



San Francisco Arts Commission Meeting

June 1, 2026

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.

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



Item 4: Committee Reports and Committee Matters

Discussion

Item 4.1

Civic Design Review Committee Report

Discussion

Report from the Civic Design Review Committee regarding activities of the Committee and the Program

Presenter: Commissioner Seth Brenzel

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes













Concourse Level - South Entrance looking East - SFAC Public Art Location

East Plaza: Lighting



Luminii Kurba “Horizontal Light”
Recessed wall toe lighting.



Landscape Forms: “Typology Ring”
Overhead light fixtures.



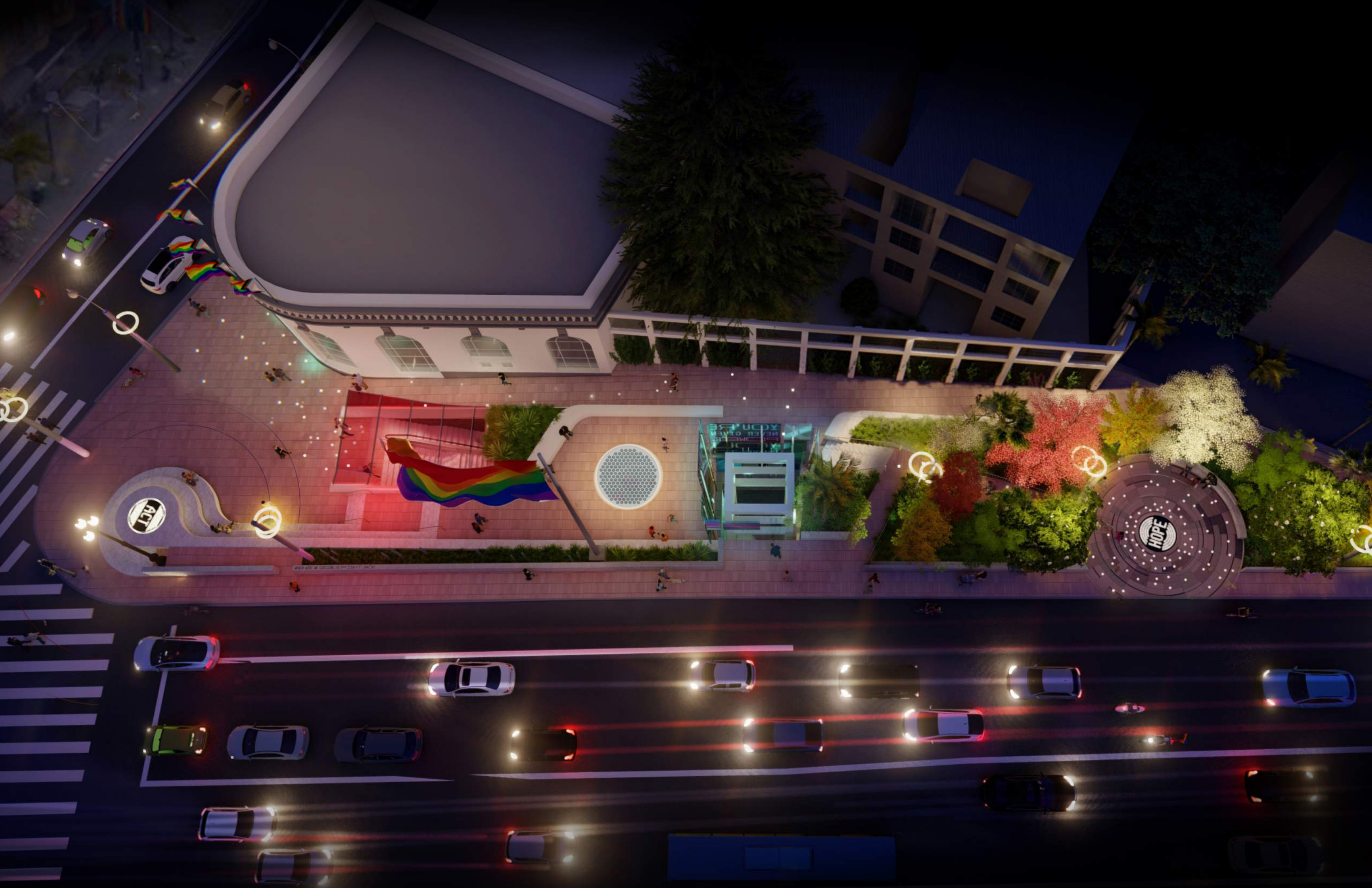
Design Plan “Goccia 2.7”
Path of Light in ground lighting.



Ligman Lighting “Odessa 2”
Existing Pride Flag uplight.



Night rendering illustrating the candle light vigil lighting design.



Item 4.2

Visual Arts Committee Report

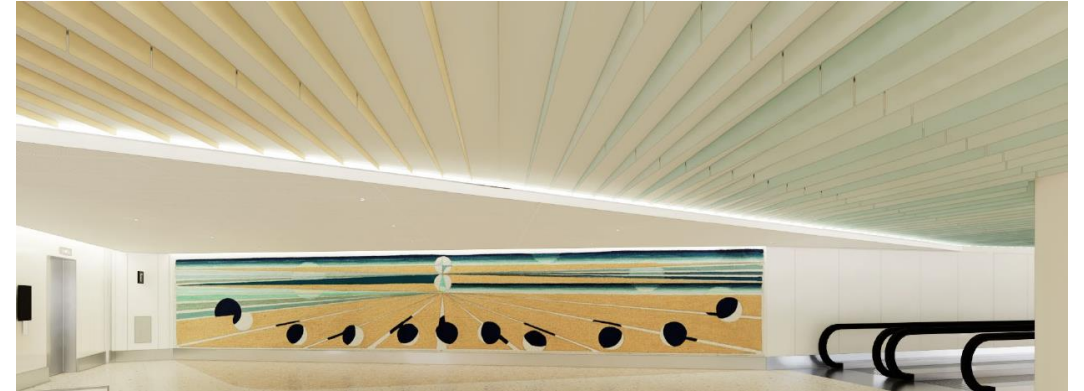
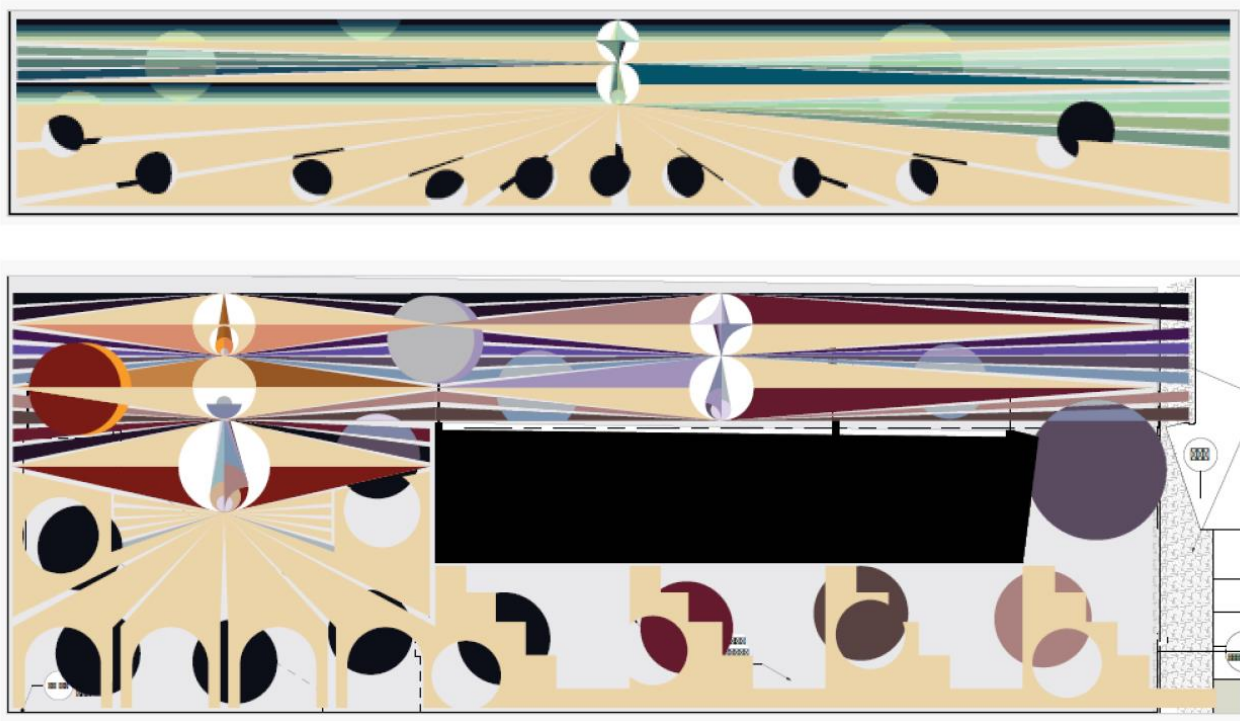
Discussion

Report from the Visual Arts Committee regarding activities of the Committee and the Program

Presenter: Commissioner JD Beltran

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes

Item 4.2: SFO Terminal 3 West Modernization Public Art Project

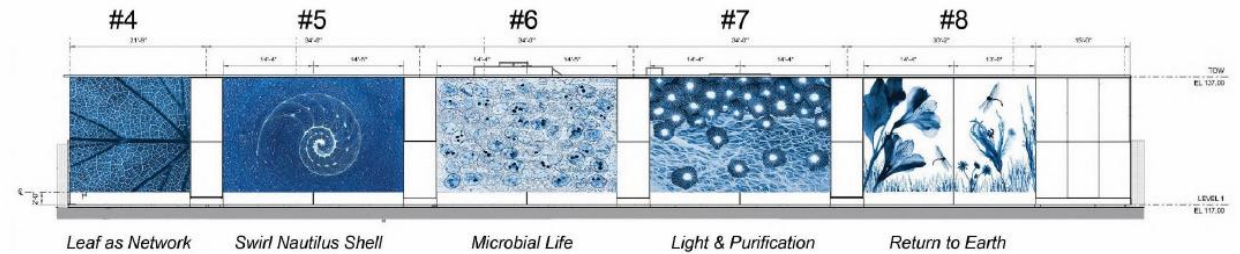
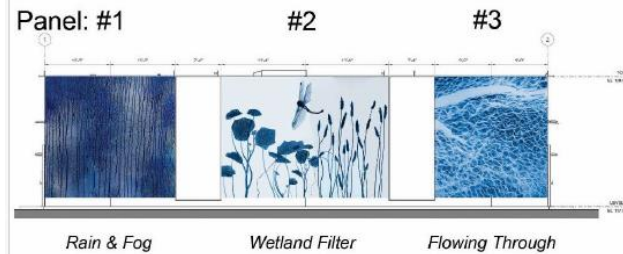


Item 4.2: SFO Courtyard 4 Connection (C4) FIS West Art Wall

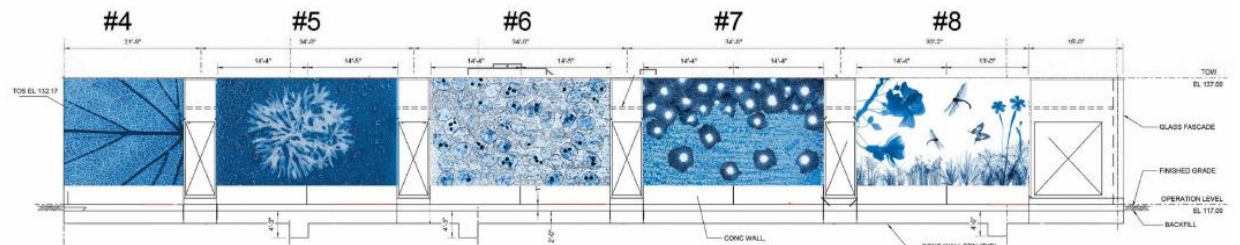
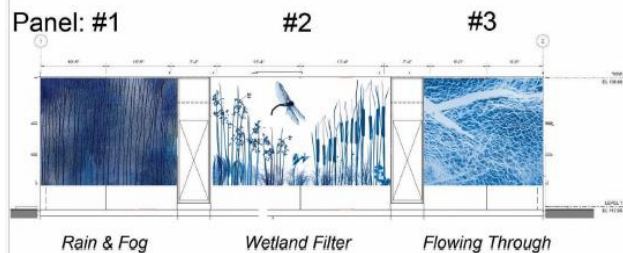


Item 4.2: SFPUC Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility

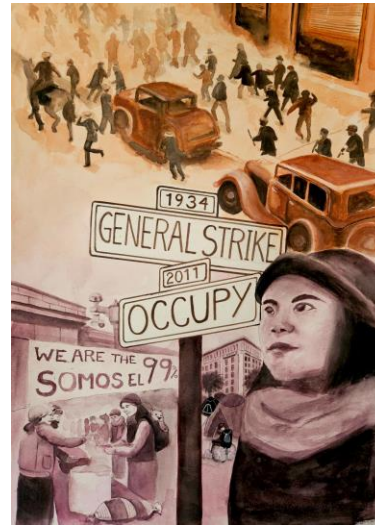
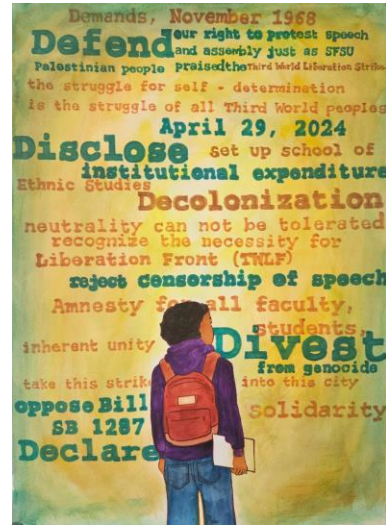
Proposal



Final



Item 4.2: 2026 Art on Market Street Poster Series



Item 4.2: Civic Center Temporary Sculpture



“When I’m thinking about black sound, I think about a community, a communing around lifting up and turning sound into something that articulates all of our experiences.”

TORKWASE DYSON · ON AKUA

The pavilion is built to be entered. At Civic Center Plaza it becomes a civic gathering place, an open structure for shared experience in the heart of San Francisco.

ACTIVATION

Public Gatherings · Artist Programming · Community Partners



CITY HALL AXIS



PAMELA Z · BBP 2025

Item 4.3

Executive Committee Report

Discussion

Report from the Executive Committee regarding activities of the Committee and the Program

Presenter: Vice President Janine Shiota

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Item 6: SFAC Galleries Program Updates

Discussion

Presenter: Jackie Im,
Acting Director of Galleries and Public Programs

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes

SFAC Galleries

Program Updates and Fall 2026 Exhibition





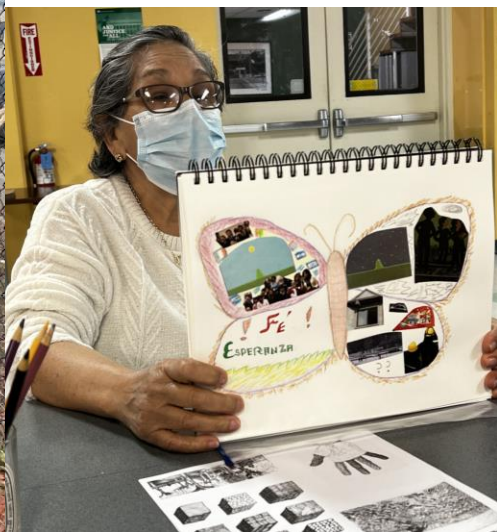
The history of San Francisco through the lens of Muni photographers

KALW | By Zain Alexander Iqbal
Published April 15, 2025 at 6:00 AM PDT

▶ LISTEN • 11:33



A black-and-white photo by SFMTA photographer Bill Owyang of former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein and singer Tony Bennett at the reopening of Cable Car service in 1984.





MAY 28–AUGUST 29, 2026

I SPLIT THE GROUND,

SO
IT WOULD
NOT CLOSE
OVER ME

KELLEY FINLEY
TRICIA RAINWATER
CURATED BY SHIRIN MAKAREMI

MAY 28–AUGUST 29, 2026
TRICIA RAINWATER
KELLEY FINLEY

I SPLIT THE GROUND, SO IT WOULD NOT CLOSE OVER ME

CURATED BY
SHIRIN MAKAREMI

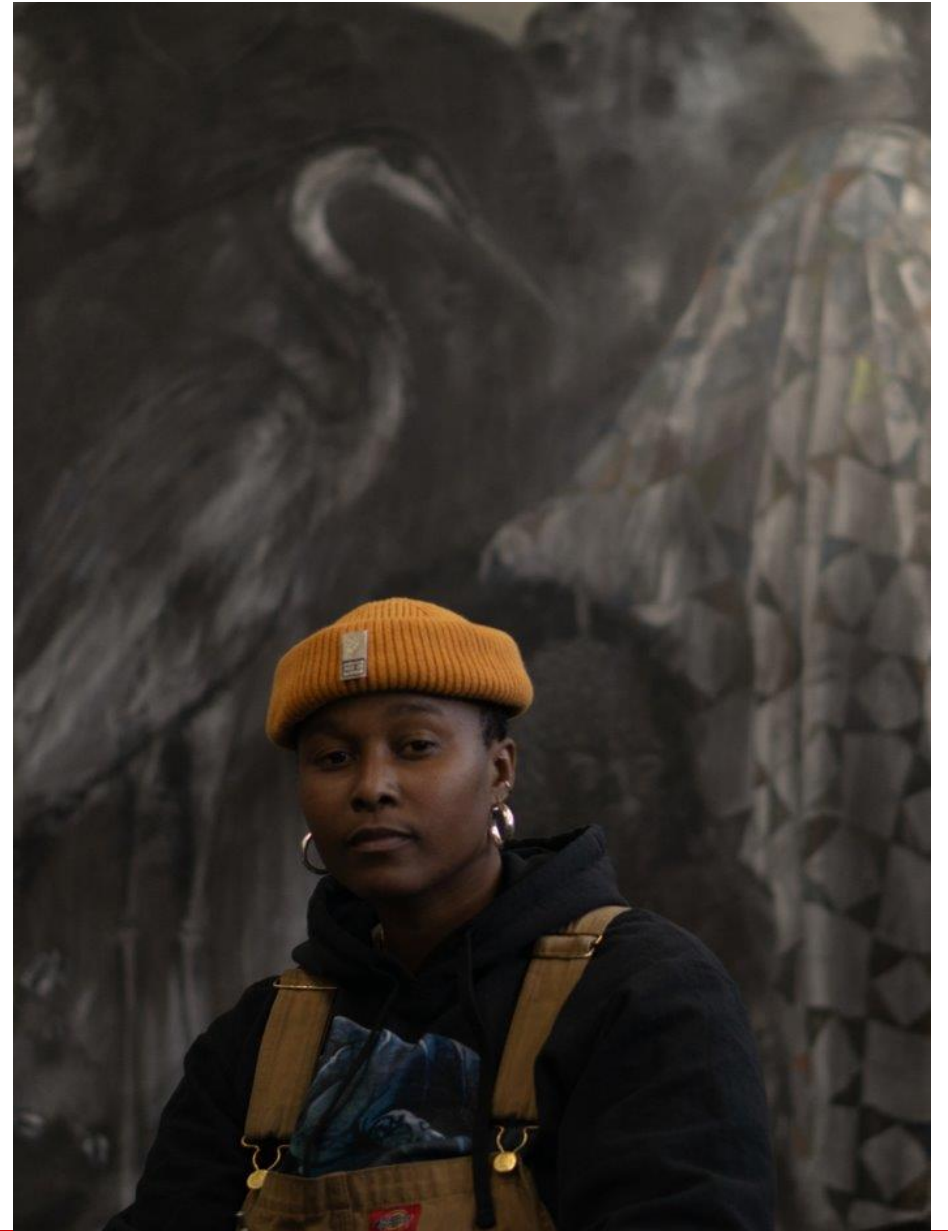
sfac
galleries

Free and open to the public, Wednesday–Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.
San Francisco Arts Commission Main Gallery, 401 Van Ness Avenue, Ground Floor
sfartscommission.org/gallery



*Excavating
Uranus*, A Psalm
for Nyota Uhura*

Sydney Cain



Ayana V. Jackson



Courtney Desiree Morris



Marvin K. White



Ashara Ekundayo

Ashara Ekundayo is a queer, Black feminist interdisciplinary independent curator of contemporary art, visual maker, cultural theologian, arts organizer, and consultant whose creative practice is rooted in joy-informed pedagogies and the study, creation and maintenance of Black archives. In the tradition of critical artistic action and dynamic imagination she also conjures collaborative site-responsive ceremony, and utilizes artist-based strategies such as photography, screenprinting, zine-making, installation, and altar-making to illuminate the specific expertise of Black womxn of the African Diaspora. Her work explores healing, memory, space, and place and she has worked with Black and Brown communities across borders in support of issues of land, access, and self-determination. She is the Founder, Curator/Executive Creative Director at Artist As First Responder and Principal at AECreative Consulting Partners, LLC.



Item 7: Cultural Center Presentation - Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center

Discussion

Presenter: Vinay Patel,
Acting Director of Galleries and Public Programs

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes



apiccc
asian | pacific islander cultural center

Who we are

The Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC) was founded in 1995 by a steering committee of representatives of five nonprofit arts groups: Asian American Dance Performances, First Voice, Asian Improv aRts, Asian American Theater Company and Kearny Street Workshop to address the need for more adequate funding, space, and technical services for Asian American and Pacific Islander arts communities.

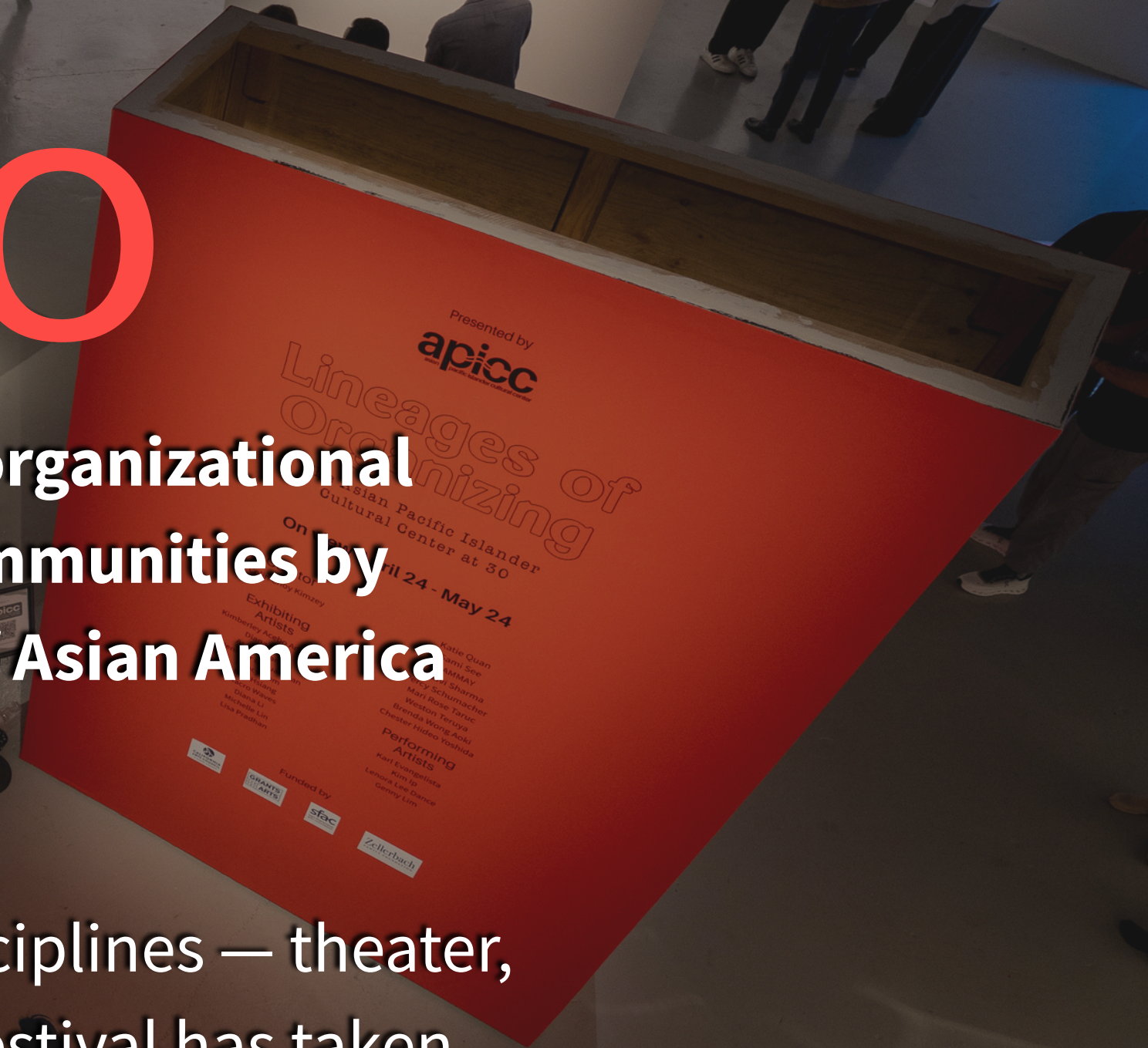
Our mission is to support and present multi-disciplinary art reflective of the unique experiences of Asians Americans and Pacific Islanders living in the United States.



What we do

Since 1998, the Center has promoted the artistic and organizational growth of the City's Asian and Pacific Islander arts communities by organizing and presenting the annual United States of Asian America Festival (USAAF).

USAAF heightens the visibility of artists working in all disciplines — theater, music, dance, film, literature, visual arts and more. The festival has taken place every year since 1996, presenting events throughout San Francisco between May-June. APICC collaborates with both emerging and well-established groups allowing them access to APICC's resources including its wealth of production and fundraising know-how.





Impact of United States of Asian America Festival (USAAF) 2025

Total # Views/Attendees

5,700

Audience Online/Socials

7M+

Total Artists Fees Paid

\$64,600

Number of events

20

Total # Artists Served

300

Total # Volunteers

150

What we do

Fiscal Sponsorships

APICC places special emphasis on **incubating emerging Asian American and/or Pacific Islander artists**, as well as other artists of color. We welcome individual artists and grassroots art collectives to apply for fiscal sponsorship with a project that relates to arts or culture, be non-commercial in nature, and have a community benefit component.

25 Fiscally Sponsored Artists Supported
\$500k+ in Funds Administered



What we do

Outdoor Showcase Performances

In response to COVID-19, we launched Outdoor Showcase Performances that bring **accessible and high-quality live arts experiences** directly into neighborhoods and community spaces where underserved AAPI communities live.

Chinatown - Portsmouth Square (2021)

SOMA Pilipinas- Kapwa Gardens (2021)

Japantown - Peace Plaza (2022)

Tenderloin - Sunday Streets (2023-2025)

Sunset Chinese Cultural District - Sunset Night Market (2026)

What we do

Artists Professional Development

Free Professional Development Workshops

4-5 offered annually covering relevant topics to USAAF participants. Past topics include: Marketing/PR, Budgeting, Fundraising, Grant Writing, Event Accessibility, Intellectual Property, Building An Audience

Free Technical Services

Each USAAF artist receives 2 consultation hours with staff or professionals in topics of their choice and/or for production support leading up to their event/program (24 total hours).



What we do

Documentation & Accessibility Support

Artists Subsidies for Documentation

Artists can request subsidies that help pay for photography and videography services. APICC also supports in connecting artists to community documentation professionals.

Subsidies for Accessibility Services

Artists can request subsidies that help pay for accessibility services like ASL and language interpretation/translation. APICC contracts an AAPI-identified Accessibility Coordinator to support scheduling interpreters and translators for events.

2026: \$4625 Total Subsidies



What we do

Arts Advocacy

APICC has been at the forefront of every arts advocacy effort in San Francisco for over 30 years. From our founders to now, we **advocate for the voices of individual artists and small arts organizations on the principals of cultural equity.**

APICC has supported community organizing efforts in the following ways:

- Created a bond measure for the Cultural centers
- Participated in the community process to create Cultural Equity Grants
- Advocated for a baseline increase through Arts for a Better Bay Area (ABBA)
- A major participant in the success of Prop E

this year...

This year's theme, **Common Ground**, invites us to reflect on our relationships with each other and with the spaces we move through together as AAPIs in the diaspora by exploring what it means to take up space and practice placemaking for others.

The festival will celebrate modes of thinking about solidarity through shared experiences and histories by underscoring how visibility in public spaces can cultivate belonging.

USAAF
2026

Common Ground

april – june



apicc
asian pacific islander cultural center

view artist events



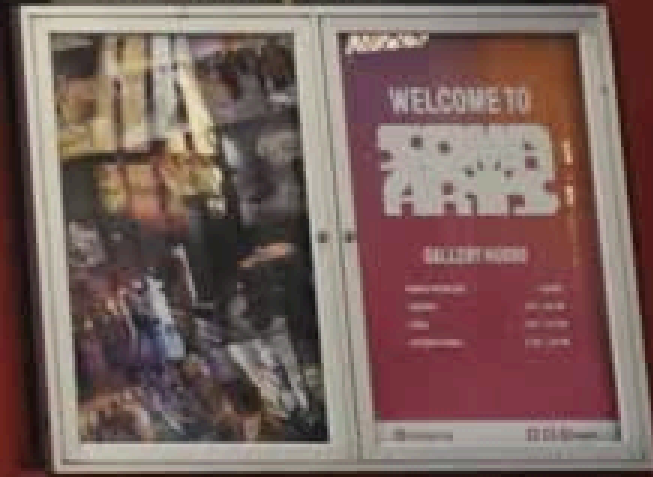


EVENTS
CLASSES
GALLERY
RENTALS

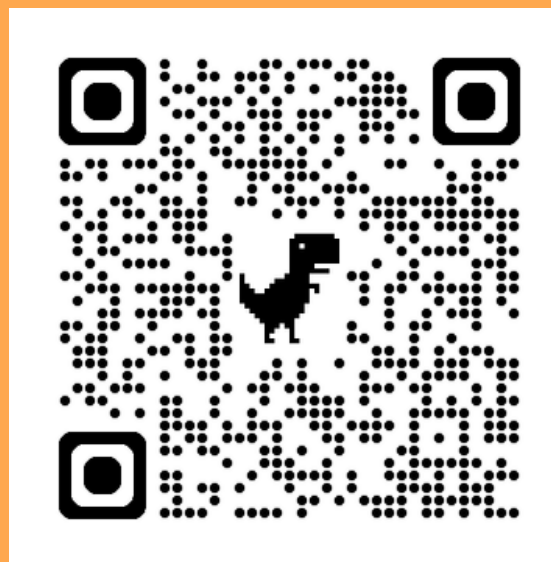
SOMArts

MAIN ENTRANCE →

← 934 Brannan ENTRANCE



this year...



How do AAPI communities continue to create spaces for gathering and **community care** through arts and culture? How do we use these spaces to act in **solidarity** with other BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ communities and work towards **collective liberation**?

How do we continue to create spaces to **amplify AAPI narratives** in the face of injustice and erasure in the United States? How can the arts help us imagine new ways to tell our stories and steward our histories for **future generations**?

Artist Events

Visual Art Exhibit



Produced by APICC
Curated by Colin Choy Kimzey
Lineages of Organizing: Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center at 30



Festival Kick-off & **Opening***: Thu 4.23 @ 6pm
Community Archiving Day: Sun 5.3 @ 1pm
Closing*: Sun 5.24 @ 1pm
Gallery Open: Thu-Sun
SOMArts Cultural Center



Maya Fuji
Artist Talk with Maya Fuji, Shingo Yamazaki, Nibha Akireddy
5.20 @ 6pm
Jonathan Carver Moore Gallery



GLBTQ+ Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA)
Holding (Queer) Space Opening Reception
5.29 @ 6PM
Sentro Filipino

Multimedia



Hamesha Proj. & Dilpreet Anand
Brown Thumbs: Punjabi x Mexican Land Solidarity
6.14 @ 5pm
Dance Mission Theater



Sami See
Island Bound: Listening Party
6.13 @ 5:30pm
447 Minna

Outdoor Showcase

6.12 @ 5-10pm • Sunset Night Market



Alice Hur
For the Culture
Dance Performance



Nu Tekno presents
DJ Yuka Yu with Al Yu
DJ + Music Performance

Theater/Performance



Eddie Jen
Seeking a Penpal for the End of the World
5.2 @ 7:30pm • 5.9 @ 6pm
Marsh Studio Theater



Thao P. Nguyen
White Power: A Comedy
5.29 @ 8pm • 5.30 @ 8pm
Bindlestiff Studio



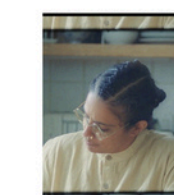
Megan Lowe Dances
Air Between Us
5.15 @ 7pm • 5.16 @ 2pm
5.16-7pm • 5.17 @ 2pm
Yerba Buena Gardens



King LOTUS BOY, Piss E Sissy, and EUPHEMIA
Rhythms of Resistance: Queer Dance Party Celeb. Black & API Solidarity 6.6 @ 8pm
SOMArts Cultural Ctr



Film



Priyanka Suryaneni
SAFAR: Journey of Recollections
6.14 @ 3:30pm
Creativity Theater



QWOCMAP
2026 International Queer Women of Color Film Festival 6.12-6.14
Presidio Theatre



Item 9: Shaping Legacy Program Updates

Discussion

Presenter: Angela Carrier, Senior Program Manager

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes



**SHAPING
LEGACY**

PROJECT UPDATES

SAN FRANCISCO MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS



Mellon Foundation

\$500M

The Monuments Project

A commitment to transform the nation's commemorative landscape by supporting public projects that help represent the complexity of American stories.



NEWS RELEASE

Mayor London Breed Announces The San Francisco Arts Commission Is One of Nine Municipalities Nationwide That Has Received A Portion of a \$25 Million Mellon Foundation Grant to Support Its Work on Monuments and Memorials Initiative

The \$3 million Monuments Project grant will fund and support "Pulse Check: Accountability and Activation of Future SF Monuments"



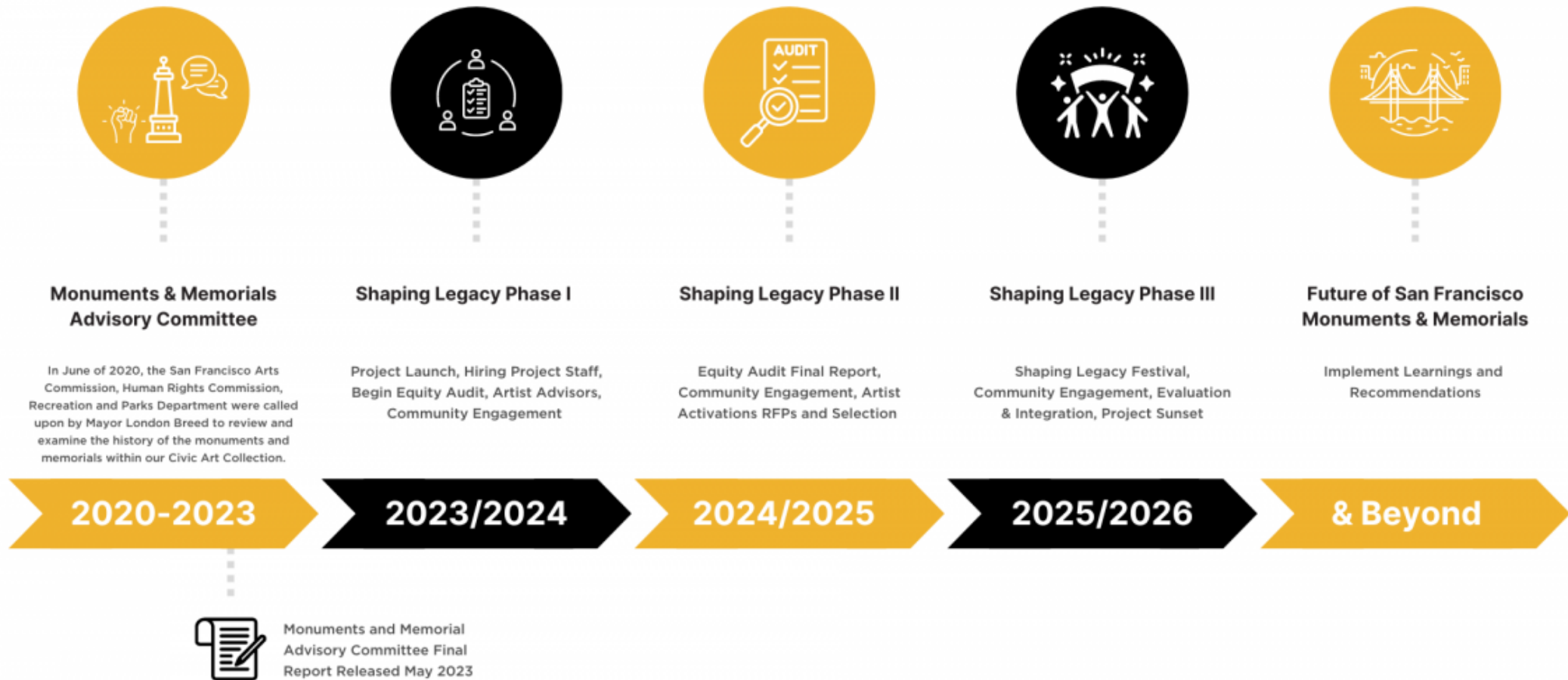


SHAPING LEGACY
SAN FRANCISCO
MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS

Shaping Legacy is a three-year grant funded project that aims to critically examine the monuments and memorials in San Francisco's Civic Art Collection and to reimagine the future of monuments and memorial in the City.

We believe artists and their communities can guide us towards a future where monuments and memorials are spaces of inclusion, belonging and recognition of our shared humanity.

BRIEF PROJECT OVERVIEW





PROJECT GOALS

- Engage communities underrepresented in the City's commemorative landscape.
- Create opportunities for artist-led activations in public space and support temporary installations that reimagine future monuments and memorials in our city.
- Produce an Audit report on the monuments and memorials in the San Francisco's Civic Art Collection.

The project prioritizes meaningful community engagement to holistically assess the Civic Art Collection, build awareness around the civic process, rectify current power imbalances, and engage community in a sustained, relevant way.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONSULTANTS - CASE STUDIES



CASE STUDY: FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

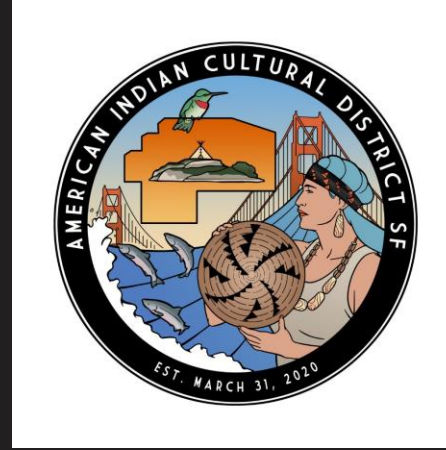


Youth
Speaks

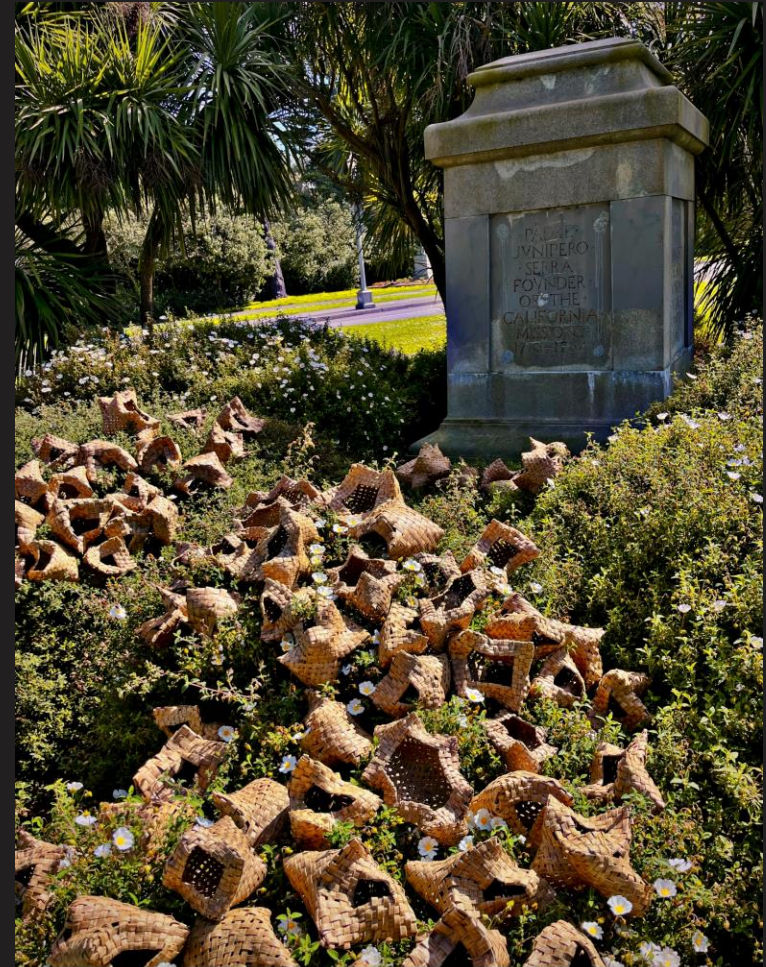


I pledge
allegiance
to the struggle

CASE STUDY: GENERAL ULYSSES S. GRANT



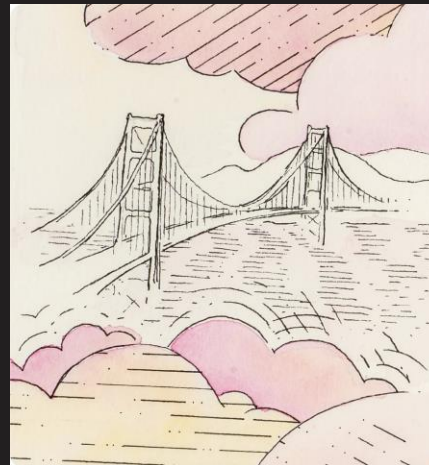
CASE STUDY: PADRE JUNIPERO SERRA



Roughly 100 Relocated Urban Baskets Contemplating the Absence of Junipero Serra
Kim Shuck
photo©2026Douglas A. Salin

CASE STUDY: CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

CALIFORNIA
MIGRATION
MUSEUM



Lauren Bartone
Cloud Monument, 2026

Soft sculpture of interconnected, sewn canvas cloud forms colored with natural cochineal, indigo, madder, and weld dyes — materials that reflect the ongoing historical exchange of ideas, traditions, and cultures.

We invite you to reflect on the complex migration experiences to this area, here at the site of the former Christopher Columbus monument.



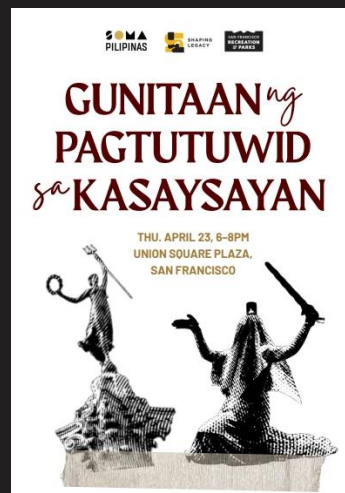
Scan the code or learn more at
CALMIGRATION.ORG/COTTONWOOD

CALIFORNIA
MIGRATION
MUSEUM



A Museum Without Walls

CASE STUDY: THE DEWEY MONUMENT



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday, August 5, 2026, 6:00PM to 7:30PM, Koret Auditorium, SFPL

- Presentations from the five Community Engagement Consultants on their work

Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 6:00PM to 7:30PM, Koret Auditorium, SFPL

- Screening of visual media created by the Consultants and Artists

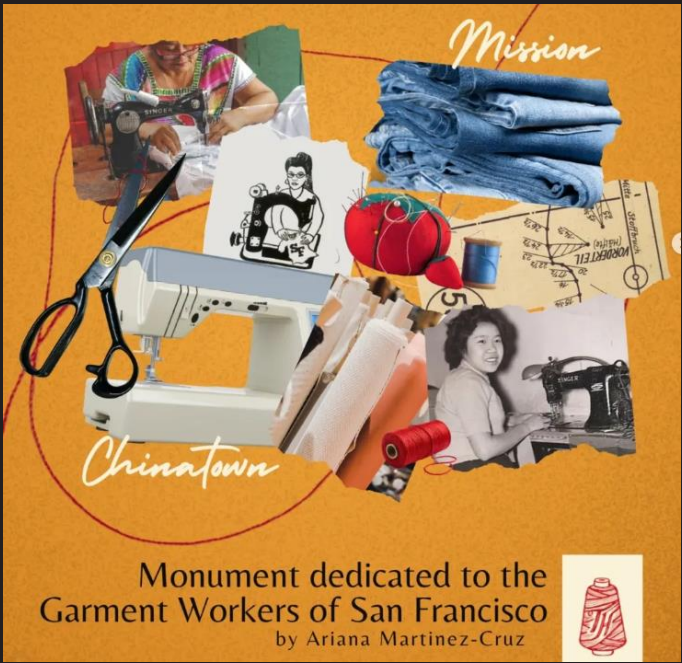


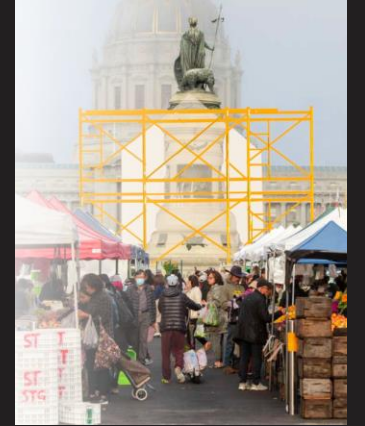
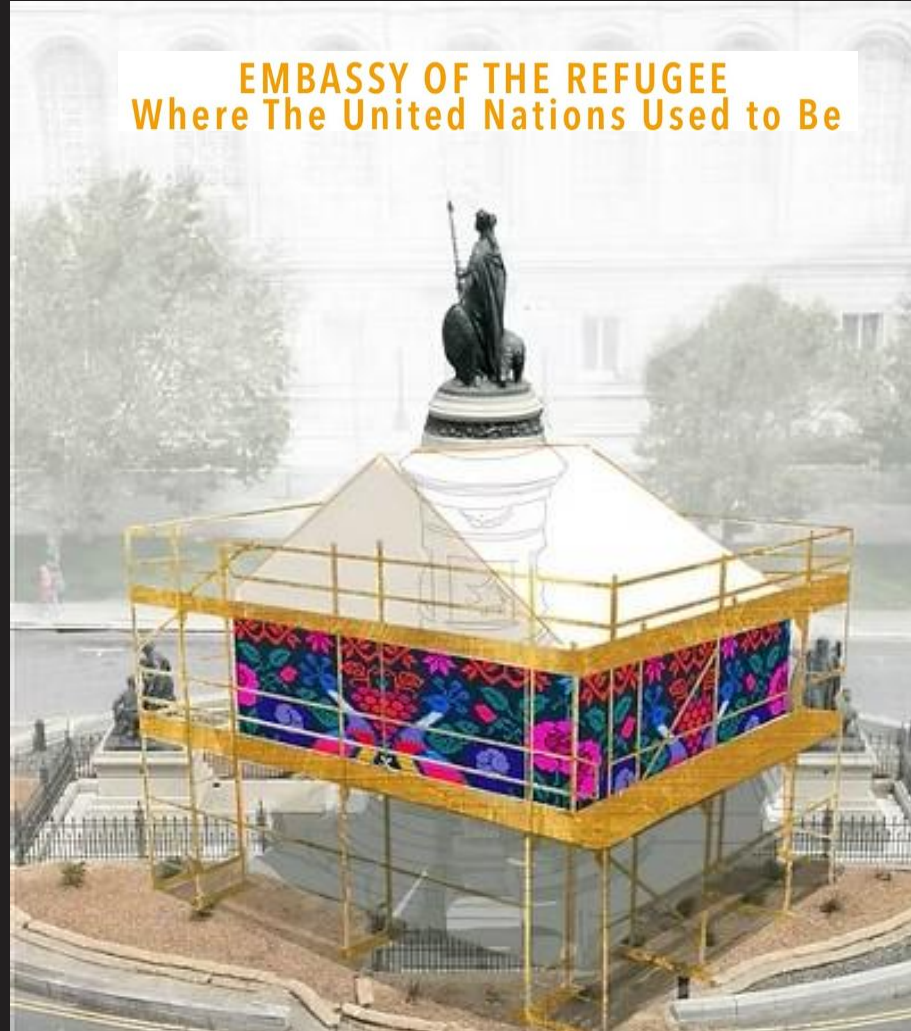
TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART PROJECT GOALS

Five (5) Temporary Public Art Projects will represent a variety of art forms.

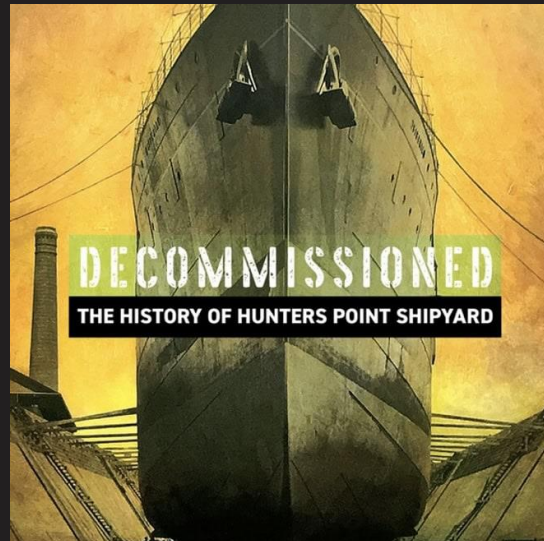
- Artwork will reimagine the future of monuments and memorials in the City.
- Artwork will be accessible and encourage opportunities for social interaction.
- Artwork will center community, collaboration, local histories and stories.
- Artists will have a meaningful connection to the San Francisco/Bay Area and/or direct experience collaborating with local communities in the development and implementation of their previous artwork design(s).
- Selection of artworks will represent a diversity of approaches and take place in different parts of the City.











THANK YOU

Item 10: Update on Artist Certification

Discussion

Lead: George Lee, Capital Project Manager

Manager: Ebon Glenn, Deputy Director of Programming

Collaborator: Denise Pate, Director of Community Investments

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes

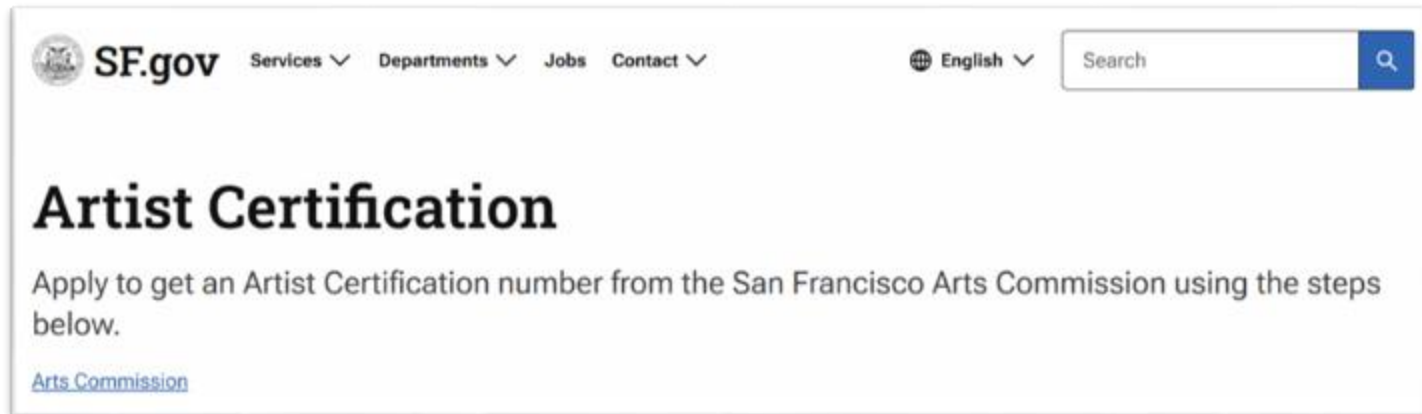
Ordinance 219-25: Artist Housing Certification

Sponsors: Rafael Mandelman, Matt Dorsey, Stephen Sherrill

- Creates an SFAC certification program and artist registry
- Helps identify artists for artist-priority affordable housing
- **SFAC: runs certification, registry, and cost-based fees**
- MOHCD: Onboarding city-sponsored affordable housing
- **Artists qualify by income, grant/award, or portfolio**
- Certification lasts up to 5 years, artists can renew
- Applications offered at least twice per year
- Sunset if no qualifying housing project starts by May 31, 2031
- **Key point:** SFAC delivers certification, not housing project or housing application system.

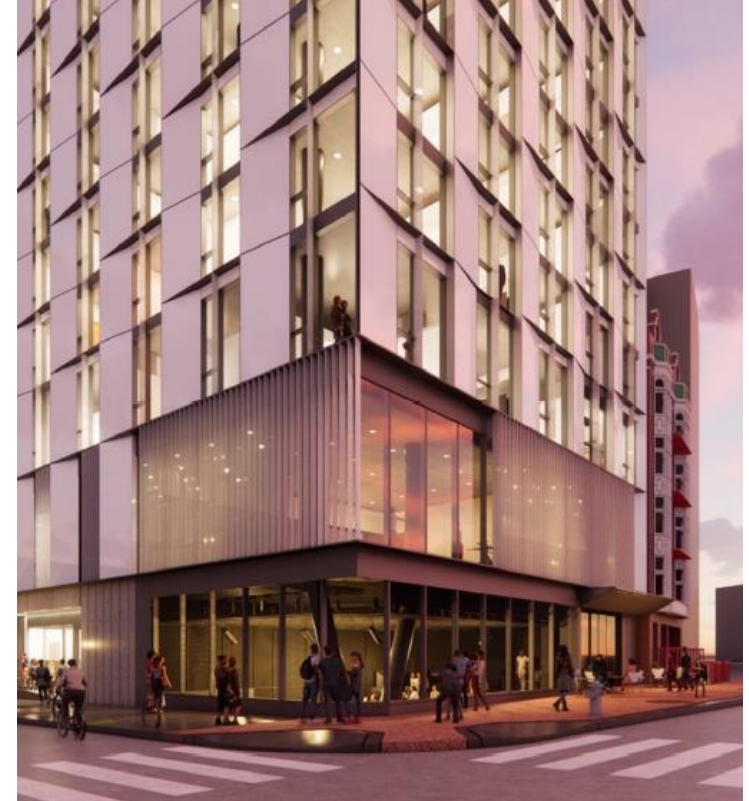
Artist Certification Program Update

- New SFAC program created by City ordinance
- Certifies artists for City programs that need artist verification
- First major use: artist priority for 1687 Market affordable housing
- Draft public pages and forms are now in review



Why This Program Exists

- 1687 Market will include **94 affordable artist homes**
- Artists will need a City Artist Certification number to claim artist priority
- SFAC certifies artists
- MOHCD manages DAHLIA housing lottery and monitors marketing and lease-up
- Mercy Housing does housing application, eligibility verification and lease-up



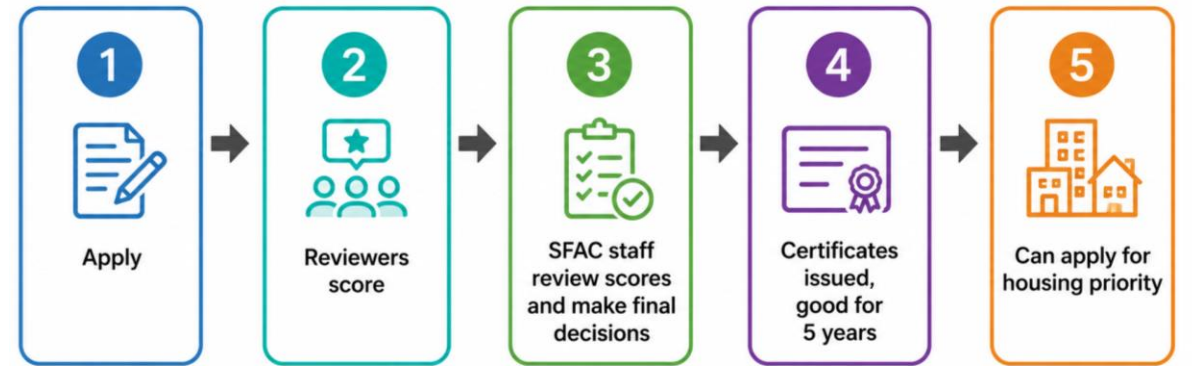
Three Ways Artists Can Qualify

You only have to meet one. From legislation.

- **Art income:** \$10,000+ per year from art practice in 3 of the last 5 years
- **Grant / award / commission:** received within the last 3 years
- **Artistic work samples:** show active artistic practice
- Applies across visual, performing, media, literary, folk, interdisciplinary, and other art forms
- SFAC is translating these ordinance pathways into a simple application and review rubric

How the Review Process Will Work

1. Artists apply through an online SFAC form
2. Trained reviewers score complete applications using a standard rubric
3. SFAC staff review scores and issue final decisions
4. Approved artists receive a unique certification number
5. Certified artists can apply with priority to housing

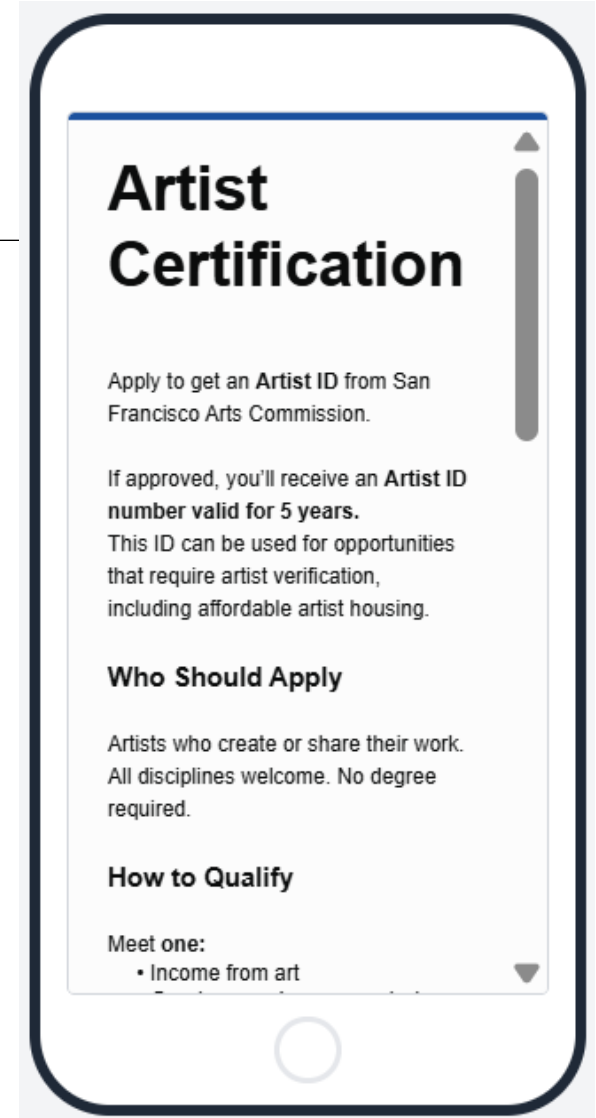
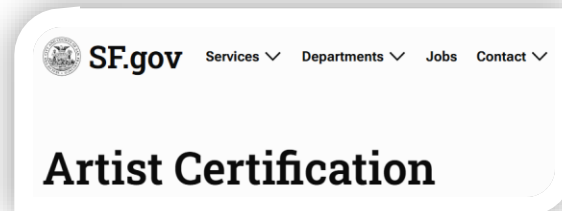


Draft Public Tools

1. Artist Certification sf.gov webpage
2. Artist Housing sf.gov webpage
3. Interest form for updates and outreach
4. Artist Certification application form

*Drafts are being reviewed before publication

*All use City of SF Accessible standard templates



1687 Market Housing Connection

- Artist Certification can help artists get priority consideration
- It does **not** guarantee housing
- It is **not** a housing application
- Artists must still apply for housing separately
- There will be various affordability tiers of rent and minimum and maximum income eligibility



DAHLIA

SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING PORTAL



mercy
HOUSING

Timeline

(Subject to change)

- **March–May 2026:** Draft forms and webpages created
- **June/July 2026:** Public pages and interest form targeted for launch
- **Late 2026:** Outreach, artist advisor testing, reviewer setup, application testing
- **Early 2027:** First certification application round
- **Summer 2027:** Second certification application round
- **Late 2027:** DAHLIA housing lottery application expected to open
- **Early 2028:** Lease-up expected to begin

Engagement Completed and Planned

Completed / Underway

- **Mercy Housing & AHOM team:** 6+ meetings
- **1687 Market Working Group:** 2 meetings
- **Entertainment Community Fund:** 2 meetings
- **City of Boston Certification:** 2 meetings
- **CCSF Digital Services:** 2 meetings
- **Artist Space Trust:** 2 meetings
- **Artist Legal Café / Vital Arts:** 1 meeting
- **MOHCD:** 2 meetings
- **InterMusic SF:** 1 meeting
- **CAST:** 2 meetings

Planned & Developing:

- **June 1:** Full SF Arts Commission
- **June/July 2026:** Publish pages published
- **Q3 2026 – Q4 2027:** Artist advisory group
- **Late 2026:** Reviewer pool training and application testing
- **2027:** Two certification application/review rounds
- **2026-2027:** Joint stakeholder marketing

Commissioner Takeaway

- SFAC is delivering per ordinance 219-23: Artist Housing Certification
- SFAC has built the draft certification system tools ready to publish soon
- Stakeholder engagement has and will continue to inform work with new artist certification advisory group
- The ordinance pathways are being turned into an accessible application
- The review process will be standardized, rubric-based, and artist-informed
- Public messaging must stay clear: certify with SFAC, get housing with DAHLIA
- Goal: build a ready pool of certified artists before DAHLIA opens to fill 1687 Market with certified artists

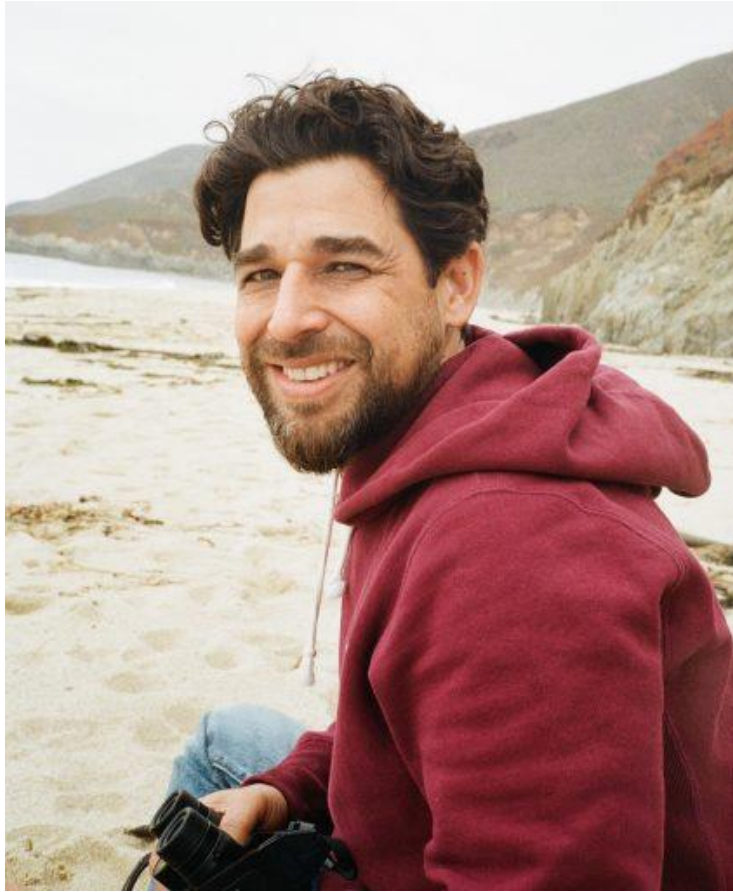
Questions?

Item 13: In Memoriam

Discussion



***Ricardo “El Tigre” Peña – Danzante, drummer, cultural teacher,
and keeper of Indigenous traditions.
1971 – December 2025 (age 54)***



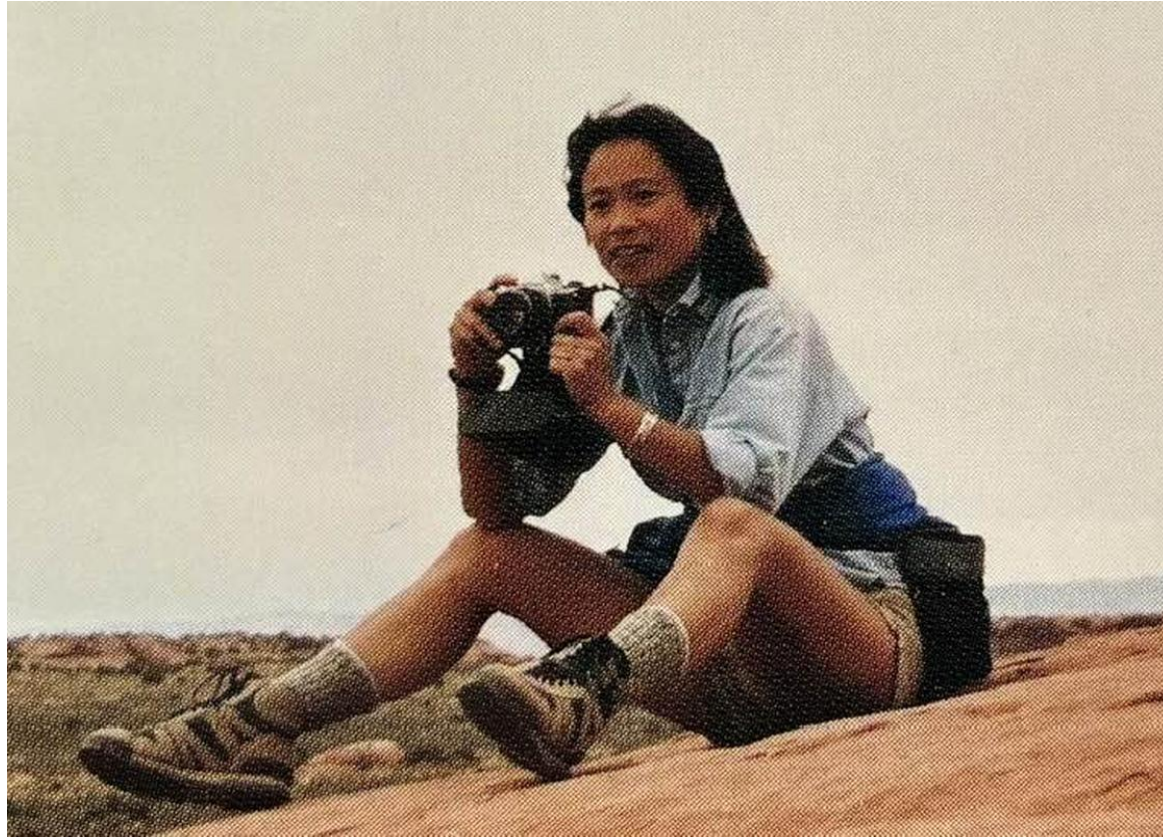
Marcelo Avilés – Arts programmer, cultural advocate, and community builder. Date of birth unknown – 2025 (age unknown)



Dr. José Cuéllar (“Dr. Loco”) – Musician, educator, anthropologist, and cultural activist. April 3, 1941 – January 21, 2025 (age 84)



Rena Bransten – Gallerist, arts patron, and champion of contemporary artists. March 8, 1933 – February 25, 2025 (age 92)



Lora Jo Foo – Labor attorney, activist, photographer, and co-founder of Kearny Street Workshop. January 1951 – March 13, 2026 (age 75)



Michael Tilson Thomas – Conductor, composer, educator, and former music director of the San Francisco Symphony. December 21, 1944 – April 22, 2026 (age 81)



Joshua Robison – Manager, educator, arts advocate, and longtime partner and guiding force behind Michael Tilson Thomas. May 13, 1946 – February 22, 2026 (age 79)



Doris Fisher – Businesswoman, philanthropist, art patron, and co-founder of Gap Inc. 1931 – May 2026 (age 94)



Donlyn Lyndon – Architect, educator, and architect best known for work at The Sea Ranch on the Sonoma Coast. January 7, 1936 – April 5, 2026 (age 90)



Ronald Chase - Artist, photographer, filmmaker, projection designer, educator, and founder of the San Francisco Art & Film Program. 1934 – December 20, 2024 (age 90)



Huntly Gordon (Pope Dementia the Last) – Activist, community leader, member of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and co-founder of Art & Film. 1934 – 2026 (age 91)

Questions?



Answering the Call, Monica Magtoto, 2019

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