



For YOP Office Use Only: Date Received: _____ Board Action: _____ Notified?: _____
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2005 Group Activities Fund Application

City of Boulder's Youth Opportunities Program

This fund is designed to help meet the needs of short-term projects working directly with or directly benefiting at least ten City of Boulder resident youth of middle or high school age.

Please type the application. An electronic version of this form is available by e-mail from Alice Swett, or at <http://www.yoab.org>. Applications are reviewed by the Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB). The board typically reviews up to three applications per month, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applications are due by the 15th of each month, to:

Alice Swett	Phone: 303-441-4349
Youth Opportunities Coordinator	Fax: 303-441-4348
2160 Spruce St.	E-mail: swetta@ci.boulder.co.us
Boulder, CO 80302	

Contact Person's Name: Paul Barchilon _____ an adult.

Phone #: 303-440-7124 Fax #: _____ E-Mail: Shimari@Comcast.net

Address & Zip Code: 1005 36th St.
Boulder, CO 80303

Project Title: Kids and Teens Go club

- A. Amount Requested: \$1,000
- B. Projected number of *city of Boulder resident* participants who are middle/high school aged: 150

Cost per Youth (B, above, divided by A): \$6.66

1. What is the program or project you plan to do? When will it happen?

We have been running a very popular Go Club at the Boulder Public Library for the past year and half. Go is an ancient and mysterious board game which was developed 4,000 years ago in China and is played today by millions in Japan, China and Korea. Thanks to the massive popularity of the *Hikaru no Go* manga (comic) in *Shonen Jump*, U.S. kids are flocking to learn this timeless game. The rules are so simple they can be taught in a few minutes, but it can take a lifetime to master the game. Skilled play requires mathematical analysis, tactical insight, intuition, and a sense of poetry. Like the Eastern martial arts, Go teaches concentration, balance, and discipline. Respect for one's opponent and mutual appreciation of each other's ideas are a fundamental part of the game. Go boards are provided at the club, and take home sets made of cardboard are available for free to anyone who wants them. Kids and teens ranging from 5-18 come weekly to experience the magic and beauty of Go and to make new friends from many different cultures.

The library donates the room from 2-6 pm every Sunday, and instructors Paul Barchilon and Dave Weiss volunteer their time. Last year, we received a grant of \$750 from the American Go Association to run the program. This year however, they are low on funds so we are pursuing local funding opportunities.

2. How long will it last? Is it a one-time event, or will there be multiple meetings or sessions? How long is each session?

The club meets every Sunday from 2:00 until 5:00 or 6:00.

3. Why is this project important?

Our program brings together kids and teens who are Chinese, Korean, Japanese, African American, Latino/a and American. Several of our kids speak little or no English, yet they are able to make friends and communicate over the Go board, which does not require language. At their respective schools they are likely to experience the stigma of “being different” and are often invisible and ignored by the white children. Their parents bring them to Go club because it is an Asian game, and at the club they find other kids like themselves interacting freely with white kids. Everyone is equal in Go, and only one’s skill will determine who wins or loses the match. The game has a built in handicap system, which allows less skilled opponents a fair chance against kids who have been playing for a longer time. Our kids develop cross-cultural friendships which benefit the entire community and promote tolerance and cooperation across national and ethnic barriers.

4. What is the community need for this project/program?

Judging by the tremendous popularity of the program, there is a great need for what we are providing for the kids. Children’s Librarian Erin Rooney says: “The Go Club has been one of the most successful programs to come out of our dept in my time here” We started out in the Teen Space with only a couple of tables and attendance of 4-6 kids. The program has grown so much that we had to move to the Creek Room and have regular attendance of 15-30 kids as well as between 5-10 parents every week.

5. How will you measure whether, or to what degree, your project meets this community need?

The library keeps statistics on attendance and patrons served. Most kids come from Boulder, but some come from Broomfield, Lafayette, Louisville and Longmont. One family travels from Berthoud regularly just to participate.

6. How, specifically, do you know that youth are interested in the project/program you plan to do?

We get 3-5 new kids every week. Not all of them come back regularly, but many catch the bug and come several times a month.

7. If youth will be involved in organizing the project/program, what will they do, and how many will help?

All of the kids are fairly good about accepting matches with newbies and showing them the ropes. Because of their cultural background, our three strongest players are Korean and Chinese kids who have taken a strong role in teaching Go to many of our Caucasian kids. As age does not necessarily influence skill level, this frequently results in younger kids teaching older ones. Almost all of the kids can beat their parents and any adults who have just begun to play. Kids LOVE this, and teens in particular find it very empowering!

8. How many city of Boulder resident middle or high school age youth will be participating in or served by the project/program? 150

This number is based on regular membership of about 50 kids that come between one and four times a month, about half of these are middle to high school aged. We also have drop in attendance of two to three kids weekly.

What are some specific publicity strategies you will do in order to reach this number, and a diversity of, youth participants?

The library promotes the program regularly. In addition, organizer Paul Barchilon has promoted the club extensively, resulting in feature articles in the Daily Camera and Westword. The club is also promoted online through the American Go Association's website, the library's site and the regular (adult) Boulder Go club's website. In addition, Shonen Jump comic magazine (with a circulation in the millions) runs a regular column on how to play Go by Korean 3 Dan professional Janice Kim. Ms. Kim lives in Denver and has come to the club to do demonstrations. Her monthly column includes directions to the AGA's website, which will bring any Boulder residents directly to our club. She also mentioned our club by name in the September 2004 issue of Shonen Jump, which resulted in a huge jump in membership.

9. Will youth be charged to participate in this program? No

If YOAB is to support this program, it is a priority that all youth be able to participate, regardless of their economic situation. How will you guarantee that this can occur, and how will you make that known to potential youth participants?

Part of our past funding has been used to buy magnetic Go boards which we give to kids who come to the club six times. Unlike chess sets, which are ubiquitous, Go boards are quite difficult to find. The Go sets that are available locally are of very poor quality and the stones are so small it is difficult to play with them. The next step up in quality requires a purchase of close to \$100.00. Through a manufacturer in Korea, we are able to purchase high quality magnetic sets for \$20.00. We distribute these free to the kids, who in turn teach other kids to play and bring them to the club. By providing free equipment to kids who are genuinely interested in playing, we are able to help even economically disadvantaged youth to learn and play Go. We are currently out of boards and have a backlog of five kids who are waiting patiently for their sets. If we were able to purchase a larger quantity of the boards, we could probably get the price down to as low as \$15.00.

10. Whenever possible, we expect that youth benefiting from the Youth Opportunities Program do some volunteer work in exchange for receiving the funds. This is because our program is funded entirely by a sales tax paid for by people who shop in Boulder. In exchange for benefiting from the money, we ask kids to give back to the community by doing volunteer work. If needed, we can help you brainstorm ideas for what to do.

Would the youth you'll be working with be able to do volunteer work? Yes

If No, please explain. If Yes, what might they do?

Youth could volunteer as mentors and be trained in how to teach new kids how to play. They could also help setting up the room, which takes us up to 20 minutes with all the equipment being stored down the hall and tables and chairs needing to be set up.

If your application is funded, you will be asked to report on the service done by the youth at the end of the project.

Budget Table

Include expenses only for city of Boulder residents of middle or high school age.

Amount Requested

Personnel	_____
Materials/Supplies	_____ \$850.00
Transportation	_____
Other (Please specify)	_____ \$150.00
Total Request	_____ \$1,000

What is the total overall cost of organizing this project for Boulder middle/high school age residents? \$1000.00

Will you receive funds from other sources to help pay for this project? No _____

If yes, how much, from where?

Budget Narrative

Explain how, specifically, you'll be spending the money in each category listed on the previous page (Personnel, Materials/Supplies, Transportation, Other).

Tell us how many items you hope to buy, how much they each cost, and why you need them.

If you are planning a significant purchase which is not the least expensive of its kind, please explain why you want to use the more expensive item.

Purchase of 30 magnetic Go sets at \$20 apiece:	\$600
Purchase 15 Go instructional books at \$15 apiece:	\$225
Purchase prizes to be given away at our tournaments Which are held twice yearly.	
\$75 per tournament:	\$150

The above totals \$975.00, but does not include shipping on any of the orders which will likely be more

than \$25. We may also be able to negotiate a lower price based on the larger quantity of items. If \$1,000.00 is earmarked for us, we can simply submit bills for the actual amounts. If the price ends up being lower, we can either order more items, or not use the funds. Whichever you prefer.

For more information on our club as well as references, the board is directed to the following individuals and web sites:

Erin Rooney	Children's and Teen's Librarian	303-441-3099
Mary Jane Holland	Director, Children's Department	303-441-3099

Go club website:	http://www.boulder.lib.co.us/youth/events/go.html
Boulder Adult Go club:	http://bcn.boulder.co.us/recreation/go/bgcindex.shtml
American Go Association:	http://www.usgo.org/usa/chapclub.asp

The Daily Camera feature article was the lead story in section D on September 14th, 2004.
The Westword article appeared in the Sept. 9th-15th issue, also in 2004.