

# GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF WHATCOM COUNTY



SPONSORED BY:  
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*"The Club has taught me so many important things: the importance of always being kind to one another, the characteristics of what a leader is, and the reality that with tougher work comes a greater satisfaction of a reward."*  
- Abraham Perez

## Youth of the Year 2023

Youth of the Year is Boys & Girls Clubs of America's premier recognition program, celebrating extraordinary achievements of Club members. The competition begins locally, and then progresses to state, regional, and national levels.

This year, we had four senior candidates and one junior candidate. They were honored at our Youth of the Year dinner in January, where the community was invited to gather to hear the candidates' compelling speeches about how their Club experiences have positively shaped them.

Our junior winner was Quinn Preszler, a 5th grader in Lynden. Our senior winner was Ferndale's Abraham Perez, age 16. Abraham will be advancing onto the state level of the competition in March, and we are looking forward to cheering him on in Seattle!



Senior winner  
Abraham Perez



Junior winner  
Quinn Preszler

## Record-Breaking Total Raised in "Your Week to Give From the Heart"

### What an amazing week of giving!

Your Week to Give from the Heart, our week-long online fundraiser, was held from February 5-10. An impressive silent auction featured unique pieces and local experiences, and the bidding wars went on all week until the auction's close on Friday.

In addition to the auction was an exciting matching gift opportunity thanks to longtime committed Club advocate, Patricia Ann. Generous community members used this opportunity to double the impact of their gifts, and the full \$10,000 match was met!

Together, our sponsors and community raised a total of \$61,006, which is a record for this event! Thank you to everyone who participated by being a corporate sponsor, bidding on auction items or making a gift of hope to benefit the kids who need us most in our community.

1 great week  
\$61,006 raised  
25 auction items  
15 community sponsors

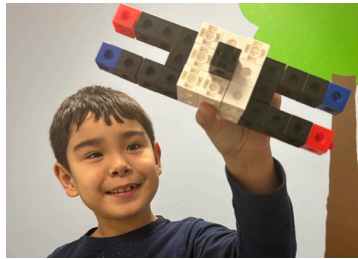
## Message from the CEO

When I am in the community and run into people, I love it when they ask me how things at Boys & Girls Clubs are. It's wonderful to be invited to highlight a program we are running, a particular youth that is in our Club or a super caring staff person and I often can't stop at just one. Inevitably, their response is, "it sounds like you are busy".

The organization is busy and truth be told, we like it that way. Right now, Clubs are busy planning for a really incredible summer experience that will include field trips this year. Early Learning is about to begin bringing our Pre-K children to our Bellingham gym where our Athletic Director will work with them on building large motor skills. Athletics is launching open gym nights for middle and high school youth on scheduled Fridays. Our Youth of the Year candidate is preparing for the State Competition in March and our RD team is planning our gala, which will return to in-person this year after three years of being virtual.

It's all so exciting and important, you can see why I can't possibly pick just one thing to talk about. We appreciate our community supporters who make our work possible and I appreciate you asking how things are going, we've got a lot to tell you about.

- Heather Powell, CEO



**We're Baaaack!!**  
Week 1: 06/19 - 06/23



**Animal Planet**  
Week 2: 06/26 - 06/30



**Maker Space**  
Week 3: 07/10 - 07/14



**Mind, Body, Soul**  
Week 4: 07/17 - 07/21



**Sports of All Sorts**  
Week 5: 07/24 - 07/28

# SUMMER CAMP

**June 19 - August 25**

Join us for nine weeks of fun and engaging activities. Open to youth who have attended the 1st - 5th grade (unless they have attended our kindergarten after school program.)

Each week follows a consistent theme at the Bellingham, Blaine, and Ferndale Clubhouses.

- Clubs will be open from 7:30 am until 5:30 pm
- \$150 per week, includes breakfast, lunch, and snack
- Teen Program is free and will run from 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
- \* All summer camp locations will be closed 7/03 - 7/07 \*

Scan the QR  
code to register  
your child



For questions, please contact VP of Clubhouse Programs  
Lynn Schreiber at (360) 384-0753 ext. 403 or  
[lschreiber@whatcomclubs.org](mailto:lschreiber@whatcomclubs.org)



**Under the Sea**  
Week 6: 07/31 - 08/04



**Everyday Heroes**  
Week 7: 08/07 - 08/11



**Festival of Fun!**  
Week 8: 08/14 - 08/18



**Best of the Best**  
Week 9: 08/21 - 08/25



# program spotlight



We held a county-wide teen night on February 10th for a Friday night of fun and friendship! Kids participated in a group activity based on Harry Potter, where they created flags based on their four different teams. After presenting to the group, they were awarded points for teamwork and design.

Everyone had a wonderful time cultivating relationships with new and old friends, is are looking forward to the next teen night!



## BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS ATHLETICS NEWS



240 2nd-5th graders and 48 volunteers are currently participating in the 2023 basketball league!

Spring baseball is back! We are offering:

- 1st & 2nd grade T-Ball
- 2nd & 3rd grade coach pitch
- 10u & 12u kid pitch

Registration is open from March 1 - March 31 at <https://parentportal.whatcomclubs.org/>

## Licensed Care Spotlight



Join us for ten weeks of summer exploration camp! Each week follows an exciting theme at our centers. From Safari Adventures to Mad Science Laboratory, there will be opportunities for fun and learning for everyone.

When: June 19th - August 25th

Where: Ferndale, Frontiers, Northwest, and Sunset centers

For more information, visit <https://whatcomclubs.org/kids-world/>



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1715 Kentucky Street  
Bellingham, WA 98229



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## INSPIRE HIGHER DREAMS

2023 Gala & Auction

Presented by



— FRIDAY 28 • APRIL • 2023 5:30PM —

We invite you to join us at the Silver Reef Casino Resort for an elegant evening to benefit the *kids who need us most.*

5:30 pm Appetizers & silent auction

7:00 pm Plated dinner

7:30 pm Live auction & dessert dash

For more event information and to purchase tickets, scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



<https://paybee.io/@whatcomclubs>

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### Auction Items Sneak Peek



Two Taylor Swift *The Eras*  
Tour tickets



Two round-trip Alaska  
Airlines tickets



Two meals a month for a  
year at The Birch Door Cafe



Live in-person painting  
by Benn Mann

Online at [whatcomclubs.org](https://whatcomclubs.org) || Follow us on Facebook and Instagram #kidsattheclub