

# SAIL SAND POINT

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**SAIL SAND POINT** is Seattle's Community Boating Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to bringing the joy and life-enhancing benefits of sailing and small boats to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.



## CELEBRATING 26 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT AND LOOKING AHEAD

Sail Sand Point used its 26th year to focus on delivering a broad range of programming while looking to the future. SSP offered an exciting camp, class, and group lineup while focusing on bringing back adaptive sailing, expanding free community events, and revitalizing its racing programs. Hundreds of dedicated staff, volunteers, and frequent community members continued making SSP the best place to spend the season while inviting new folks to join the fun--we had over 15,000 people onsite in 2024! As we think about what's next, fundraising for our programs, expanding our offerings, and getting started on some construction projects that will breathe new life into the site come to mind.

What began in 1998 with a group of six families trying to build a more accessible sailing community has grown into a nationally recognized nonprofit community boating center dedicated to removing barriers that have historically kept people off the water.

### GROUP PROGRAMS

Sail Sand Point's Leeway program collaborates with organizations, local and regional, to provide a fun, educational day on the lake to children and adults in historically underserved communities. We offer scholarships to all groups, helping to ensure no one is excluded from the water due to limited resources. In addition to our Leeway groups, Sail Sand Point continued to offer programs for First Mate, Bowline and Fender Groups. with each group ranging in ages, abilities and backgrounds! This year we hosted over 1,000 group participants from 88 groups and offered over \$19,000 in scholarships.

### OPEN BOATING

Open Boating allows anyone to rent a sailboat, paddle board, kayak, or windsurfer from Sail Sand Point. Our helpful Open Boating staff gives sailing advice and safety reminders from our lakefront dockmaster desk! We saw 11,000 Open Boaters rent a boat or board from us and sold 573 annual passes!

### CAMPS & CLASSES

With a total of 527 youth participants, Sail Sand Point awarded 37 youth scholarships worth \$19,500 to sailors, ensuring no one was excluded due to cost. Adult programming yielded 70 classes this year, teaching 598 adult participants, and providing \$3,850 in scholarships to 12 sailors.

### SAIL SAND POINT RACING

Middle School, High School and Summer racing programs continue to flourish at Sail Sand Point as we remain a hub for competitive youth sailing in the Pacific Northwest. This year we hosted 9 regattas including Octoberfest, with 184 participants, and the Cascadia Cup, with 280 participants!



**112** VOLUNTEERS  
LOGGING OVER

**2244**  
HOURS OF SUPPORTING SSP PROGRAMS

**88** PARTNER AND  
COMMUNITY GROUPS  
EXPERIENCING FUN ON  
THE WATER

SCHOLARSHIPS  
COVERING  
OF LEEWAY PROGRAM COSTS **100%**

**31** FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

TOTAL  
PARTICIPANTS:  
**15,000**

# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL  
SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARDED  
**\$50,090**

I have always wanted to learn how to sail but never got the financial resource and the time to do so. This scholarship made it possible for me to experience sailing for the first time and motivate me to have a life long hobby on the water. Thank you! Our family loves sailing at Sail Sand Point. It's becoming a tradition for us to learn and sail at SSP in the summer. Once again, thank you to all staff for making sailing possible for everyone.

**\$456,827**  
IN TOTAL PUBLIC BENEFIT\*

\*AS ASSESSED BY SEATTLE PARKS & REC.  
PUBLIC BENEFIT GUIDELINES

# A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It was in early June when I rolled 3,000 miles on my e-bike. Roughly the equivalent of biking from SSP to Maine, this felt like a big deal for a guy who historically likes bicycling about as much as dentistry. Even with my pedals assisted.

As many of you know, I bike commute to SSP. At between 10-20 miles per day, it's a shlep. Add rain, darkness, the clueless wanderers on the Burke Gilman, and it's a thing. People tell me I'm crazy when I mention my commute, but it's totally worth it. Not only does it knock the rust off, but Sail Sand Point is truly an extraordinary place to work, play and grow. And this year has been the best I can remember!

There were many highlights in 2024, and countless smiles. Adult classes, camps and racing all saw record attendance while new tenants joined our boatyard and we launched a snazzy new website. Groups programs came roaring back from the pandemic low point, and the quality and character of the staff we worked with this year has never been higher. Our summer Party on the Porch was a memorable affair where over 100 guests helped us raise funds for our programs, while celebrating the impact our VIP guest Washington State Representative Gerry Pollet has had on our organization. Quietly, and thanks to State and County funds, 100% of our board and several major donors, we passed \$1M raised towards the designs, permits and construction projects we'll be tackling around campus starting this winter. While we still have a long way to go (talk to me to get involved) we're making great progress. And none of this would be possible without the volunteers who show up time and time again to keep SSP vibrant!



At a venue serving over 15,000 people each year we are blessed to have many magic moments on the water. But one stands out for me. As our trusty Whaler throttled up and the tow line grew taught behind me, the floating dock (fundraised for and built by kids) slid smoothly off the boat ramp to the cheers of the sailors on the dock. As I towed her around the pier to her new home at Opti-Land the four Eagle Scouts and the Navy dad aboard high-fived and beamed. "Three cheers for the mighty dock", someone yelled from the shore. "HIP-HIP-HOORAY", we all shouted in reply.

It takes a village to keep a nonprofit community boating center going. And we've got a great one. Thanks for being part of it and I'll see you in 2025 (provided my bike makes it)!



Seth Muir  
Executive Director, Sail Sand Point

Thank you to our 2024 Partners & Sponsors!

**Partners:**

**Sponsors:**

- 48° North Sailing Magazine
- Corinthian Yacht Club
- Outdoors for All
- The Sailing Foundation
- US Sailing
- and many others!*
- Magnuson Cafe and Brewery
- Leschi and Lakewood Marina
- Fisheries Supply
- Monsoon Solutions
- HomeStreet Bank
- Swiftsure Yachts
- West Coast Sailing
- Elliot Bay Marina
- Your Man Friday Accounting
- West Coast Sailing
- Your Man Friday Accounting
- CSR Marine
- NW Yachtnet

Photo credits:  
Nathan Koliha & Cat Chiappa



Federal Tax ID# (EIN): 91-1928908