The San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) is the City agency that champions the arts. We believe that a creative cultural environment is essential to the City’s well-being. Established by charter in 1932, the SFAC integrates the arts into all aspects of city life. To learn more about our programs and services visit: sfartscommission.org.

FISCAL YEAR 2011-12 HIGHLIGHTS District 3

Get Involved

Join our network
Follow us to get the latest information on our programs and events along with information about art happenings in the community.

Facebook.com/sfartscommission
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Donate to ArtCare
San Francisco is home to a remarkable Civic Art Collection. Comprised of over 4,000 objects worth in excess of $93 million, the Collection includes such treasures as the Coit Tower murals, sculptures by Beniamino Bufano, Lotta’s Fountain and hundreds of contemporary artworks commissioned through the City’s Public Art Program. Due to the City’s budget challenges, this one-of-a-kind collection has been historically underfunded. ArtCare provides a vehicle for the public to get involved by supporting the care and maintenance of this collection for future generations. To learn more or to make a donation, visit sfartscommission.org/artcare.

Arts and culture-inspired tourism contributes $1.7 billion to the local economy.
— Research prepared for the San Francisco Travel Association by Destination Analysts, Inc.

In the City and County of San Francisco, arts and culture organizations support approximately 19,744 full-time equivalent jobs and $508.9 million in household income to local residents.
— 2012 Arts & Economic Prosperity Report

Supporting Arts in Your Neighborhood

In the fall, the Arts Commission rededicated Man Lin Choi’s 1982 sculpture Movement: The First 100 Years, also known as the Korean Monument, in Sue Bierman Park. With funds from the Recreation & Parks Department, the sculpture was conserved and relocated to a more visible and accessible location in the park.

StreetSmARTS is a joint program of the SFAC and Department of Public Works aimed at combatting graffiti by pairing urban artists with private property owners. Through the program, 250 Joice Street, once the target of taggers, is now the site of a beautiful mural by artist Wes Wong.

The new Chinese Recreation Center features two permanent public artworks by San Francisco-based artists: Shan Shan Sheng created a suspended installation of Chinese calligraphy for the lobby and Colette Crutcher designed a rich mosaic mural for the playground featuring an array of traditional Chinese kites.

Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco (c-c-c.org) received two grants: $18,000 for a renovation to augment and enhance its exhibition space and $10,688 for its exhibition Now is the Moment for Ink: Contemporary Chinese Ink Painting in America, which will open in September 2012.

Lenora Lee Dance (lenoraleedance.com) was awarded two grants: $10,000 to partner with Cameron House and Kei Lun Martial Arts to explore ways in which the company can play a role in strengthening the Chinatown community through creative expression, cultural retention and community healing and $15,700 to support its 2012-2013 Organizational Dance Development Initiative.
Lily Cai (lilycaidance.org) received a $8,100 grant to support the creation and development phases of “What I See, What I Feel,” a theatrical piece that examines American life through the eyes of a Chinese immigrant.

An $11,850 grant will support the Center for the Art of Translation’s (catranslation.org) “Two Voices” a reading series spotlighting international writers and translators presenting literature from around the world in a variety of media including video and podcasts.

$25,000 was awarded to artist and activist Mary Jean Robertson to support her continued partnership with Ohlone tribal leaders on educational programs and cultural events and a $13,500 grant will help Ohlone Profiles Project (ohloneprofiles.org) hire an Artistic Director to oversee major Ohlone ceremonies.

Kearny Street Workshop (kearnystreet.org) was awarded $11,250 to support its 40th anniversary presentation of a five-month-long visual art exhibition, interdisciplinary performance showcase, a multi-genre literary reading, a town hall meeting, and the development of online content.

A $9,500 grant was awarded to Francis Wong (franciswong.net) to create “Executive Order: For John Miyoshi,” a performance piece featuring an ensemble cast.

Jon Jang (jonjang.com) received $9,500 to compose “Bright Moments! A Tribute to the Keystone Korner Legacy from Rahsaan Roland Kirk to Todd Barkan” that will be performed by the SFJAZZ High School All-Stars Combo.

Composer Weishan Liu (guzheng.org) was granted $7,700 to create a new musical piece that combines Chinese culture, poetry and music from the Tang and Song dynasties for the guzheng and vocal performance to be presented in May 2013.

With an $11,850 grant, Charming Hostess (charminghostess.us) will produce “The Ginzburg Geography”, a performance based on the lives and works of Natalia and Leone Ginzburg that will include a series of sonic maps that track themes in the Ginzburgs’ lives and in the lives of each audience member.

A $12,750 grant was awarded to San Francisco Playhouse (sfplayhouse.org) to support the administrative and facility planning required to move into a new state-of-the-art, 160-250-seat theater in San Francisco.

The Chinese Historical Society of America (chsa.org) received a $100,000 grant to support a major fundraising campaign designed to raise $1 million, which will go towards replenishing its operating reserve and creating Development Director and Program Director staff positions.