



Community Investments Committee Meeting

August 26, 2025

Item 1: Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgement

- Call to order
- Roll call / Confirmation of quorum
- Agenda Changes
- Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

Land Acknowledgement

The San Francisco Arts Commission acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples. As a department dedicated to promoting a diverse and equitable Arts and Culture environment in San Francisco, we are committed to supporting the traditional and contemporary evolution of the American Indian community.



Antone Family (Tohono O'odham), 2019, Photo by Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie
Left to right: Christine [seated], Melanie, Michelle and Arianna

Item 2: General Public Comment

Discussion

(This item is to allow members of the public to comment generally on matters within the Committee's purview as well as to suggest new agenda items for the committee's consideration.)

Public Comment

Item 2: General Public Comment

Item 3: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) SPX Amendment

Discussion and Possible Action

Staff Presenters: Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate
Senior Program Officer, Jonell Molina

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Item 3

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) SPX Amendment

Discussion and possible action to approve an amendment of grant 25SPX01 Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) to extend the grant term through December 31, 2026 and add \$400,000 of additional funds, for a grant total of \$800,000, to support operations and programming; including operational and programmatic readiness to transition the GLBTHS to a new permanent location as the nation's first full-scale, co-located LGBTQ+ history museum and archive in San Francisco, and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant amendment of \$800,000 at this time.

Public Comment

Item 3: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
(GLBTHS) SPX Amendment

Item 3

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) SPX Amendment

Motion to approve an amendment of grant 25SPX01 Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society (GLBTHS) to extend the grant term through December 31, 2026 and add \$400,000 of additional funds, for a grant total of \$800,000, to support operations and programming; including operational and programmatic readiness to transition the GLBTHS to a new permanent location as the nation's first full-scale, co-located LGBTQ+ history museum and archive in San Francisco, and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant amendment of \$800,000 at this time.

Item 4: American Indian Cultural Center Grant

Discussion and Possible Action

Staff Presenters: Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate
Senior Program Officer, Jonell Molina

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Item 4

American Indian Cultural Center Grant

Discussion and possible action to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$284,572 to SOMArts with sub-grantee The American Indian Cultural Center of San Francisco to support the operation and programming of this virtual cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$284,572 at this time.

Public Comment

Item 4: American Indian Cultural Center Grant

Item 4

American Indian Cultural Center Grant

Motion to approve the Cultural Center fiscal year 2025-2026 grant amount not to exceed \$284,572 to SOMArts with sub-grantee The American Indian Cultural Center of San Francisco to support the operation and programming of this virtual cultural center and to ensure that this cultural center remains a vital contributor to the cultural life of the City; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$284,572 at this time.

Item 5: Update to Appeals Procedure

Discussion and Possible Action

Staff Presenters: Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate
Senior Program Officer, Anne Trickey

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Item 5

Update to Appeals Procedure

Discussion and possible action to update the Appeals Procedure approved by RESOLUTION NO. 0502-94-244.

Summary of Changes

- Updated terms i.e. changed “proposal” to “grant application”
- Added and itemized reasons not to appeal
- Clarified that funding recommendations are not subject to appeal as a whole
- Clarified how to appeal with specific types of responses
- Updated process to direct to appropriate staff

Public Comment

Item 5: Update to Appeals Procedure

Item 5

Update to Appeals Procedure

Motion to approve the update to the Appeals Procedure.

Item 6: Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings

Discussion

Staff Presenters: Senior Program Officer, Jonell Molina

Presentation Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Background



Artillery Ceramics Apprentice Cohort September 2024 by Alexa LexMex Treviño

Background:

- Fiscal Year 2425 was Year One of the 2024 – 2029 Cultural Services Allocation Plan (CSAP).
- Iterate process and incorporate feedback from stakeholders: Applicants, Grantees, Panelists, Commissioners and Staff.
- Build Community Investments staff capacity for data analysis.
- Engage community input as directed by legislation.

Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Timeline

Timeline:

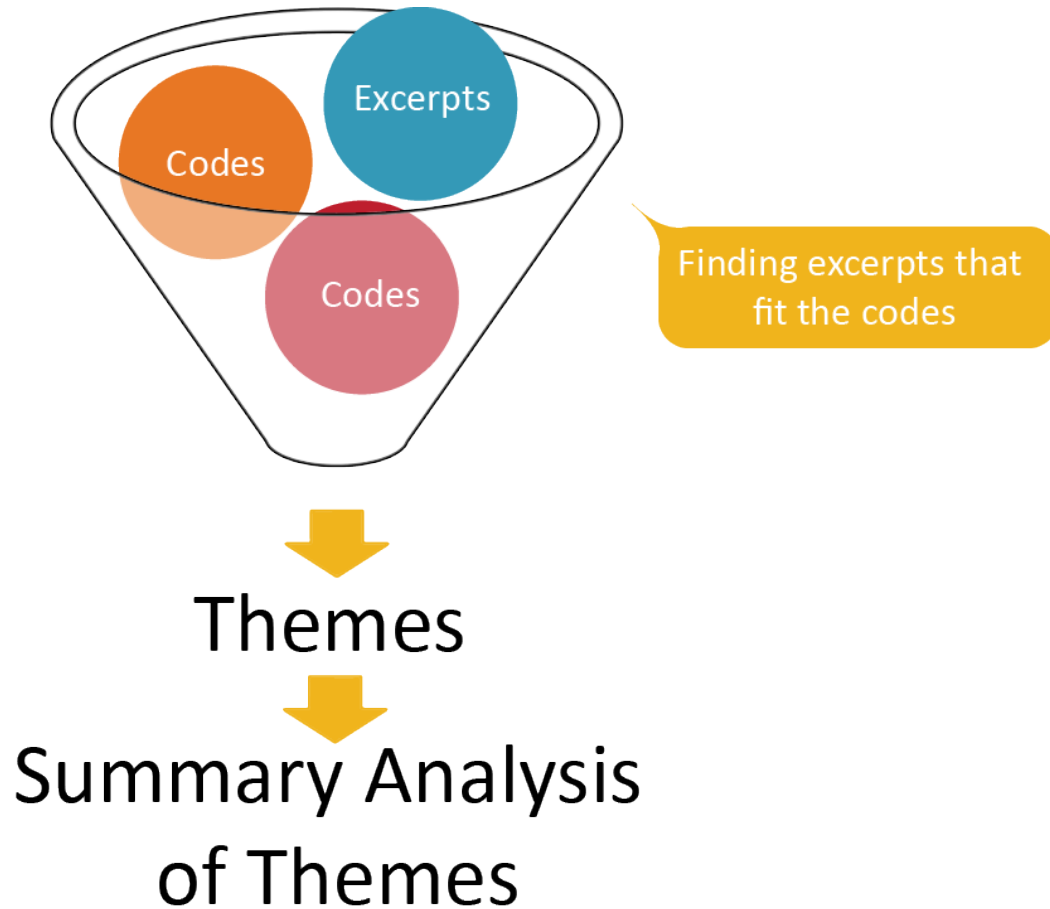
- Identified need February 2025
- Designed Survey March 2025
- Survey sent to applicants April 2025
- Dates open for feedback April 15 – May 7
- Staff coding & analysis May – June 2025
- Share out internally June 20, 2025
- Share publicly August 26, 2025



Lyrical Opposition Immersive Arts Exhibition by Baylands

Item 6 CATEGORY & CODES: AIE YEAR ONE SURVEY

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Methodology



CODING TYPE: DEDUCTIVE

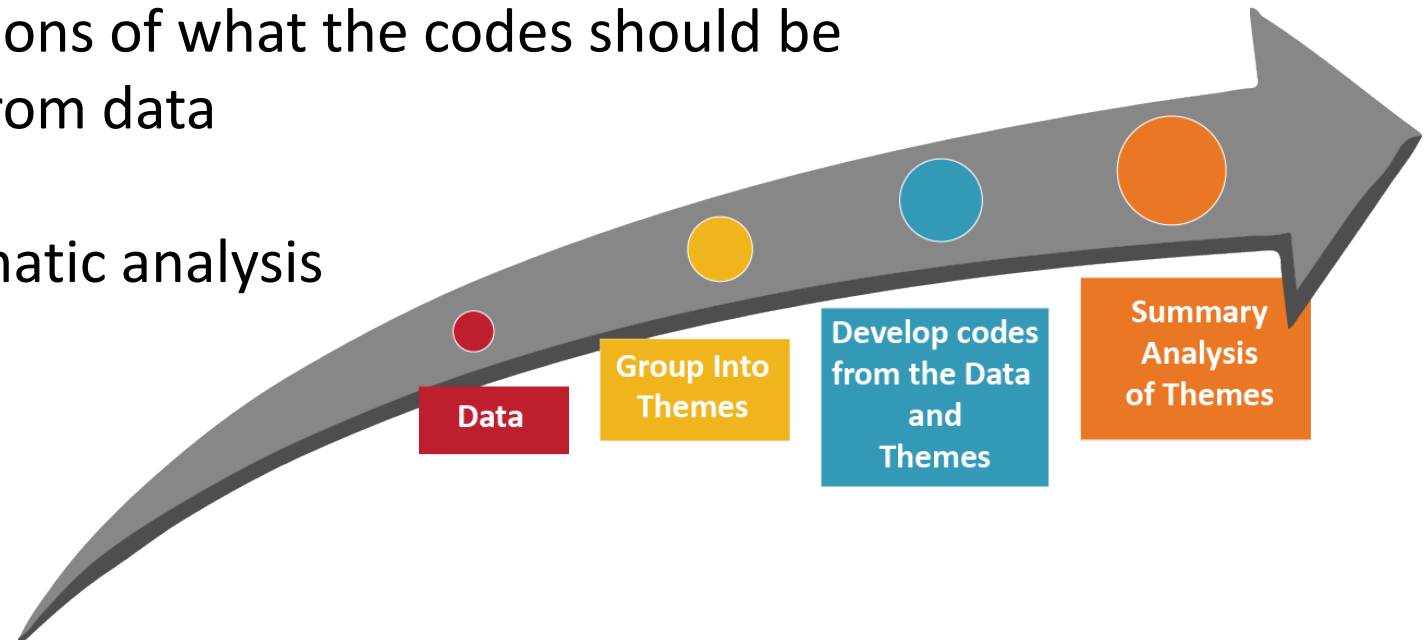
- Top-down approach
- Developing set of codes based on research objective or framework
- Examples: Structural Coding or Evaluation Programs

Item 6 CATEGORY & CODES: AIE YEAR ONE SURVEY

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Methodology

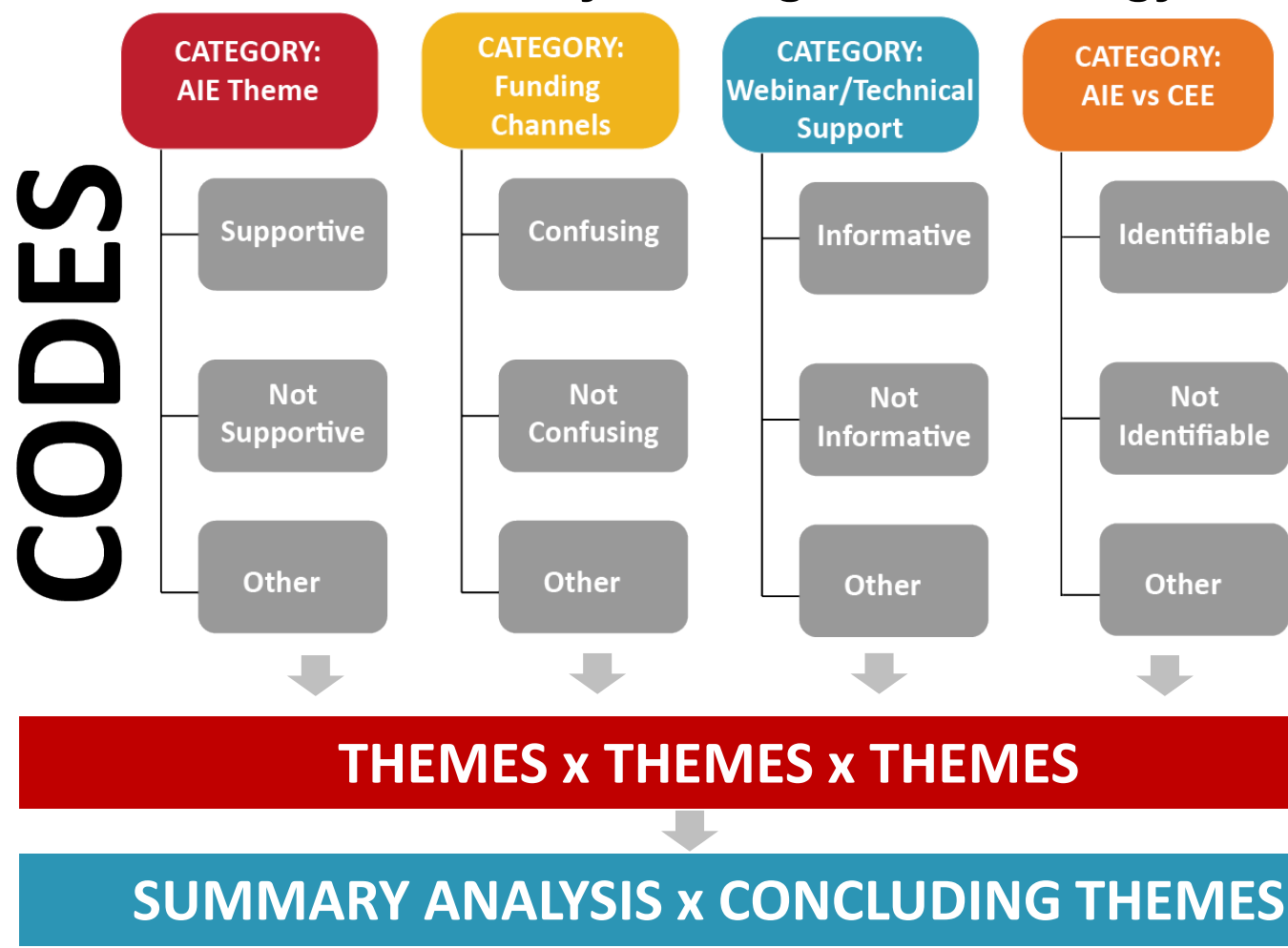
CODING TYPE: INDUCTIVE

- Ground-up approach
- Derive your codes from the data set
- Don't start with preconceived notions of what the codes should be
- Allow theory/themes to emerge from data
- Exploratory method of coding
- Examples: Grounded Theory, thematic analysis



Item 6 CATEGORY & CODES: AIE YEAR ONE SURVEY

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Methodology



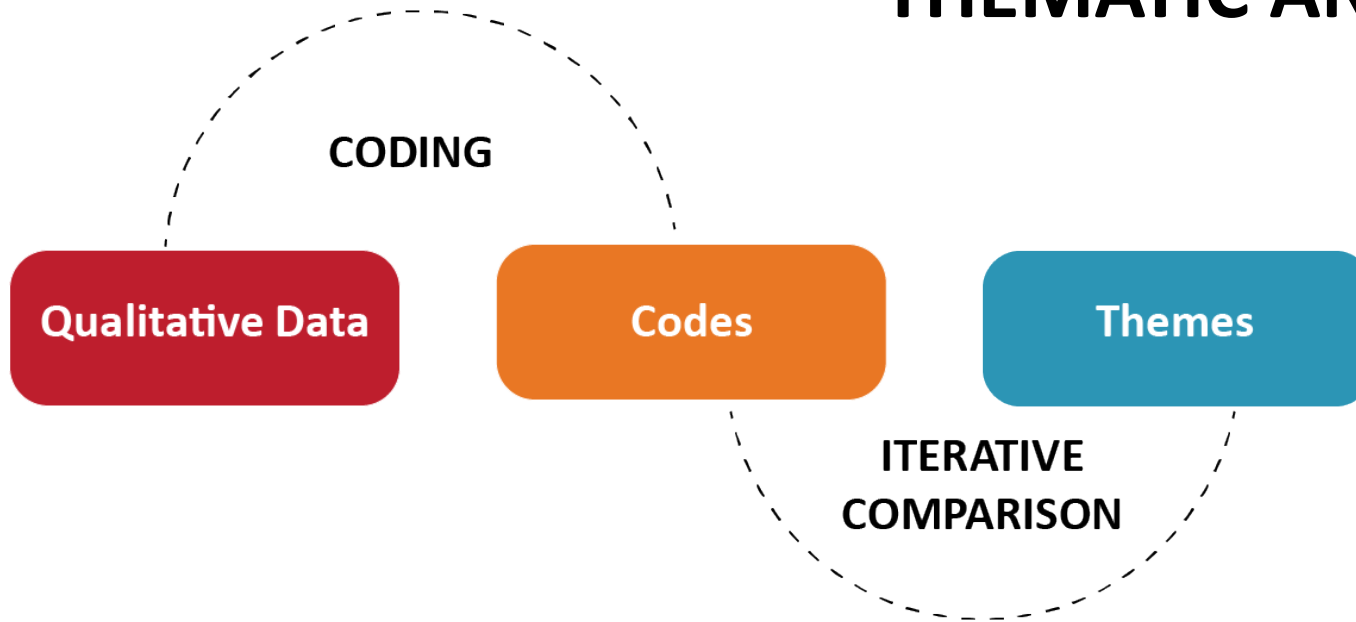
Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Analysis

Interpret the Data: Thematic Analysis

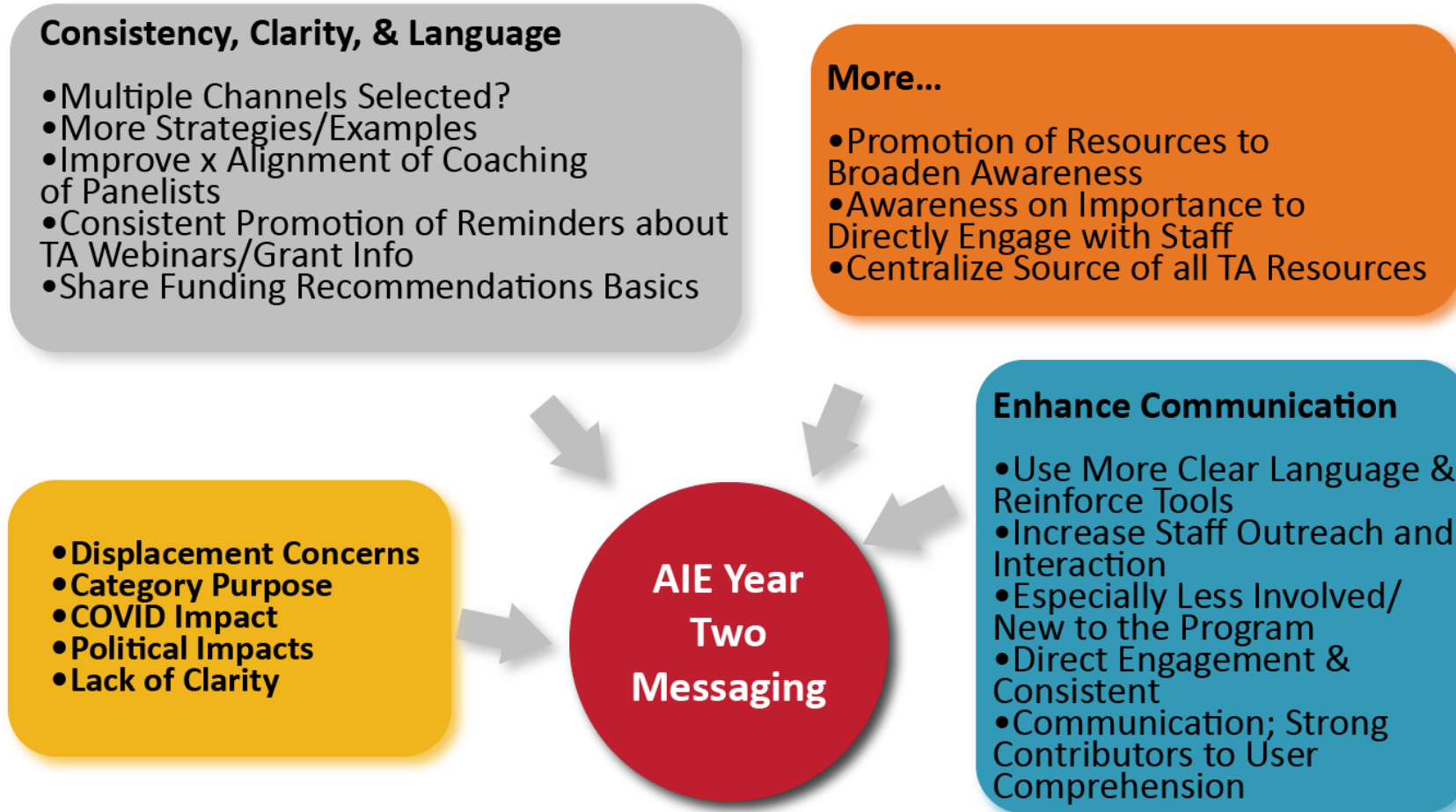
- Analyze the coded data to identify patterns, trends, and insights
- Extract meaning and understand different interpretations

THEMATIC ANALYSIS



Item 6

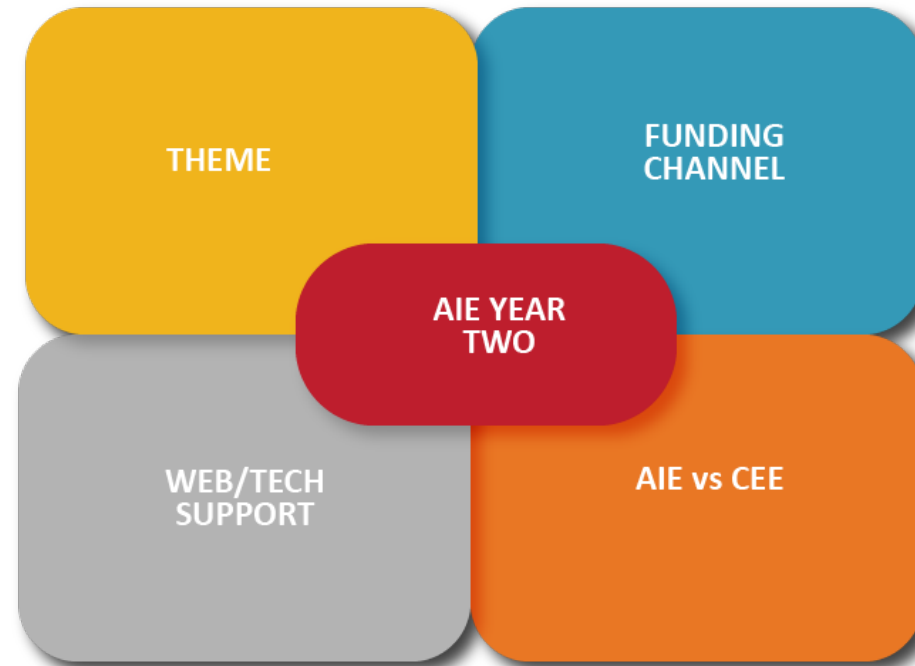
Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Results



Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Results

**Pre-emptive Driving Theme:
Connecting Awareness, Access, & Clarity**



Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Results

THEME, FUNDING CHANNELS, , WEBINAR/TECHNICAL SUPPORT, &
Arts Impact Endowment (AIE) vs. Cultural Equity Endowment (CEE)

PROMOTION & AWARENESS

- SFAC Grants Landing Page & Related Information
- Grants Info Sessions & SFAC Calendar
- Technical Assistance Webinars
- Key Definitions in Guidelines
- IG Live Sessions
- In-Person Outreach Sessions
- FAQs
- 1 to 1 with SFAC Staff

GRANTS INFORMATION

- Emphasize Grants Info Session Page
- TA/Webinar Schedules/IG Live
- Funding Channels = Types of Grants
- Defining Language in Guidelines & Webinars
- 1 to 1 with SFAC Staff

GRANT REVIEW PANEL

- Grant Review Panel Webinar
- Increase Alignment & Coaching with Rubric for Panelists

Item 6

Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings: Conclusion



Ava Tong, Granny Cart Gangstas by Kate Dash

Conclusion:

- Theme is right: Keeping Artists in San Francisco
- Funding Channels need clarification from guidelines to panel facilitation
- Examples of projects and eligible expenses
- Increase Outreach and Technical Assistance
- Increase awareness of opportunities and access to staff

Public Comment

Item 6: Arts Impact Endowment Year One Survey Findings

Item 7: Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Discussion

Staff Presenters: Senior Program Officer, Anne Trickey

Presentation Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

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https://www.sfartscommission.org/content/grants

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RESOURCESCITY BUDGETCONTACT

VIEW THE CALENDAR

OUR ROLE & IMPACT

FIND OPPORTUNITIES

EXPERIENCE ART

GET INVOLVED

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IMPACT

FIND OPPORTUNITIES

EXPERIENCE

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FIND OPPORTUNITIES ▾

Grants

Calls for Artists

Art Vendor Programs

Bid Opportunities for Contractors

JCDecaux Kiosk Program

sign up for our newsletter to stay informed

←

The Community Investments program supports San Francisco-based artists, arts organizations, and communities with an equity lens through grants, technical assistance, arts education initiatives, and community-based Cultural Centers.

Please sign up for our newsletter to stay informed about any grant program updates.

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes



Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Grant Guidelines

Version 2

Posted September 27, 2024

Updates to Organization [Eligibility](#) page 6 and [Restrictions](#) page 8.

The Grant Guidelines work together with the Grant Application Instructions. Please review the Grant Guidelines first, read the Grant Application Instructions second, and finally login to SmartSimple to complete the application. You may want to have the Guidelines and Instructions open while working on your application.

A translation of this grant application is available upon request; however, only applications in English will be accepted. For more information, please contact 311.

Para obtener información en español, comuníquese al 311.

Continued Success:

- Consolidated guidelines and release
- More time for applicants to apply
- Single PDF with active table of contents
- Criteria visuals

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes



Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Grant Guidelines

Changes:

- Fewer categories: Arts Impact Endowment and Artistic Legacy Grant
- All endowment funds granted through these categories
- Applicants can apply to only one endowment category

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Changes:

- Updated funding area names
- Specific examples of the funding area's purpose
- Separate Artist and Organization applications
- Incorporated Advance Payment Policy

The three funding areas are:

1. **Sustaining Ongoing Initiatives = General Support 1: Ongoing Work**

What this funds:

Artists: basic needs

Organizations: general operations

2. **Resilience & Growth = General Support 2: Growth & Planning**

What this funds:

Artists: equipment purchase of \$10,000 or more for a single item, professional development, capital (not labor)

Organizations: equipment purchase of \$10,000 or more for a single item, organizational development, professional development for staff, capital (not labor)

3. **New Creative Opportunities = Project Support**

What this funds:

Artists: artistic works and/or activities, research and development, a phase or portion of a larger project

Organizations: artistic works and/or activities, research and development, a phase or portion of a larger project

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

General Support 1: Ongoing Work

Funding Channel 1: Sustaining Ongoing Initiatives

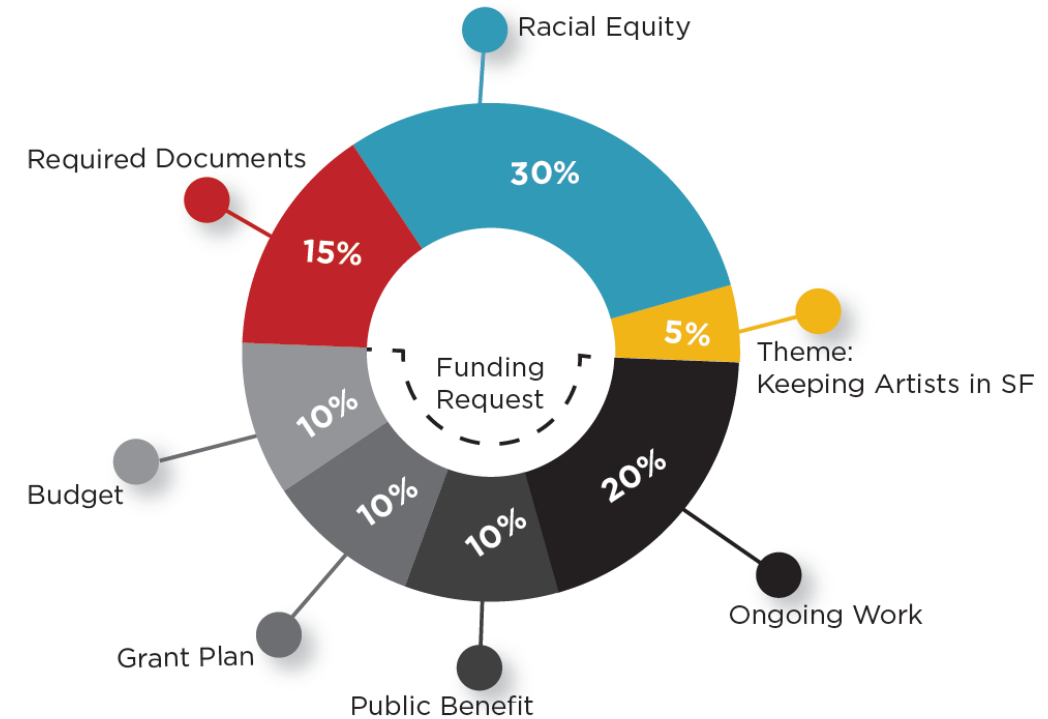
Grant Amount: \$50,000 Artists and \$100,000 Organizations

Artists:

- Rent for studio and/or home and/or utilities
- Tools or supplies (\$9,999 or less per item) for ongoing artist work
- Membership fees
- Compensation and/or benefits for collaborators, consultants and other personnel to support ongoing artistic work

Organizations:

- Advertising, marketing, and/or community outreach
- Ongoing artistic/program planning and programming
- Compensation and/or benefits for salaried employees, independent contractors, consultants, and other personnel to support ongoing operations or artistic work
- Rent for facility/space and/or utilities



Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

General Support 2: Growth & Planning

Funding Channel 2: Resilience & Growth

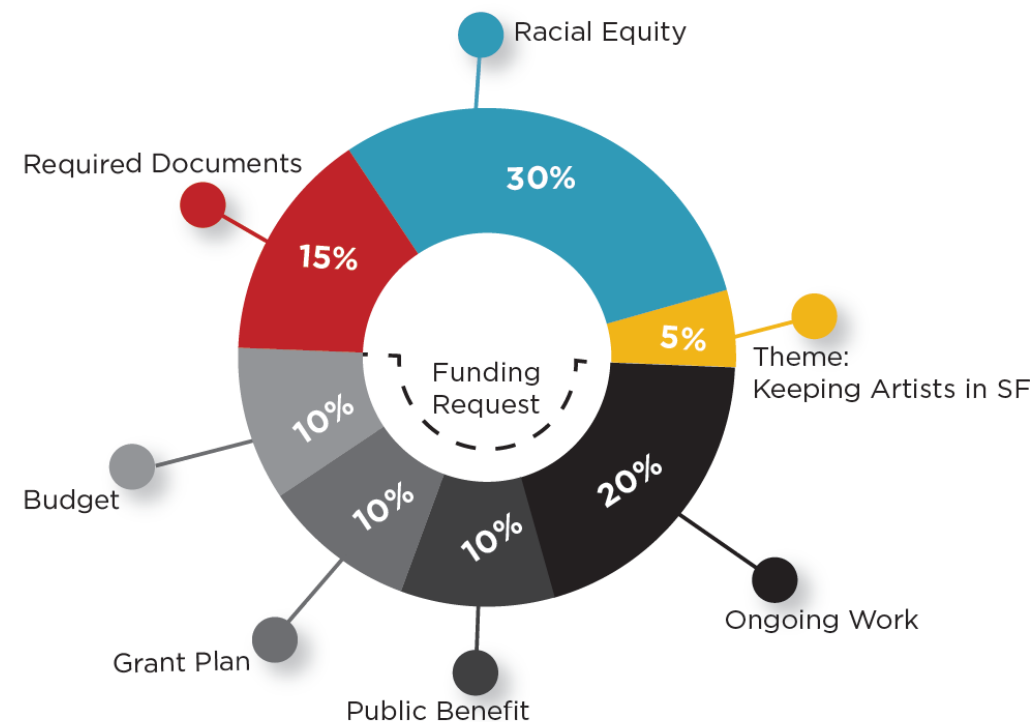
Grant Amount: \$50,000 Artists and \$75,000 Organizations

Artists:

- Professional development opportunities
- Attending artistic workshops and/or trainings
- Studio equipment or space upgrades (NO LABOR COSTS are allowable)
- Compensation and/or benefits for a consultant for growth opportunities

Organizations:

- Strategic planning
- Professional Development for staff
- Personnel
- Board development and/or recruitment, board manual development
- Equipment for capital upgrades (NO LABOR COSTS are allowable)



Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Project Support

Funding Channel 3: New Creative Opportunities

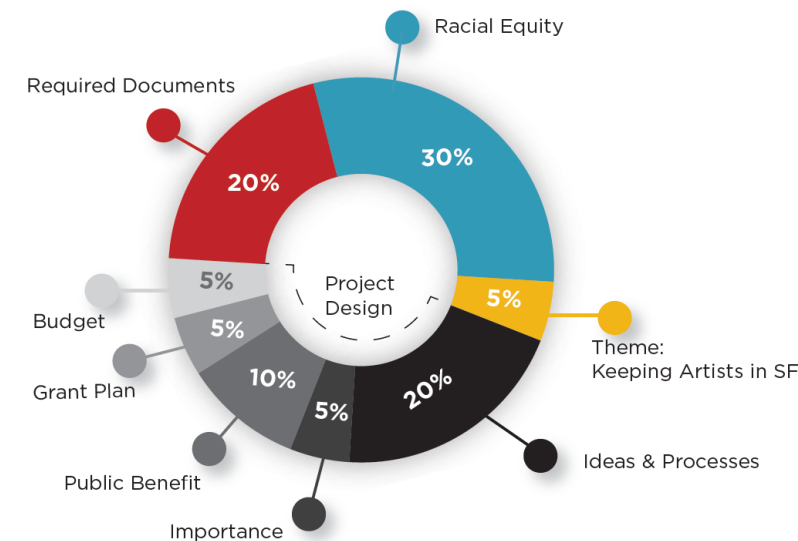
Grant Amount: \$50,000 Artists and \$50,000 Organizations

Artists:

- An artistic work and/or activity that has a distinct beginning and end.
- Development and implementation of an artistic output or series of artistic works.
- Can be a subset or portion of a longer/bigger project such as the draft, storyboarding, interviewing, editing, outreach, or evaluation phase of a project.
- Research & Development such as exploring new artistic methods or materials, conducting field research, creating concepts or pilot for larger initiative, interviewing, documenting, or archiving.

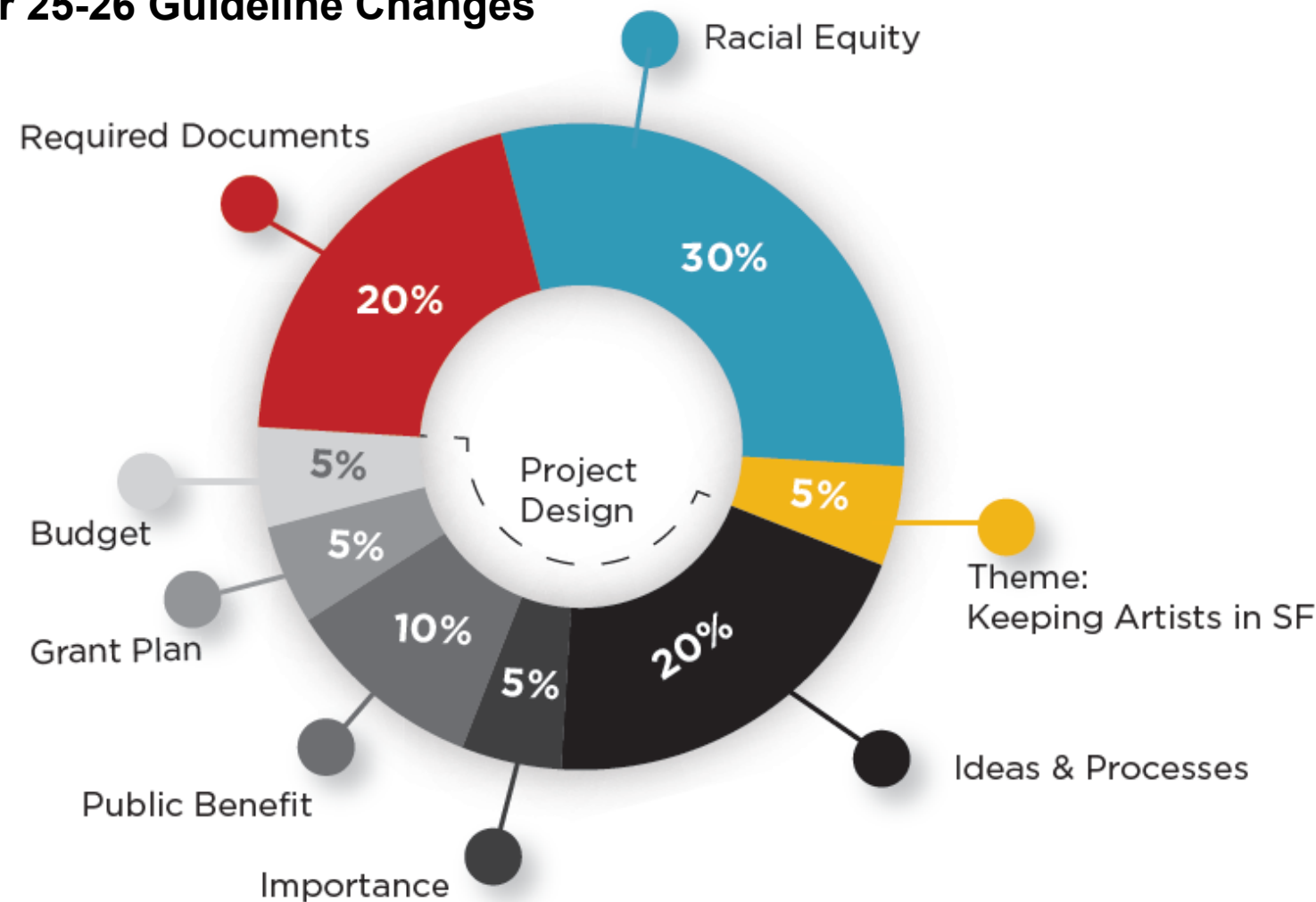
Organizations:

- An artistic work and/or activity that has a distinct beginning and end.
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Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes



Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Changes:

- [Advance Payment Policy Approved by Controller's Office](#)
- Quarterly Reporting and Requests for Reimbursement

New Advance Payment Policy

- The new policy will allow SFAC to make a payment of up to 50% of the grant total as an advance payment (first payment).
- You can itemize the amounts of costs associated with your project or grant to determine an advance payment amount of up to 50% of the total grant amount
 - For example, if your grant is \$30,000, you can request up to \$15,000 in advance of performing any of the grant deliverables.
- Grantees are required to submit an [advance payment request letter](#).
 - SFAC staff will provide the advance payment request letter template and guidance on how to fill it out.

Item 7

Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Advance Payment Policy Info Session

Tuesday, September 9, 2025
6pm

Check [website calendar](#) for
Zoom Link

Ava Koohbor KORKORI



Public Comment

Item 7: Preview of Fiscal Year 25-26 Guideline Changes

Item 8: Cultural Ambassador Update

Discussion

Staff Presenters:

Senior Program Officer, Jonell Molina
Program Officers, Jennifer Chu

Cultural Ambassador Presenter:

Destiny Muhammad

Presentation Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Item 8

Cultural Ambassador Update

- FY26 Honorarium: \$3,145
- 70 applications received for 4 spots
- 2026 Cohort (4): Ebti, Destiny Muhammad, Nihan Roth, Sequoya Waukazoo-Nakai
- **Communities:** Native American/Indigenous, Arab/Southwest Asia and North Africa, (SWANA) /Turkish, Black/African American, Women, LGBTQ, People with Disabilities, Seniors, Age 65+, and adults age 18-24
- **Artistic Disciplines:** Curation, Music, Theater & Performance, Media, Social Practice, Visual Art, Writing, Dance, Design, Film, & Traditional Arts



Photo captions: Top row, from left to right:
Ebti, Destiny Muhammad
Bottom row, from left to right: Nihan Roth,
Sequoya Waukazoo-Nakai

Item 8

Cultural Ambassador Update

FY26 Grants Outreach Strategies

Strengthening Community Engagement:

- Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood
- Disability Community

NEW: Grant info sessions (In-Person & Hybrid):

- San Francisco Disability Cultural Center
- Southeast Community Center
- Independent Arts & Media

Strategies: SFAC E-Newsletter, Website, & Social Media, and in-person:

- 3 Grants-focused Instagram Lives and reels
- JCDecaux digital and print posters
- Grants flyers in community hubs



Photo captions:

Left: San Francisco Disability Cultural Center (SFDCC) logo. Photo courtesy of the SFDCC Facebook page.

Right: Exterior of the Southeast Community Center (SECC). Photo courtesy of the SECC Facebook page.

Public Comment

Item 8: Cultural Ambassador Update

Item 9: Staff Report

Discussion

Staff Presenter: Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Public Comment

Item 9: Staff Report

Item 10: Adjournment

Action