



# News Release

## Port Community Sponsorships Deadline Approaches Funds support organizations promoting arts, social justice, environment

March 23, 2016

Does your community group need a sponsor? The Port of Long Beach is currently accepting applications for its community sponsorship program.

The deadline for applicants is Friday, April 1. The Harbor Department provides sponsorship funds to socially responsible local groups for community events and activities that also help to inform residents about the Port while making Long Beach a better place to live and work.

Last October, Harbor Commissioners voted to award 76 sponsorships totaling \$381,200 to local community organizations. The local groups receiving money represented a wide cross section of the city and supported causes such as the arts, environment, social justice and historic preservation.



"These kinds of events bring us all closer together, and help make our diverse city great," said Harbor Commission President Lori Ann Guzmán. "We're proud to do what we can to support the many great arts and cultural events in Long Beach while also educating residents about the vital role the Port plays in our community."

Community groups began submitting their sponsorship requests on March 1 for the current period; 55 applications have been received so far. The next and last call for applications this year will be in September.

Applicants are advised to plan ahead for their events — after the application period closes, it will take about 45 days before recommendations will be sent to the Board of Harbor Commissioners for a decision. It is expected funding will be awarded in mid-May. There is no restriction on organizations that have received past awards. Applicants are judged on how they can help the Port inform the community of the many ways the Port of Long Beach is an integral part of the community fabric.

For more information on the Port's sponsorship program and to apply, go to [www.polb.com/sponsorship](http://www.polb.com/sponsorship).

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Photo caption: Port of Long Beach booth at Beach Streets 2015.

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