

From: Liliana Herrera <liltunes.sf@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 2:53 PM

To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>

Subject: Community Investments Grant Program Policy Updates

Greetings,

As a board member of Brava for Women in the Arts and a seasoned San Francisco performance artist, I send a message of hope. Hope for deep listening to the community of artists and supporters speaking up today; those on the front lines, often serving the most vulnerable communities of San Francisco.

The Advanced Payment and Reimbursement Documentation Policies would negatively impact individual artists and small arts institutions with lean budgets and with low to no cash flow when needing to cover up-front costs. If the role of philanthropy is to address the immediate challenges that artists and arts institutions face, then the aforementioned policies will create lethal obstacles for art to flourish in the short to long term.

I remain hopeful that the vital messages you hear today will compel your heArts to make the necessary adjustments to the policies at hand, and thus partner with artists and our beloved San Francisco community with a common mission: to thrive together!

Respectfully yours,

Liliana Herrera

Language Justice & Cultural Solutions / Musician & VO Artist

Board Member, [Brava! for Women in the Arts](#)

[Our Children Are Sacred music video](#)

[What is Language Justice?](#) 

From: Michelle Matos <michelle@thematosmethod.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 12:57 PM

To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>

Subject: public correspondence for Agenda Item #3: Community Investments Grant Program Policy Updates

My name is Michelle Matos, and I am a member of Brava for Women in the Arts. I am writing to strongly and resoundingly oppose the San Francisco Arts Commission's implementation of the new advanced payment policy and reimbursement documentation policy required of FY 2026/2027 grantees.

Brava is a community-serving arts organization with an annual budget under \$2 million. Policies that require organizations like ours to maintain substantial reserves to withstand delayed reimbursements are not realistic, equitable, or sustainable. For organizations operating on tight margins, late reimbursements are not a minor administrative inconvenience. They can mean layoffs, canceled programs, delayed payments to artists and staff, or even the closure of essential community spaces and services.

These policies are bad, regressive, and harmful. They do not appear to be designed with Arts Commission grantees in mind, especially smaller nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists who often operate as micro-businesses. They also run counter to the City's stated Cultural Equity mandate and to the Arts Commission's own mission to support a diverse, accessible, and equitable arts ecosystem.

The City must take the time needed to develop policies that are right sized for the realities of SFAC grantees. That process must include meaningful collaboration with the individuals, artists, and organizations who will be directly affected.

I urge the Arts Commission to halt implementation of these two policies immediately and work with the arts community to create fair, practical, and equitable alternatives.

Michelle Matos

Founder & CEO, **The Matos Method**