

FARAH FAMILY YOUTH PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Developing leaders. Advancing peace.



WHY PEACE?

The YMCA believes peace is more than the absence of war. It requires the training on skills such as empathy, advocacy and empowerment and the recognition of basic human rights and the provision of basic human needs. Since 1984, YMCAs across Canada have dedicated time in November organizing special activities to engage children, youth and adults in exploring peace from local and global perspectives. Starting in 1987, the addition of the YMCA Peace Medal was incorporated and since then, some 300 Canadians have been recognized by the YMCA or the YM-YWCA in their community for their actions to foster a culture of peace locally and internationally.

What is the Farah Family Youth Peace Scholarship?

The Farah Family and the YMCA are inviting youth school groups of all ages in the Hamilton, Burlington, and Brantford area to apply for a grant of \$500-\$2500 to support youth-led projects that:

- Encourages the advancement of peace in their community
- Promotes non-violence within the family, community, nationally or internationally
- Demonstrates ways to live in peace and harmony in an increasingly diverse society
- Supports leadership in global awareness among young people
- Encourages global responsibility and action towards positive change

The initiative should also:

- P**romote civic engagement
- E**ncourage empathy and understanding through communication
- A**ctively lead and support leadership
- C**onnect and collaborate through communities by building connections
- E**mpower and inspire others to create positive personal and social change

The awards are generously funded by the Farah Family Foundation. In 2026, grants will be awarded to 1-5 successful applicants totaling \$2,500.

With the initiation of these grants it is our hope that we can encourage more young people to foster a culture of peace in their school and community; promote peace and cross-cultural understanding; and build skills for civic engagement. We also wish to inspire others to join them in creating a more peaceful world.

If your school group has a great idea or project which fosters peace in our community please complete the Funding Application and submit to the YMCA by **February 20, 2026 at [YMCAHBB.CA](https://ymcahbb.ca)**

Awarding is not automatic: The Review Committee and the YMCA Peace Medal Committee reserves the right to not issue the award in full or in part of the \$2,500 funding available, should candidates not meet criteria.

Farah Family Youth Peace Scholarship Application Information

Please complete the application online at YMCAHBB.CA



SECTION A: General Information

Please be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name of Youth Group
- Name of School
- Address, City, Postal Code
- Name of Youth Group Representatives
- Phone Number
- Email
- Name of Adult Advisor
- Position
- Phone Number (Extension)
- Email

SECTION B: Grant Information

Please be prepared to answer the following questions :

1. Title/Name of your project
2. What or who inspired this initiative?
3. Provide a brief description of your project.
4. How does this project seek innovative solutions to violence, conflict, discrimination and/or promote social justice and community cohesion?
5. Describe how this initiative will create a long term sustainable impact on individuals or the community.
6. How many people will be impacted by this program?
7. Additional comments (include additional relevant information not captured in previous questions).

SECTION C: Project Budget

Please be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. a) What is the total amount (in dollars) of your project budget?
b) How much are you requesting from the Farah Family Youth Peace Scholarship?
2. Please explain why funds are needed for this project and what the funds will be used for. Please attach your project budget.
3. Please list other sources of revenue (if any) for this project. Include any in-kind contributions.

Please note: Salaries and wages will not be considered eligible for funding. Successful applicants will be expected to sign a partnership agreement, provide a brief project report, including a budget summary and submission of receipts. Projects must be completed by December 31, 2026.

Completed applications must be submitted by: February 20, 2026. Please submit applications online at YMCAHBB.CA

SECTION D: Applicant Information

Please be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name of Teacher or Principal
- Senior Staff Member Title
- Contact Email
- Contact Phone Number

Do you have a question?

Please contact susy.comegna@ymcahbb.ca | 905.681.1140