

Community Investments  
FY25 Arts Impact Endowment (AIE)  
Funding Channel: Sustaining Ongoing Initiatives (SOI)  
Individual Artist Grantees



Grantee Name Pronouns	Grant Amount	Project Summary
<b>Afrologic</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support completion of the documentary, Afrologic: Black healing from Zimbabwe to the Bay, costs to apply to film festivals, merchandise and marketing materials to promote the documentary, & to host 5 film screenings with panel discussions and community sound baths at SF community centers, universities, and libraries.
<b>Andrea Horne</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support Andrea Horne's publication of the series How Black Transgender Women Changed the World. Additionally, two public events will be held: one, a participatory exploration of transgender history, stories, and culture focused on preserving transgender experience in San Francisco; the other, a book launch featuring a spoken word and musical performance by Andrea. These events engage audiences to contribute to living historical memory, honoring transgender history.
<b>Angela Han</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support an ongoing multidisciplinary initiative called, "Realms of Courage: Celebrating Asian Women Composers," that amplifies fifteen contemporary composers. Angela Han will continue to advance the visibility and recognition of these phenomenal composers through visual art, written reflections, and educational programming. This programming includes dynamic panel discussions that highlight the composers' music and lived experiences.

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<b>Caroline Julia Cabading</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support "Manilatown Ancestral," a pre-colonial Philippine music program led by Caroline Julia Cabading. Offering free monthly beginner workshops, weekly advanced classes, and community performances throughout San Francisco, this program highlights music from the Maguindanao, Maranao, Teduray, Tausug, and Kalinga ethnolinguistic groups. Manilatown Ancestral will provide cultural education and hands-on instruction, fostering connections to Philippine heritage and enriching San Francisco's appreciation of traditional world music forms.
<b>David R. Molina</b> he/him/his Fiscal Sponsor (Brava for Women in the Arts)	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the development of ACT 2 of the multimedia concert "The Long Walk Home: A Mayan Family's Journey In Search of Refuge", (TLWH). It continues the true story of an indigenous family who fled violence in Guatemala; survived a dangerous journey to the USA, kidnapping in Mexico, separation in U.S. detention centers; and their miraculous reunification, and talent as a professional clown troupe.
<b>Emmanuel David Blackwell III</b> he/him/his	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to sustain my ongoing initiative to emerge as a leader in the vibrant arts community by providing a truly unique experience via an affordable subscription model for 35mm film as well as supporting photographers by offering approachable analog photo lab services and education. Funding will help provide a solution to the cost-entry barrier associated with film photography, expand community-impact, and continue to promote equity across artistic disciplines.

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<b>Kim Requesto</b> she series & they series	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support "Pangalay Circle: Philippine Dance in the Diaspora", a workshop series focused on pre-colonial and folkloric Philippine dances, culminating in a vibrant community celebration with dialogues and performances. These workshops connect participants with experienced practitioners, fostering cultural exchange and a deeper appreciation for traditional dance forms. The final community gathering serves as a space to celebrate heritage, showcase collective learning, and honor the rich traditions passed down through generations.
<b>Michael Gene Sullivan</b> he/him/his Fiscal Sponsor (San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company)	\$25,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the creation of an original musical drama about a Black family trying to protect their home in the Western Addition district of San Francisco during the "urban renewal" of the 1950's and 1960's, overlapped with a contemporary story of a Black family attempting to buy that same home during today's wave of tech gentrification. The musical drama will be open to all.
<b>MS WHITE 1ST LADY OF FRISCO</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support San Francisco artists and community members with performing arts workforce development training, technical assistance and continued live performance platforms. These funds will benefit historically underserved communities, including for example African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans, and other communities who have historically faced a lack of music programming offerings. Providing opportunities to become educated, grow and expand within the music entertainment industry.

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<b>Rhea Joseph</b> she/her/hers	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support Poolside Poets, a Tenderloin public series blending poetry, music, and dance to showcase diverse voices. The project trains artists to hold creative leadership positions through its rotating host/curator program. Each month, 15 artists perform themed work for an audience of 50-75 people. Funds secure artist payments for 24 events and the publication of a Poolside Poets Anthology, set for Spring 2026.
<b>Rhodesa Jones</b> she/her/hers Fiscal Sponsor (Brava for Women in the Arts)	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support creating a base for The Medea Project's healing performance work, which centers women who currently or have previously experienced significant trauma, such as HIV, incarceration, addiction, and mental illness. Funding will enable securing a physical space for meeting/ rehearsing, ensure the continuation of community workshops, leadership development within the company, and pay for founder / director Rhodesa Jones, and the core members who are teacher - facilitators. Even though this work centers women, all are welcome regardless of gender identity.
<b>Susan Terence</b> she series & they series Fiscal Sponsor (Friends of School of the Art Foundation)	\$50,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support writing sessions for over 900 SFUSD students who will be guided in creating visual arts projects to accompany their poems and Poetry/Art public workshops for over 250 participants at SF libraries on the theme of appreciation for reading, writing, poetry, books and libraries. Students' poetry/visual arts projects on families, social justice, and books will be displayed at SF Art Museums and SF public libraries.

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<b>William Rhodes</b> he/him/his	\$50,000	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the creation of a children’s book based on my Hunters Point Shipyard History Quilt Project. This book will feature stories and artwork about the Hunters Point Shipyard’s significance to Bayview’s Black community, connecting young readers with their local history. Working with historian Stacey Carter, I’ll incorporate historic documents and contextual narratives. This funding supports the preservation of these important cultural stories for future San Franciscans.</p>
<b>Yayoi Kambara</b> she series & they series	\$50,000	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the local, yearly performances of IKKAI means once: a transplanted pilgrimage and showing of Out of the Dust film for Day of Remembrance of Japanese American Incarceration During World War II during the grant period. Yayoi Kambara will present these performances and the film to all San Franciscans, including the Japanese Americans communities which is the ecosystem that supports them.</p>

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Anne Bluethenthal and Dancers (AKA Skywatchers)	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission Funds will be used to support Skywatchers' ongoing arts engagement/performance work with Tenderloin residents, creating rigorous, experimental artworks that speak to the social, cultural, and physical identity of the neighborhood. Skywatchers artists will co-create "Calling Us In", a collaboration with guest choreographer Sarah Crowell in partnership with Glide, exploring radical inclusion and community accountability from the front lines of our most intractable crises.
Audium Incorporated	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the continuation of Audium's Residency Program, which provides Bay Area artists from underrepresented communities with paid opportunities to create and perform spatial sound compositions. Resulting performances expose audiences to new voices with socially-imperative messages and spark dialogue around community experience. Funds will be used to pay nine local artists and support the wages of the staff members who make the program possible.
Brava for Women in the Arts	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support Brava's Artists-in-Residence and Presenting programs and celebrate the 100th anniversary of our historic theater. These programs provide abundant multi-year support for local artists including performance and rehearsal space, production management, grant and fiscal sponsorship services, and a permanent home to create within and beyond Brava's walls. Brava will use the funds to pay Artists fees, productions costs and facility expenses related to these cornerstone programs.

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Fictional Artists Contemporary Theatre San Francisco (FACTSF)	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the creation and performance of a contemporary dance diptych choreographed by Charles Slender-White, two iterations of FACT/SF's annual Summer Dance Festival, two iterations of FACT/SF's Winter Dance Salon, and seven Production Support Grants. Together, these activities will engage and support the work of 55 contemporary dance artists and reach more than 2,400 audience members via 32 performances across San Francisco.
Fresh Meat Productions	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the 25th Anniversary and 26th annual FRESH MEAT FESTIVALS of transgender and queer performance, in June 2026 and 2027, at Z Space in San Francisco. These events will be open to all. SFAC funds will also support our festival's annual FRESH WORKS! commissioning program. Each year, Fresh Meat Productions will award 5 commissions to artists, presenting the world premieres of these commissioned works at our 2026 and 2027 Festivals.
San Francisco Mime Troupe	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the San Francisco Mime Troupe's community-based theater programs, ensuring fair wages for local artists and covering essential production costs. This support will allow us to continue delivering free, socially relevant performances and workshops across San Francisco's neighborhoods, empowering marginalized voices and fostering community dialogue. By keeping our artists thriving, this grant secures our ability to serve as an enduring cultural force within the city.



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<b>Shakespeare-San Francisco</b>	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support Shakespeare-San Francisco's arts programming actively serving diverse communities across the city and supporting equitable employment for local artists through: Free Shakespeare in the Park, Shakespeare on Tour, Shakespeare's Heartbeat in SFUSD special day classes, Paid Internship Programs providing youth hands on training and mentorship; Shakespeare Camps with subsidized tuition for students in need; and Shakespeare for All Neighbors storytelling workshops in the Tenderloin community.
<b>Stagewrite: Building Literacy through Theatre</b> Fiscal Sponsor (Intersection for the Arts)	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support StageWrite's multi-year partnerships with San Francisco public elementary schools, building on years of successful integrated theatre and literacy residency programs. Funding will support StageWrite's artist mentorship program, with outreach efforts including outreach to BIPOC teaching artists to ensure they are aware of this opportunity and support our annual culminating events celebrating students' creativity with a professionally-produced performance and published anthologies of original student writing to be shared with the public, honoring students' voice and vision.
<b>Support for Intertribal Gatherings</b> Fiscal Sponsor (Independent Arts & Media)	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support, Support for Intertribal Gatherings (SIG's) ongoing initiatives with Ohlone/Chumash, Miwok, and Pomo dance groups. The endowment will sustain two "Big-Time" dance festivals in the Presidio, a fish blessing ceremony at Fort Funston, two intertribal water-song cycles on the Bay and the community outreach that drives these events. These events will be open to all. Our goal is to strengthen young dance leaders as tribal elders pass on and secure Indigenous presence here in the cultural capital of our region.



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The Lab SF	\$100,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support The Lab's multidisciplinary living-wage-based commissioning and residency program, providing 1-3 artists annually with significant funds (\$20K-\$150K each), quality of life benefits, time, space, and the option to reconfigure aspects of the organization's operating model. Since 2014, this program has provided over \$1,000,000 to more than a dozen artists, and fast-tracked the careers for a variety of artists including BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and female artists.