

BIG ART loop

UP TO 100 SCULPTURES. ONE CITYWIDE GALLERY.



Sijbrandij
Foundation



BUILDING 180

WHAT IS BIG ART LOOP?

TRANSFORMING SAN FRANCISCO INTO AN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

- A three-year initiative to bring up to 100 large-scale sculptures (10+ ft) across San Francisco.
- Forms a walkable and bikeable art trail through neighborhoods, plazas, parks, and the waterfront
- Privately funded by the Sijbrandij Foundation, with curation and operations led by Building 180.



WHY IT MATTERS?

TRANSFORMING SAN FRANCISCO INTO AN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

- Civic Impact: Brings world-class art into daily life, free and accessible 24/7
- Economic Impact: Drives foot traffic, supports small businesses, strengthens San Francisco as a cultural destination
- Community Impact: Sparks joy, pride, and engagement in public space.

Mexican artist Betsabeé Romero shows a group of summer campers in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park how to print an image on a tortilla using paint and a repurposed tire. (Photo by Jim Watkins_Via_SF Rec and Park)



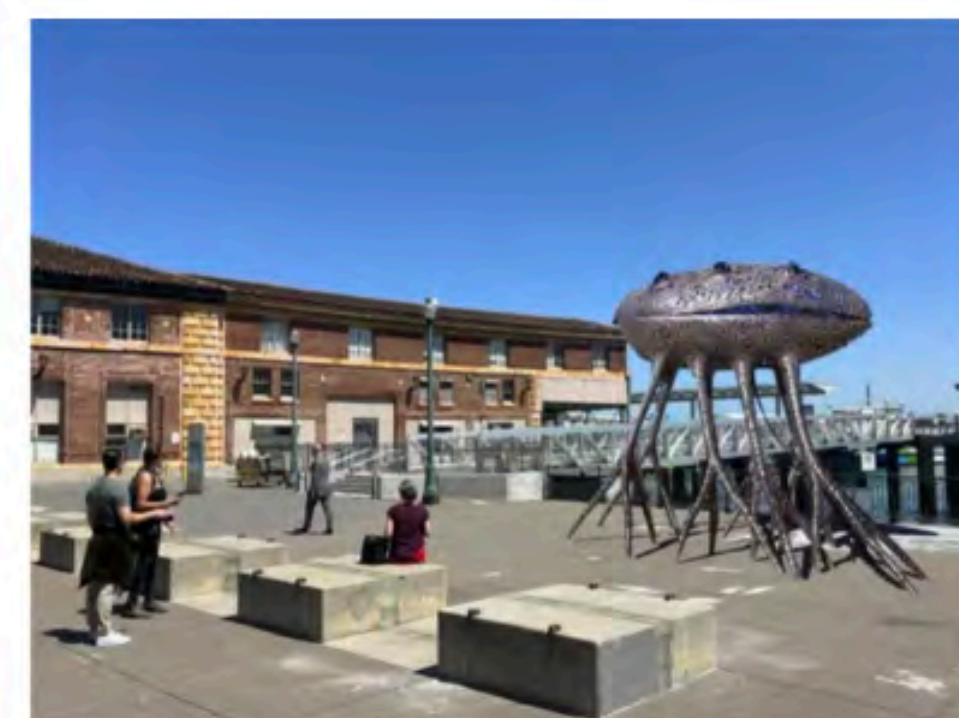
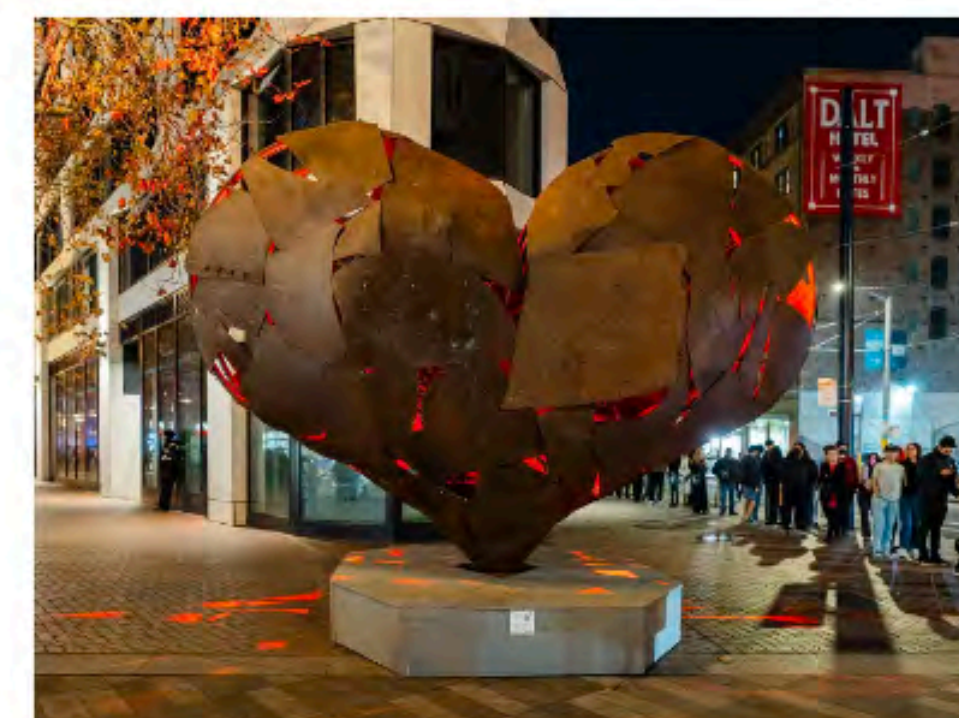
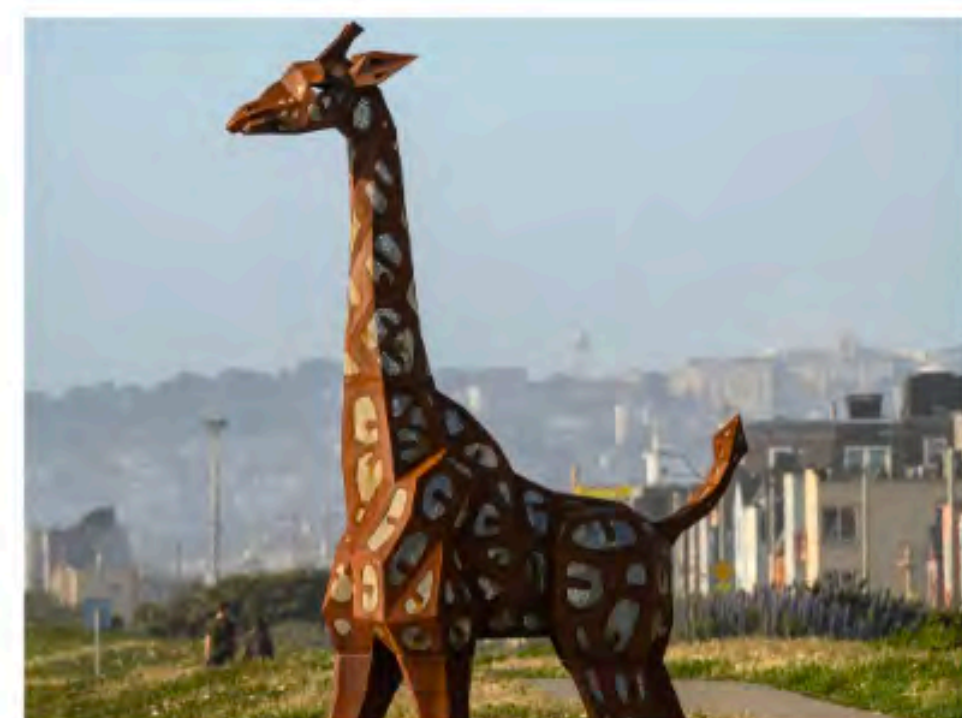
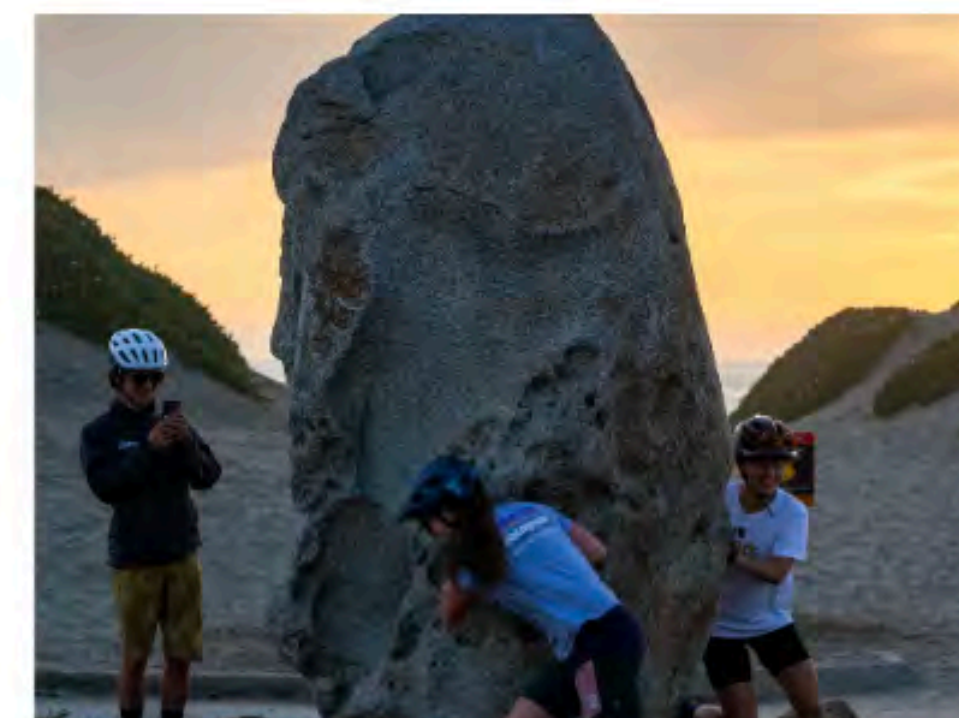
CURRENT STATUS

20 ARTWORKS BY END OF 2025, UP TO 100 BY 2028

- **8 sculptures** installed since late 2024, including:
 - R-Evolution by Marco Cochrane (Embarcadero Plaza) – named a “#1 not-to-miss” experience by the LA Times
 - Coralee by Dana Albany (Pier ½) – a recycled glass mermaid crafted with schoolchildren
 - Heartfullness by Katy Boynton (Market Street) – Mid-Market’s first major sculpture
 - Naga and the Captainess by Roughgarden, Scott & Shipman – the largest piece in Golden Gate Park’s history
- **12 additional works in process for 2025.**
 - 11 along Port, 1 in Golden Gate Park
- **Over \$2M invested in year one**

Louis by DeWitt Godfrey, coming to Bayfront Park starting October 17th





PROCESS

HOW WE DO IT

- **Active Open Call for Artists** – ongoing, managed by Building 180, inviting existing large-scale works (10+ ft).
- **Community Engagement** – we present to panels & advisory boards (e.g., India Basin Equitable Development Plan) to gather feedback for site-specific placement.
- **Curatorial Match** → Artworks paired to sites with input from liaisons, panels, advisory boards and civic partners.
- Once selected, every installation goes through required steps for temporary artworks and **rigorous review** – site feasibility, engineering, safety, and civic approvals (SFAC, Port, Rec & Park etc).
- **Activation** – each installation is celebrated as a civic moment of pride and connection.



PARTNERS

WHO MAKES BIG ART LOOP POSSIBLE

Building 180

A women-run, San Francisco-based art production and consulting agency that specializes in large-scale public art. Known for rapid, innovative execution, they have produced hundreds of installations worldwide. During the pandemic, Building 180 founded Paint the Void, commissioning over 250 murals by local artists across San Francisco when traditional arts infrastructure was shut down. Their ethos is rooted in empowering artists, activating public space, and fostering civic connection

Sijbrandij Foundation

A private family foundation founded by Sid and Karen Sijbrandij, committed to bold ideas with measurable civic impact. Beyond Big Art Loop, the Foundation has supported artist residencies in Zambia, Uganda, and Grand Bahama, and founded Art City in New Mexico. Its work spans education, housing, healthcare, climate, AI interpretability, and big art — always with the belief that creativity fuels community and opportunity

Six temporary large-scale sculptures by world-renowned Mexican artist Betsabé Romero have been installed along the JFK Promenade in Golden Gate Park, reenergizing the permanently car-free space & highlighting sustainability. Photo by SF Rec + Park



PARTNERS

Civic Partners

SF Arts Commission • OEWD • Rec & Park • Port of San Francisco

Community Partners

Illuminate • Mid-Market Foundation • Friends of Sunset Dunes, and more

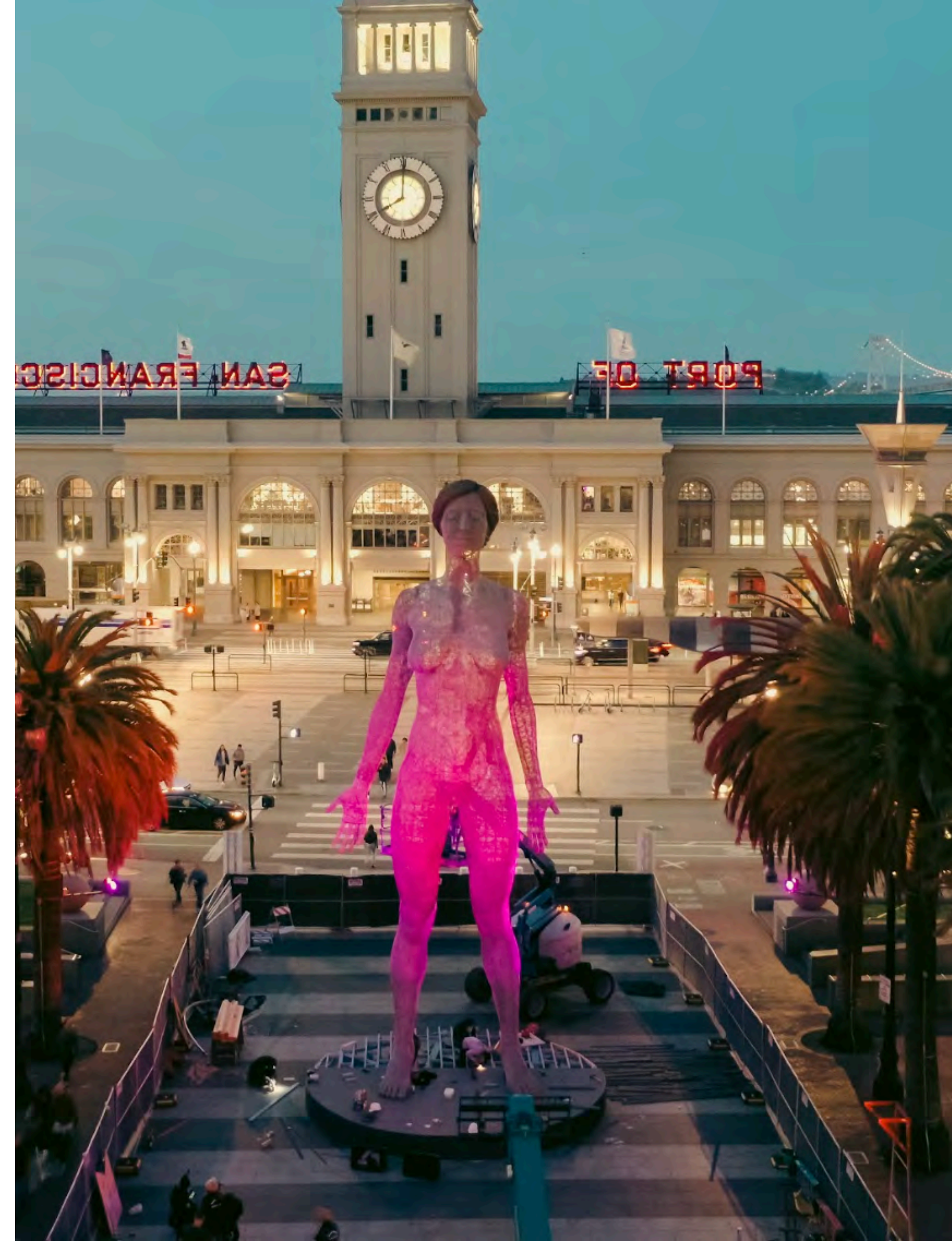
Big Art Liaisons

Cross-sector leaders in parks, planning, culture & design — guiding equity, inclusion & civic joy. Meet with Foundation multiple times a year to guide direction of the Loop

Our Approach

We lean on partners for curation, site selection, and community engagement — presenting to panels & advisory boards (like the India Basin Equitable Development Plan) to ensure each artwork resonates with its community.

We actively seek feedback: presenting to advisory boards and panels (e.g., India Basin Equitable Development Plan) to ensure each installation resonates with its location and community.



WHAT'S NEXT

- Launching a waterfront art walk with the Port in November 2025
- Continuing to expand the citywide loop with new installations and public engagement.
- Goal: Up to 100 sculptures over 3 years, making San Francisco the world leader in accessible, monumental public art.

Upcoming Events



Port of San Francisco Announces Art Walk as Part of Big Art Loop

Pier 14
November 6, 2025
4:00 - 6:00 PM

**WE'D LOVE FOR THE ARTS COMMISSION TO CONTINUE
SHAPING THIS VISION WITH US — ENSURING THAT BIG
ART LOOP REFLECTS SAN FRANCISCO'S CREATIVITY,
DIVERSITY, AND CIVIC SPIRIT.**



www.bigartloop.org @bigartloop

CALL FOR ART: [HTTPS://BUILDING180.COM/BIGARTSFAPPLICATION](https://building180.com/bigartsfapplication)

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