicating services already offered in the community, Laramie PrideFest focuses on producing arts, cultural, and community-building events that complement the work of other organizations.

As the only nonprofit in Laramie dedicated specifically to LGBTQ+ community programming, PrideFest plays a unique role in creating visible and welcoming spaces for connection, creativity, and civic participation. In a community where the legacy of Matthew Shepard remains deeply significant, PrideFest helps ensure Laramie's story is defined not only by tragedy, but by how our community continues to build a safer, more inclusive future.

This collaborative model strengthens Laramie's broader community ecosystem by connecting organizations, artists, businesses, and civic outreach initiatives while expanding access to community programming across the city.

Is this a new or existing project, or ongoing operations? *

- New Project
- Existing Project
- Ongoing Operations

Is this a one-time request or an ongoing expense? *

- One-time request
- Ongoing expense

Number of individuals your organization serves annually. *

2000

Populations served: *

Check all boxes that apply

- Children Ages 0-5
- Children Ages 6-10
- Children Ages 11-18
- Adults Ages 18-25
- Adults Ages 26-40
- Adult Ages 41-64
- Adults Ages 65+
- K-12 School/School District
- Veterans
- Low to Moderate Income
- LGBTQIA+
- Persons with Disabilities
- College/University
- Tribal Organizations
- Other: _____


Additional information in support of this application?

Maximum character count is 1,000, including spaces.

LPF will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2027, making this an especially meaningful time to begin a Community Partner funding relationship. Over the past decade, LPF has grown steadily through increased event offerings, expanding leadership, rising attendance, growing donations, and continued community demand. Organized entirely by volunteers, LPF directs nearly all resources back into community programming and local economic participation. In a state where LGBTQ+ folks often seek hard-to-find welcoming spaces and affirming communities, Laramie is a beacon for connection and celebration. PrideFest events attract visitors from across Wyoming and the region, bringing additional activity to Laramie's businesses. We are grateful for the City of Laramie's longstanding partnership and look forward to continuing to build that relationship while ensuring the sustainability of programming that contributes to Laramie's cultural vitality, community connection, and welcoming reputation.

Provide your organization's financial statements for the most recent fiscal year. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchen2025FinancialStatment)


 LaramiePrideFes...

 Add file

Provide an itemized budget for this request and include other revenue sources as applicable. *

Budget Template available in the link below.

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchenFY27Budget)

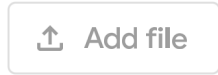
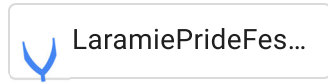
 LaramiePrideFes...

 Add file

Provide organization’s most recent Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N, including all schedules. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex.

LaramieSoupKitchen2025_990-N)



FY2025 City Award Information

Please complete the following additional questions if you are applying for City funds. If you are only applying for County funds you may skip this section.

Amount of **City** funds awarded in FY2025?

.....

Has your organization spent all awarded FY2025 **City** Funds?

Yes

No

If organization has not spent all awarded FY2025 **City** funds, note the remaining amount and the date by which you intend to expend those funds.

.....

Assurance and Signature

Please review all previous questions to ensure their completeness and accuracy, and make sure all files have been attached.

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that we are responsible for signing an Agreement * with Albany County and/or the City of Laramie if funds are awarded:

- Yes
- No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a final report **must** be submitted to the * awarding agency as part of this funding:

- Yes
- No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a representative must present to the City * Council and/or County Commission at the appointed date to be eligible for funding:

- Yes
- No

We, as a Grantee Organization, have submitted all previous required final reporting to each funding agency. *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that all funding awarded through **Albany County** will be on a reimbursement basis: *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that submission of this application is not a guarantee of funding: *

Yes

No

Digital Signature, Title: *

Courtney Titus, Board Co-Chair

Date: *

MM DD YYYY

03 / 11 / 2026



Laramie PrideFest Financial Statement

Fiscal Year 2025

Laramie PrideFest is a volunteer-led nonprofit organization based in Laramie, Wyoming. The organization has no paid staff, and nearly all financial resources are directed toward community programming, event production, and support for local artists, performers, and small businesses. The following financial statement summarizes the organization's revenue, expenses, and financial position for the most recent fiscal year.

Statement of Activities

Income and Expenses for Fiscal Year 2025

Total Revenue for FY25: \$37,656.24

Revenue sources include individual donations, local business sponsorships, ticketed events, and other fundraising activities such as raffles and merchandise sales.

Total Expenses for FY25: \$32,471.95

Expenses primarily supported PrideFest programming and included:

- Event production and infrastructure
- Venue rentals and permits
- Liability insurance and compliance costs
- Sound, lighting, and technical equipment
- Stipends for artists, performers, and facilitators
- Event supplies and materials
- Marketing, printing, and outreach
- Administrative and operational costs associated with coordinating community events

Net Surplus for FY25: \$5,184.29

Remaining funds are retained to support future PrideFest programming and organizational sustainability.



Statement of Financial Position

Organizational Assets as of March 2026

Account	Balance	Classification
Operating Checking Account	\$17,216.35	Unrestricted
Savings Account	\$6,264.92	Unrestricted
Aliyah Howard Memorial Scholarship	\$3,983.69	Restricted
Permanent Home Fund	\$4,363.90	Restricted
Total Organizational Assets: \$31,828.86		

Restricted Fund Descriptions

- **Aliyah Howard Memorial Scholarship:** This fund was created in honor of beloved Laramie High School teacher and mentor Aliyah Howard in partnership with LHS students and staff. The scholarship will support LGBTQ+ students and youth-led initiatives that foster inclusion, leadership, and community engagement.
- **Permanent Home Fund:** Funds reserved to support long-term organizational stability, including rent for office / storage space.



Laramie PrideFest FY2027 PrideFest Programming Budget Request

EXPENSE BUDGET

Expense Category	Description	Requested Funds (City)	Other Funding Sources	Total
Facility & Venue Rentals	Rental costs for community venues hosting PrideFest programming including theaters, bars, event halls, and gathering spaces used across multiple PrideFest events	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$4,500
Artist & Performer Stipends	Compensation for local musicians, drag performers, artists, DJs, sound technicians, and workshop facilitators participating in PrideFest programming	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$6,000
Merchandise Production	Production of PrideFest merchandise such as shirts, stickers, and promotional items used for fundraising, community engagement, and LGBTQ+ visibility	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$2,500
Event Insurance & Permits	Liability insurance and permits required for hosting public events	\$1,200	\$300	\$1,500
Event Supplies & Materials	Art supplies, decorations, signage, food, beverages, and materials used for workshops and community activities	\$1,200	\$800	\$2,000
Marketing & Community Outreach	Posters, flyers, printed materials, digital promotion, and event listings	\$900	\$600	\$1,500
Accessibility & Community Support	Accessibility accommodations and safety supports that help keep events open and welcoming to the public	\$1,200	\$300	\$1,500
Contingency & Event Support Costs	Incidental or unanticipated costs associated with producing multi-day public events serving more than 2,000 attendees annually	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$2,500

TOTAL REQUESTED (CITY): \$15,000

TOTAL OTHER FUNDING SOURCES: \$7,000

TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET: \$22,000

BUDGET NOTES

Laramie PrideFest is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, allowing the majority of funding to be directed toward community programming and event production. PrideFest prioritizes working with local artists, venues, vendors, and service providers whenever possible so that event funding circulates directly back into the Laramie community. Many PrideFest events are intentionally offered **free or low-cost** to remain accessible to families, students, and community members. PrideFest programming annually serves more than **2,000 attendees across 20+ events**, providing opportunities for local artists, performers, small businesses, and community organizations to engage with residents and visitors. Based on projected programming costs, PrideFest operates at an estimated cost of approximately **\$11 per participant**, demonstrating efficient use of community investment while supporting Laramie’s arts, cultural, and local business ecosystem.