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FY25

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# Grantee Community Gathering

January 30, 2025  
Virtual Meeting

## Housekeeping

- Please mute
- Please rename yourself with your name, pronouns, organization.
  - Ex. Jane Smith, she/her, City of San Francisco
- If comfortable, we encourage you to have your camera ON
  - Having our cameras on helps us feel more connected and makes it easier to read non-verbal cues.
  - If you prefer not to have your camera on, please feel free to participate through chat or audio.
- Please put questions in the Q&A
- The 'chat' is functional
- There will be time for connection via breakout rooms
- The virtual event is being recorded
- No scheduled breaks



## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Grants for the Arts sits on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original peoples 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, and we affirm their sovereign rights as first peoples.



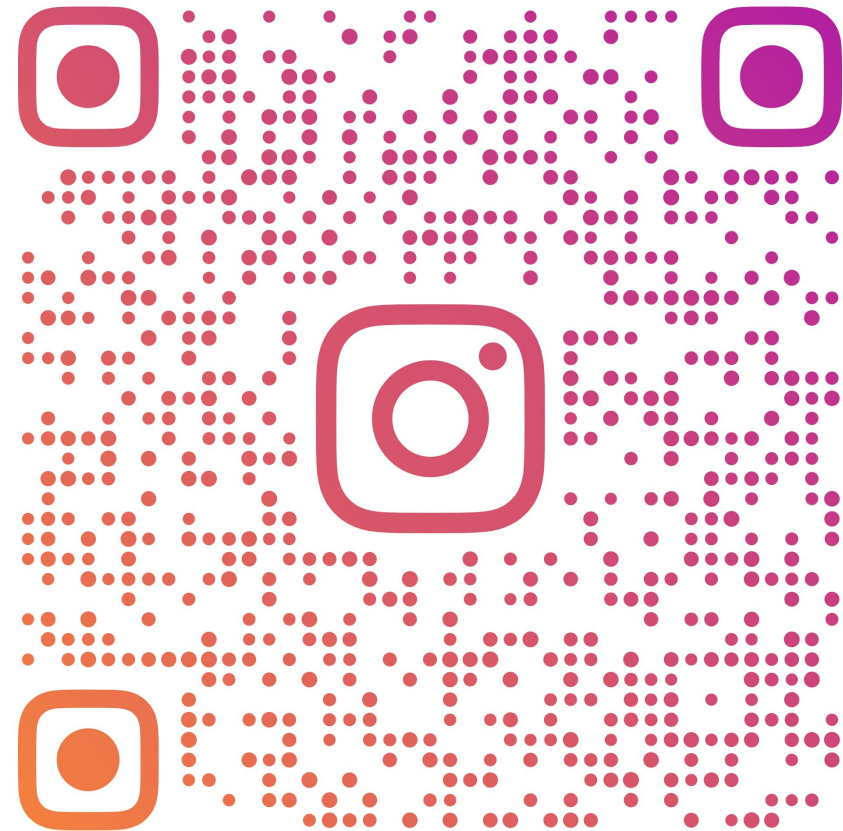
## Accessibility Efforts and Resources

GFTA is committed to continuous improvements to accessibility and inclusion

- Virtual option for those not available or desiring an in-person gathering
- Language translation for agenda and presentation slides in Traditional Chinese, Tagalog, and Spanish
- Materials from today's session will be posted at <https://www.sf.gov/departments/city-administrator/grants-arts> by February.

Welcome from GFTA Director  
Kristen Jacobson  
*she/her*

# Follow us on social media!



SF.GFTA

## GFTA Staff



Amy Chou, she/her  
Senior Program Officer



Sarah Simon, she/her  
Program Officer



Lorraine Cawili-Thy, she/her  
Program & Operations Officer

## Time | Content

12:30 PM – **Arrive and Get Comfortable**

12:35 PM – **Welcome, Overview, Connections**

12:50 PM – **Deepening Shared Understanding:**

*GFTA learnings, GFTA's 2-year timeline and continued shifting hotel tax revenue, GFTA's grantmaking strategies and priorities*

1:20 PM – **Questions and Answers**

1:30 PM – **Community Photo Opportunity**

1:35 PM – **Building Community: Discussion Break Out Rooms**

1:50 PM – **Community Share Out**

1:58 PM – **Closure and Goodbye**

## Agenda



## Desired Outcomes

- Build Community
- Deepen shared understanding of GFTA learnings from FY25 grant cycle, GFTA's 2-year timeline, continued shifting hotel tax revenue, and GFTA's grantmaking strategies and priorities
- Collect feedback from grantees to inform GFTA strategies and priorities

## Community Agreements

- We acknowledge one another as equals.
- We try to stay curious about each other.
- We recognize that we need each other's help to become better listeners.
- We slow down so we have time to think and reflect.
- We remember that conversation is the natural way humans think together.
- We expect it to get messy sometimes.

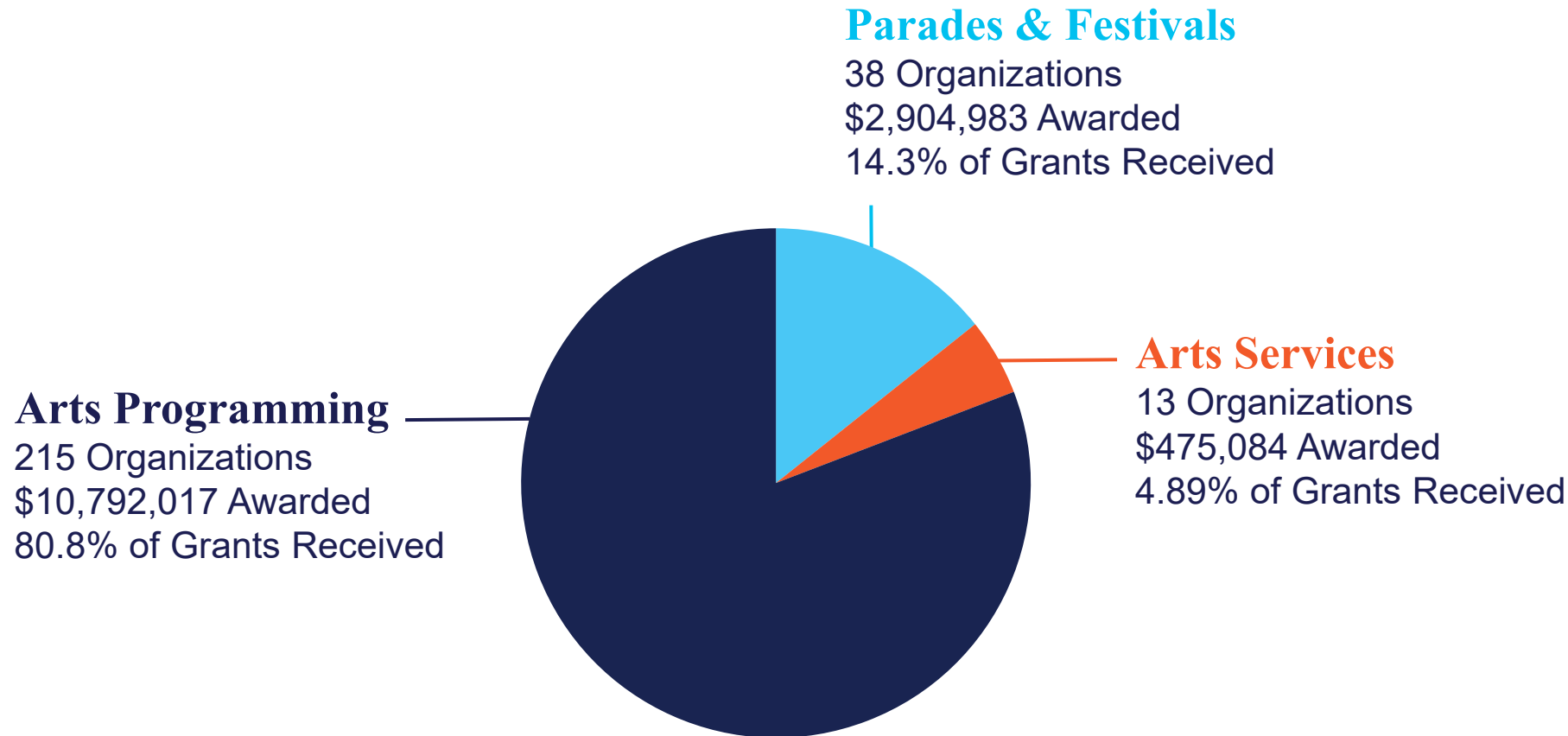
*These agreements were adapted from [The Art of Conversation \(adapted from Margaret Wheatley\)](#)*

# FY25 Grantee Impact





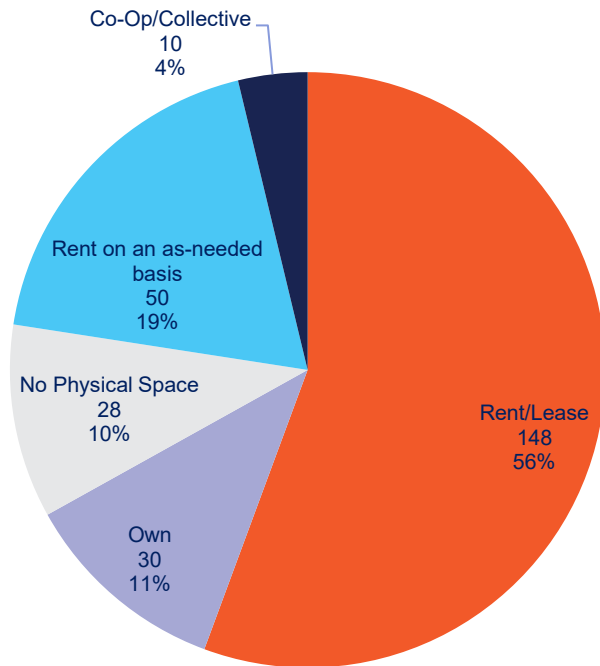
In FY25, GFTA awarded **\$14,172,084**  
to **266** organizations



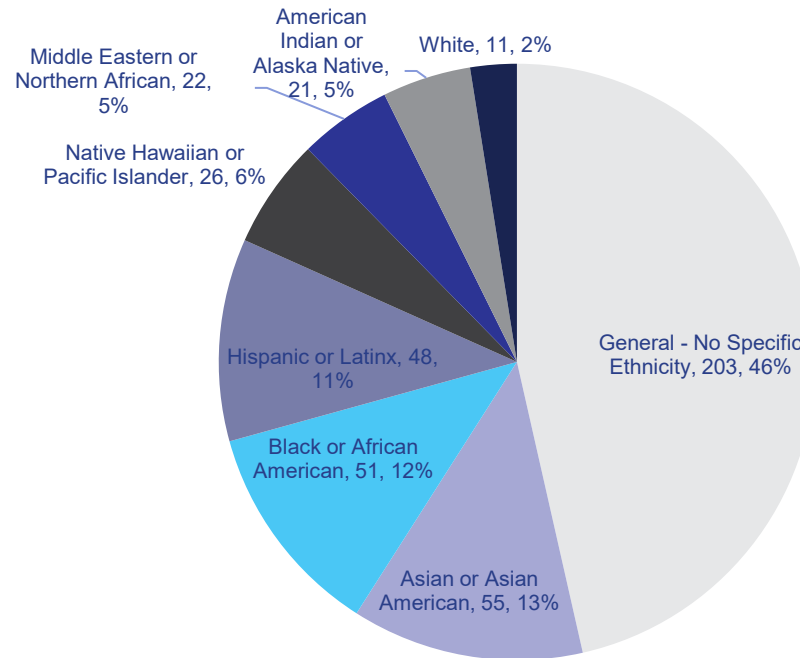
# Grantee Impact\*

\*Numbers are based on 2023-2024 data. All data is self-reported by organizations.

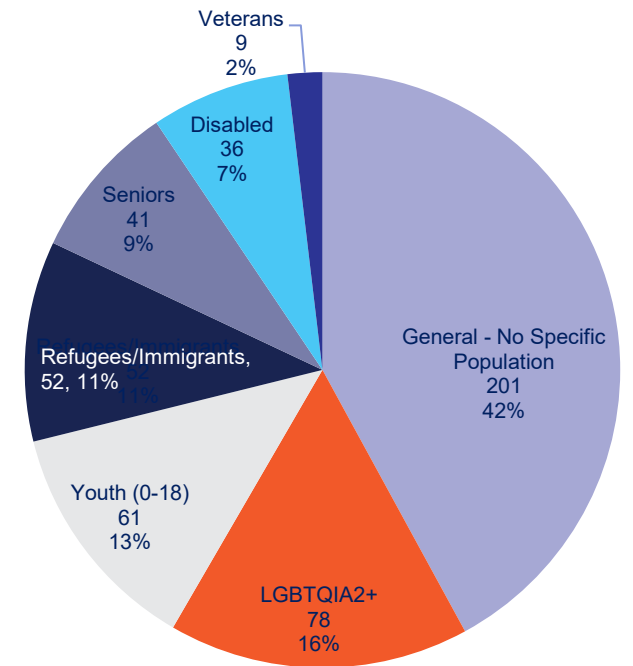
## Space Occupancy



## Ethnicities Served



## Populations Served



Annual Impact\*

\*Numbers are based on 2023-2024 data. All data is self-reported by organizations.

\$14,172,084 awarded  
to 266 organizations



70 grantee  
organizations have received  
GFTA funding for less than  
5 years



Grantee  
organizations  
host ~56K  
events in San  
Francisco  
annually,  
reaching ~33M  
attendees



58 grantee organizations  
offer rental space to other  
SF-based orgs  
at a discounted rate



Grantee organizations  
employ 4,683 FTEs  
and 2,385 SF FTEs  
annually



Grantees  
contribute over  
\$825M to  
SF's economy  
through  
programming  
costs.



Grantee organizations  
hire 14,403 SF-based  
artists to participate in  
their programming



77 grantee organizations  
intentionally serve people whose  
incomes are below the federal  
poverty threshold



223 grantee  
organizations  
intentionally serve  
BIPOC  
communities





## What we learned from the FY25 RFP



Key takeaways from our internal learnings, timeline analysis, and applicant survey.

## What worked?

- **Increased our GOS grant term to two years**, allowing grantee organizations to engage in longer term planning and strengthening their capacity and impact.
- Offered **three application workshops** and **weekly technical assistance sessions** before and during the application period. Over **85%** of attendees found these resources helpful.
- Improved our operational technology to **reduce the application review period by two weeks**.
- Clarified our GOS RFP by building **three separate RFPs** – one per grant type – improving clarity and allowing for more nuanced questions and criteria. **72%** of survey respondents rated RFP clarity and accessibility as good to very good.

## What can be improved?

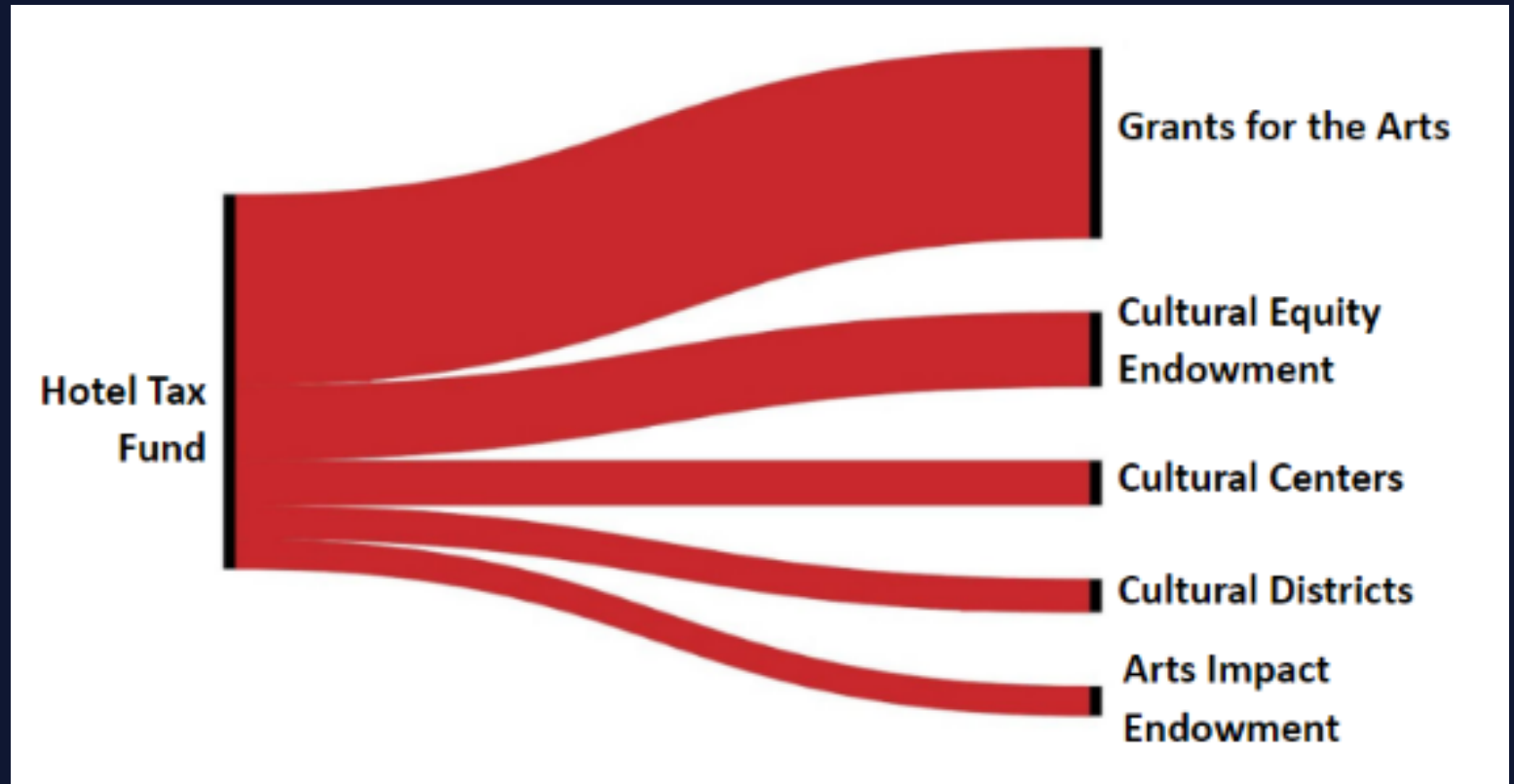
- **Improve our tools** (specifically our application interface and grants management system).
- **Clarify the RFP** (provide more detailed instructions, refine definitions and add more specifics to questions)
- **Improve the application** (67% of survey respondents felt that the right amount of data was asked, however many also suggested an increase in character counts and more support with FTE calculations. Many respondents also requested no changes in the application from year to year.)
- **Improve applicant experience** (through increased transparency, resources, and better communication)
- **Clarify roles and processes** (both within GFTA and with City stakeholders)
- **Improve grantmaking policies and procedures** (through refining our assessment criteria and practices)



## Hotel Tax Revenue

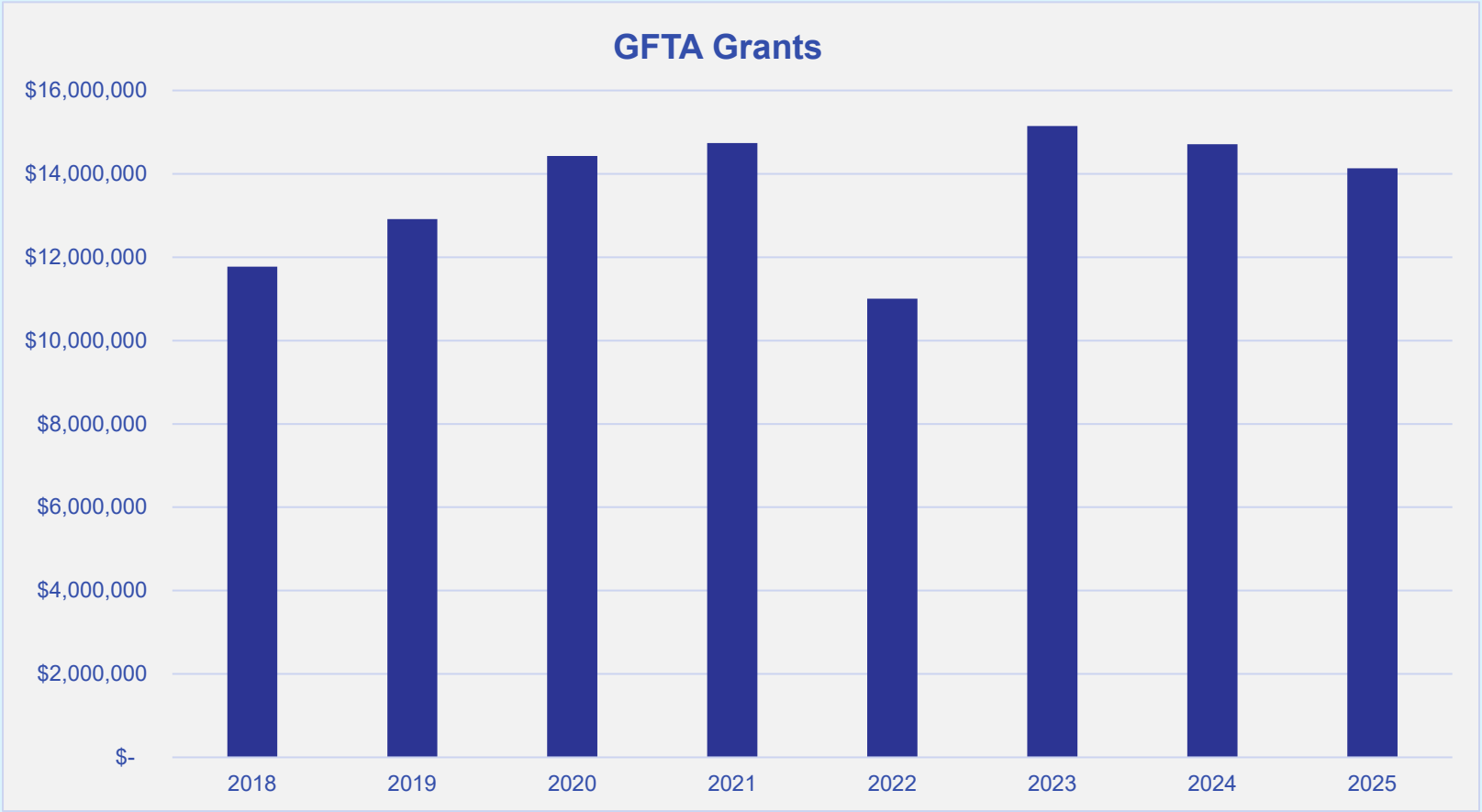
Prop E was passed in 2018 and allocated 1.5% of the 14% Hotel Tax to the arts in San Francisco

Hotel Tax funds for the arts are subdivided into 5 allocations; GFTA's allocation is the largest.



# Hotel Tax Revenue

GFTA’s Grants since 2018



GFTA Grants	
Yr.	\$ in M
2018	11.7
2019	12.9
2020	14.4
2021	14.7
2022	11
2023	15.1
2024	14.7
2025	14.1

## Current Priorities

In the past three years, GFTA has narrowed its focus on supporting San Francisco arts and culture organizations that drive **two priorities**:

- Engagement and impact in **communities with limited arts opportunities**
- **Economic impact and recovery** in the City.

# Guiding Principles and Values

In 2020, GFTA re-evaluated its mission and priorities as an agency. Through this evaluation, GFTA developed a set of values that are still the foundation of GFTA's work today.

- **EQUITY**
- **VIBRANCY**
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**
- **TRANSPARENCY**


To learn more about our values, visit [here](#).

Looking ahead, GFTA aims to **listen to the hopes, dreams and challenges** of our stakeholders and **build a shared vision** with these values at the center.



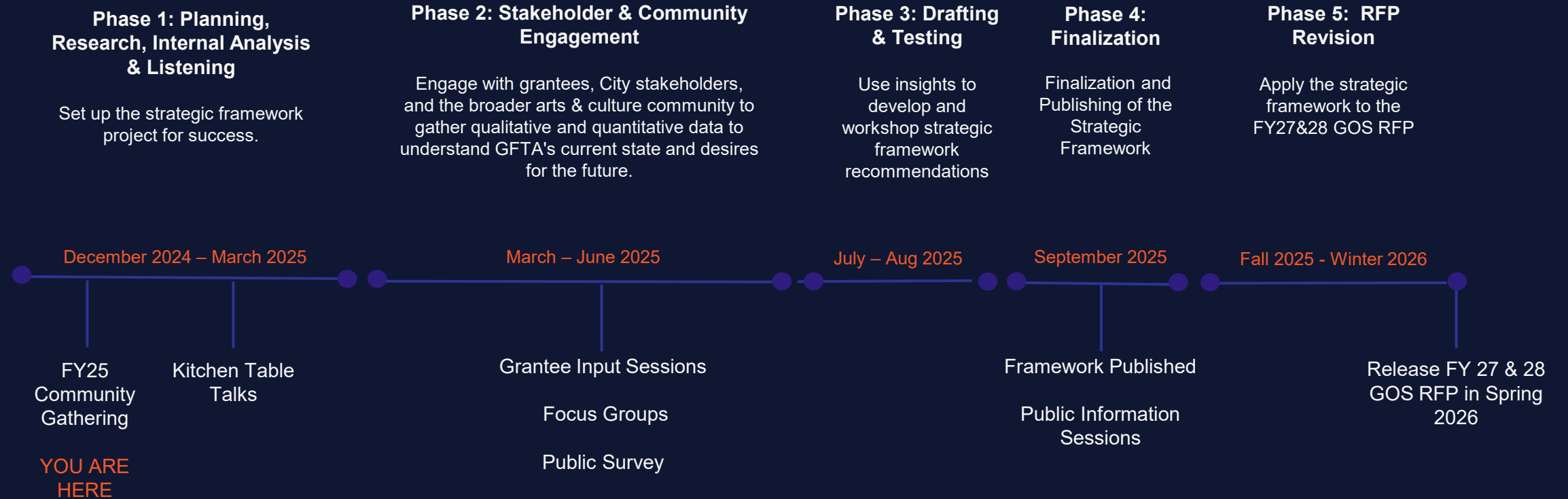


## Strategic Framework Overview



**Goal:** Launch a new GFTA strategic framework by September 2025. The GFTA team will lead the work which will include extensive community listening efforts with grantees, city stakeholders, and the broader arts and culture community.

# Strategic Framework: Next Steps





# GFTA Grant Requirements

All grantees must complete the following in order to be eligible to receive their FY25 and FY26 grant funding:

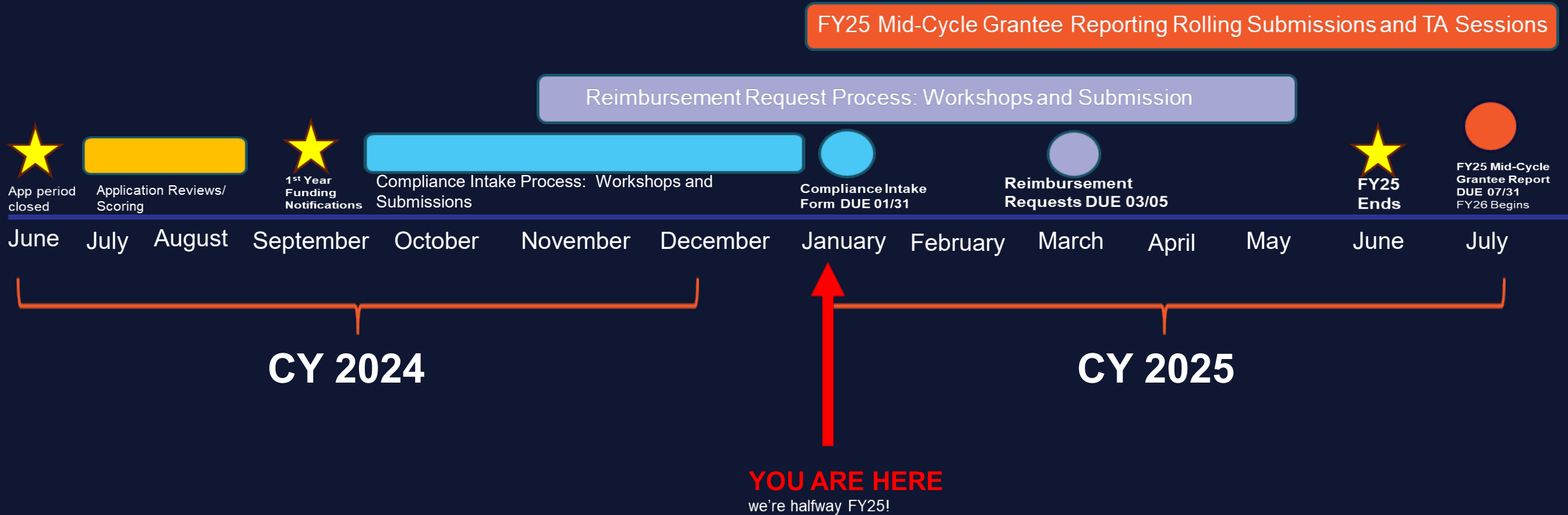
- Compliance Intake Process
- Reimbursement Request Process
- Mid-Cyle Grantee Reporting\*

*\*New requirement from The City and County of San Francisco*



# GFTA 2-year Grant Cycle

Year One of Two-Year Grant: July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025 (FY25)





# Looking Ahead



## GFTA 2-year Grant Cycle

**Year Two of Two-Year Grant:** July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (FY26)

- Grantees are now able to submit their **Mid-Cycle Report**. All grantees are required to submit this report covering July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 in order to be eligible to receive their FY26 grant renewal.
- **Allocations** for FY26 are expected to take place during the summer 2025.
- Second year **funding notifications** are expected to be released in September 2025.
- The **next round of RFP** is expected to be released by early 2026.

# NEW! Mid-Cycle Report

**WHY?** To be eligible for an FY26 Award

**WHEN?** *Rolling submissions* with a final due date on July 31, 2025

**WHERE?** Submit via your personalized link (sent on January 9, 2025)

## HOW?

- Sign up for one (or more!) of our monthly office hour sessions
- Prepare your responses in advance using the Mid-Cycle Report template, then copy and paste into the e-form

# Questions

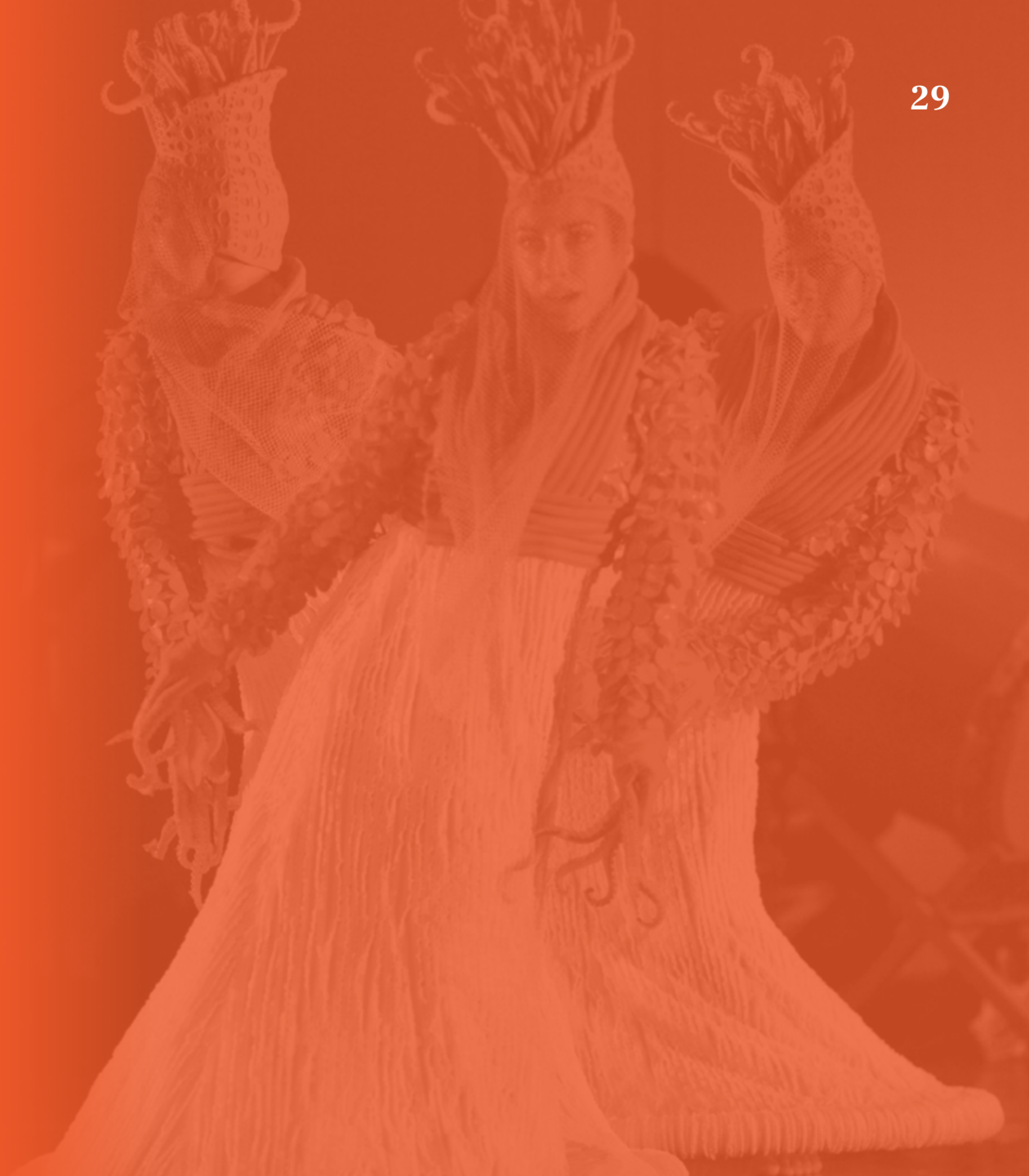




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# Group Photo Opportunity

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## Connection and Breakout Rooms

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### QUESTIONS:

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1. Describe the positive changes you observe in your work. How are these changes manifesting?
2. What solutions were scaled up? Highlight specific strategies and solutions that have been scaled up.
3. What do you wonder about the future of GFTA?

## Share Out

### Miro Navigation Tips:

- Space + Drag | Right Click + Drag to move canvas
- Ctrl + | + to zoom in
- Ctrl - | - to zoom out
- Click + Drag to move objects like post-its

- 1) Join your breakout room
- 2) Open this link:  
[https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVLovM3Hc=](https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVLovM3Hc=/)
- 3) Pick a board and name your group
- 4) Add post-its to your board
- 5) Choose a group member to share out with the larger group



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# Thank you!

Share your feedback about our gathering in our survey by Feb 28, 2025. Thank you!