

# MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Information Session February 19, 2021 12:00 PM

Thank you all for attending this information session about the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee.

We will start with a 20-minute presentation, followed by a Q&A. If you have any technical issues, please put them into the chat and type "**ALYSSA**" at the beginning of your message to alert our technical support staff.

If you have a question about the content of the presentation, please type "**ASIF**" at the beginning of your question to alert our Q&A facilitator. Content questions will be answered during the facilitated Q&A.

*We Will Walk Right Up  
to the Sun, 2019 by  
Sarah Cain.  
SFO, AirTrain Station*



# Directive from Mayor London N. Breed

“If we are going to make real change, let’s do the work with our impacted communities to make that change. To do that, I have asked the Arts Commission, the Human Rights Commission, and the Recreation and Parks Department and its Commission to work with the community to evaluate our public art and its intersection with our country’s racist history so that we can move forward together to make real changes in this City. Who and what we honor through our public art can and should reflect our values.”



# San Francisco's Civic Art Collection

San Francisco's earliest art policies date back to the establishment of the Arts Commission under the 1932 San Francisco Charter. The Charter gave the Arts Commission jurisdiction over all of the art belonging to the City and charged the Agency with the preservation and care of artwork in the Civic Art Collection.

Approximately 4,000 artworks in the collection covering a broad range of media – large scale public monuments, WPA era murals, contemporary 2% for art installations, tech-based artworks, 2-D paintings, works on paper, photographs, ceramics, textiles, and jewelry.

There are approximately 98 Monuments & Memorials in the Civic Art Collection, defined for the purposes of this review as artworks that were created with the intent of honoring either a person or an event. This working list can be found on our website, and a link is listed in the Monuments & Memorials FAQ.

*Lotta's Fountain, 1875. Market Street at Kearney.*



# Monuments & Memorials Advisory Committee (MMAC) Scope of Work

The screenshot shows the homepage of the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC). At the top, there is a navigation bar with the SFAC logo and links for "OUR ROLE & IMPACT", "FIND OPPORTUNITIES", "EXPERIENCE ART", and "GET INVOLVED". Below the navigation bar is a large video player showing a hip-hop dance performance by the Loyalty Dance Team. Below the video, there is a section titled "INFORMATION FOR:" with links for Artists, Nonprofits, Residents & Visitors, Arts Education, Murals, and Grantees. At the bottom, there is a section for "50 Years of Pride" with a photo of a parade and a text box that reads: "At this important time in our country, the San Francisco Arts Commission is looking at ways to examine the monuments in our city. We are pleased to be launching the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee to hold discussions with the community to help ensure that our public art reflects the values of the City and the diverse communities we serve. If you are interested in applying to be on the committee, please click here for more detail and for the link to the application."

The screenshot shows the "Frequently Asked Questions" page on the SFAC website. The page has a navigation bar with the SFAC logo and links for "OUR ROLE & IMPACT", "FIND OPPORTUNITIES", "EXPERIENCE ART", and "GET INVOLVED". Below the navigation bar is a list of links for various resources: "COVID-RELATED ARTS AND CULTURE RESOURCES", "SF MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND FAQ", "AFFORDABILITY PROGRAMS", "ARTS EDUCATION DIRECTORY", "BECOMING A CITY SUPPLIER", "WHERE ART LIVES CURRICULUM", "ART IN STOREFRONTS TOOLKIT", "ARTS FUNDING RESOURCES", and "REPORTS & DOCUMENTS". The main content area features a section titled "Monuments and Memorials in the Civic Art Collection: Application to Join the Advisory Committee Now Available" with a sub-header "UPDATED 2/11/2021". Below this is a paragraph of text: "The San Francisco Arts Commission is seeking qualified candidates to participate in the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee (MMAC), a body that will host hearings with community members and establish the criteria and guidelines by which to determine the future of historic monuments in the City's art collection. This initiative is a partnership between the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC), the Human Rights Commission (HRC) and the Recreation and Park Department (RECPARK). The MMAC's charge is to examine the history of monuments in the public realm in San Francisco, the individuals, events and ideals they venerate, and how the narratives associated with these monuments align—or do not—with San Francisco's values today. This advisory body will focus their research on the monuments and memorials within the Civic Art Collection." Below the text is a list of links: "Cover Memo", "Scope of Work for the Advisory Committee (which details the expertise required for the committee, its time commitment and compensation)", "Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee FAQ", and "Application Link". At the bottom, there is a paragraph: "The deadline for the application is Monday, March 1, 2021, 11:59 p.m. There will be an information session for applicants on Friday, February 19, 2021, 12 - 1 p.m. To register for the information session, click on this link."

# MMAC Scope of Work

ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S CHARGE: Develop and recommend San Francisco's guidelines and criteria for evaluating existing monuments and memorials on public property. Create a recommendations report and plan for handling the City's historic monuments.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: *Director of Cultural Affairs for the San Francisco Arts Commission, General Manager of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, Executive Director of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: A body of approximately 11-15 individuals that includes three co-chairs. Composition will be a combination of appointed seats and approved applicants.

EXPECTATIONS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Advisory Committee members can expect a time commitment of approximately 40 hours over the course of 4 months. This is subject to change, since we cannot anticipate the nature, depth or duration of the committee's conversations or engagement with the community. A stipend of \$500 will be provided to Advisory Committee members (as allowed by law) to help compensate for their time.

Currently proposed Advisory Committee virtual meeting structure:

1. Committee orientation and review of proposed criteria and monument list.
2. Finalize and adopt draft criteria for the evaluation of the existing monuments in the Civic Art Collection.
3. Public Engagement meetings (minimum of 3) to share criteria for monument or memorial disposition and collect public comments.
4. Review public comments and adopt final criteria. Apply this information to prioritize and evaluate a sub-set of monuments from the existing list as a case-study.
5. Apply evaluation criteria to identified monuments for final recommendations report. Report (including criteria and recommendations) to be released after final meeting.

# MMAC Application Details

Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee application can be found here: <https://sfac.tfaforms.net/100>.

Application Deadline: March 1 @ 11:59PM PST

*Portals of the Past, 1909. Golden Gate Park.*



# MMAC Application

**Name \***

**Street Address \***

**City \***

**State \***

**Zip Code \***

**Phone Number \***

**Email \***

**Please explain why you are applying to be a member of this Advisory Committee. In your response, you may address any or all of the following, in relation to historical monuments/memorials: your personal relationship to them, how you think about or engage with them, how your community has been impacted or affected by them and any other relevant personal background (300-word limit). \***

Please complete the following sentences by selecting all responses that apply to you.

*I have deep knowledge of: \**

- aesthetic critique.
- art history.
- public art.
- the history of California.
- the history of San Francisco.
- the intersection of fine arts and racial justice.
- none of the above.

*I have a strong connection to: \**

- an arts or a cultural organization.
- one or more of San Francisco's Cultural Districts.
- the American Indian arts community in San Francisco.
- the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) arts community in San Francisco.
- the Black diaspora arts community in San Francisco.
- the Latinx arts community in San Francisco.
- the Ramaytush Ohlone community in San Francisco.
- none of the above.

*I have a high level of skill and/or experience in: \**

- arts and racial justice advocacy.
- historic preservation.
- neighborhood beautification.
- racial justice philanthropy.
- the San Francisco tourism sector.
- none of the above.

Please describe how your knowledge sets, connections, skills/experiences and/or relevant affiliations (particularly in relation to the categories you selected above) have prepared you to be a collaborative and contributing member of this Advisory Committee (300-word limit). \*

If you would like to upload a resume/CV in support of your application, please do so here. Submitting a resume/CV is optional. Uploaded documents should be no more than three (3) pages, and should be in DOC, DOCX or PDF format.

No file selected.

We anticipate that each Advisory Committee member will undertake approximately 40 hours of work over a 4-month period (which includes meeting attendance), beginning in April 2021. These details are subject to change. Meeting times and dates will be announced with appropriate notice, and members will receive a \$500 stipend for their involvement. Are you able to commit to preparing for, attending and participating in all meetings? \*

- Yes
- No



# MMAC Selection Process

The MMAC will be a selected group of individuals that collectively reflect the full range of expertise required of the overall committee. Committee members will need to meet at least one of the criteria listed in the scope of work document in order to participate, and all 15 criteria points need to be met by the group's composition as a whole. Individual members may satisfy more than one criteria point.

The process of selection will be similar to our selection process for panelists on other public panels held by the Arts Commission.

Applications will be reviewed initially by Arts Commission staff to see that they meet at least one criteria point detailed in the scope of work. In reviewing text responses, possible considerations will be:

- Does the applicant's response illustrate a serious interest in, and understanding of, the charge of the MMAC?
- Does the applicant's response supply relevant personal background that supports their interest in participating on the MMAC?
- How well does the applicant's response qualitatively support their self-selected knowledge sets, connections, skills/experiences and relevant affiliations?
- How well does the applicant's response express an interest in and/or experience with collaborative decision making?

Proposed committee composition will be reviewed by our city partners at the Human Rights Commission and the Recreation and Parks Department.

Committee composition will then be acknowledged and approved by the three Co-Chairs.

# MMAC Consultant Search

In addition to building the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee, The Arts Commission will be placing a separate call out for an independent consultant to assist with logistical administration of the committee as well as facilitation of the robust community outreach process this committee is charged with undertaking.

If you are interested in this work or have recommendations, please reach out to the Arts Commission via email at [art-info@sfgov.org](mailto:art-info@sfgov.org)

# Q & A

If you have a question about the content of the presentation, please use the chat function and type "ASIF" at the beginning of your question to alert our Q&A facilitator.

If you have further questions, please email SFAC staff: [art-info@sfgov.org](mailto:art-info@sfgov.org)

A “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) lives on our website: [www.sfartscommission.org](http://www.sfartscommission.org) and will be updated as information develops.

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