

Community Investments  
 FY24 Arts Impact Endowment (AIE) Project-Based Initiative  
 Individual Artist Support Grantees



Grantee Name	Grant Amount	Project Summary
<p>Arturo Mendez-Reyes he/they</p> <p>Fiscal Sponsor: Acción Latina</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the production of the Arts.Co.Lab Arts-Expo-Market 2024 and 2025, a space for connection, collaboration, and celebration.</p> <p>Each Arts-Expo-Market will host 60 artists participating in an intentional and collaborative space, showcasing their projects, selling their artwork, accessing new markets, producing work samples and headshots, and injecting funds directly into the local creative economy.</p> <p>We envision our first event on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at Potrero del Sol.</p>
<p>John Leños he/him/we/our</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support "Junipero Serra's Mission" (working title), a three-part animated documentary that both illuminates Indigenous perspectives and challenges prevailing narratives of California's settler-colonial legacy. Centering Native oral traditions, scholarly research, and personal narratives, the series navigates the profound cultural transitions from pre-settler eras to the tumult of the Mission system and Gold Rush, underscoring the resilience and futurity of California Indian communities.</p>
<p>Kathy L. Nguyen She/her/hers</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support my book project, a novel based on my family's journey from Vietnam to San Francisco after decades of colonialism and war. It draws from my family's experiences in refugee camps in the Philippines, Guam, and Camp Pendleton at the end of the war. It tells the story of a Vietnamese family and their struggles to rebuild their lives in America, where they face racism and discrimination.</p>

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<p>Michael Warr he/him/his</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the poetry and photography project “Black in San Francisco.” I will write poems in response to Polaroids of family life in San Francisco taken by my father and mother. I will juxtapose their photos in an exhibition with my contemporary digital photography captured, when possible, in the same spots they snapped their Polaroids - like McClaren Park. I will recite the poems at the opening.</p>
<p>Panda Dulce she/her/he/him</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the film production costs of my Sundance-supported, 2023 SF Indie award-winning short narrative screenplay: “After What Happened at the Library.” Last June, far-right extremists stormed my Drag Story Hour at San Lorenzo Public Library, making viral news. This short film recounts that experience. It will serve as proof-of-concept for my forthcoming debut feature film. This short film will be exhibited at an SF “Screening &amp; Artist Talkback” Public Event.</p>
<p>Rizal Dinglasan he/him</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the creation, development, production, and marketing of “Mermaid in Saint Malo,” an impactful full-length play. Set in 1800s Saint Malo, Louisiana, it unveils a dark secret: the sale of mermaid eggs on the black market. This gripping narrative directly confronts the harrowing realities of human trafficking, illuminating its disturbing parallels with the Filipino American experience, both in conscious and subconscious acceptance of self.</p>

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Sean Dorsey he/him	\$50,000	<p>San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support the creation, development and premiere of my new full-length dance-theater work, THE JOY CHRONICLES.</p> <p>Created through participatory community residencies, THE JOY CHRONICLES investigates and embodies transgender, gender-nonconforming and queer joy, disrupting fatalistic constructs that deny trans and queer folks the space to find/feel/embody joy in America. Performed by Sean Dorsey Dance, the work will premiere at San Francisco's Z Space in September 2025.</p>