



under the dome

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City Hall Building Management
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A City Hall Building Management newsletter created specifically for City employees

Dear Tenants:

Welcome to the latest edition of Under the Dome!

As we celebrate Labor Day, we recognize the end of summer, although most of us know that summer in San Francisco really comes during these next two months. Traditionally, September and October offer us the warm and sunny weather we need to get out and do the things we had been meaning to do all summer!

What really signals the end of summer is when department and drug stores start bringing out Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations in September! Even as we try to enjoy one holiday at a time, we continue to get rushed into the next one. So, let's resist the rush and try to enjoy the rest of our San Francisco summer!

This issue has some terrific tips and helpful hints meant to help you enjoy the last few months before "the holidays" begin.

Please enjoy this latest edition and remember that your suggestions and comments are always welcome!

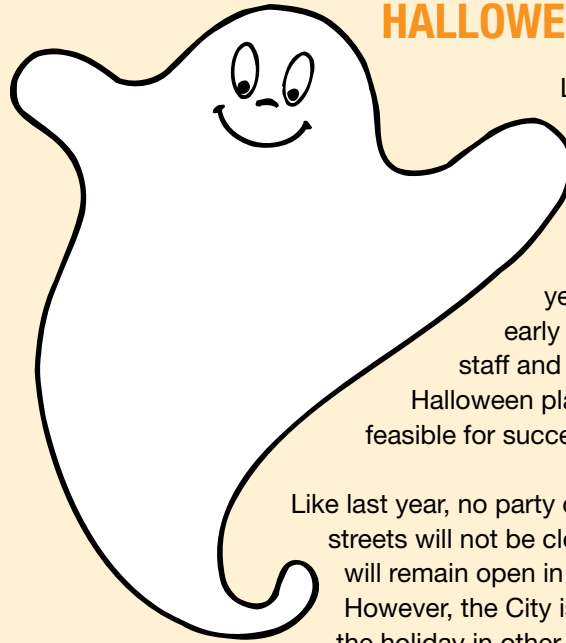
Have Fun!

Lori Mazzola
BUILDING SERVICES SUPERVISOR
CITY HALL BUILDING MANAGEMENT

We Welcome your Feedback!

*City employees can send
Under the Dome questions
and suggestions to
Lori.Mazzola@sfgov.org*

HALLOWEEN 2008



Last year, after a successful campaign to maintain safety and tranquility in the Castro district on Halloween, the City gave the Entertainment Commission the opportunity to hire a new Events Manager to handle this year's event. Laura Fraenza started in early June and has been working with EC staff and other City departments to create a Halloween plan that is not only safe and fun but also feasible for success in a short period of time.

Like last year, no party or event is planned in the Castro and streets will not be closed to traffic. Bars and restaurants will remain open in the neighborhood on October 31st. However, the City is actively promoting ways to celebrate the holiday in other San Francisco districts. Neighborhood restaurants, clubs, and businesses are being urged to take advantage of the fact that Halloween is on a Friday night this year and to run special promotions around the holiday: such as creating specialty cocktails, handing out giveaways, and running buy-one-get-one-free dinner specials – creativity is the key!

Halloween is for everyone and should be celebrated in all neighborhoods. The gloriously festive Halloween celebrations of years past have simply outgrown the Castro. Castro & Market and the surrounding neighborhoods are no longer an appropriate venue for crowds in excess of 100,000 people. Last year, the City Family and Mayor Newsom's office got the message loud and clear: keep Castro safe and help to disperse Halloween throughout other neighborhoods and regional communities. This year, the effort continues, and with everyone's support, October 31st can indeed be a day for celebrations that are fun, festive, and respectful.

One new addition to this year's planning will take place on Halloween night! This new base for revelers is being assembled by a consortium of Bay Area arts organizations and promoters who are working to bring a fun and safe Halloween to San Francisco. More specifics about this event will be announced in coming weeks.

San Franciscans are encouraged to get ready for something fabulous and to celebrate Halloween as they support their local businesses and communities. For the latest information on all Halloween related events, please visit www.homeforhalloween.com.





Kids in the Hall

Did you know that tucked away in a quiet corner of City Hall is the Marin Day Schools/City Hall Campus? The three contiguous classrooms in the main center serve children from 12 months to 3 years, while “seniors” (up to age 5) occupy their own special classroom across the hall. Marin Day Schools opened the City Hall Campus in 1999 as part of the renovation of City Hall.

The Center is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30am to 6:00pm. San Francisco City and County employees receive enrollment priority, but community members are also welcome. With funding from DCYF, the Center provides tuition assistance to the children of eligible City and County employees.

Throughout the year we hold many fun events with the children and their families, such as a Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday celebration and peace march, Lunar New Year celebration with Lion Dancers, Trick-or-Treating in City Hall, and a Holiday Sing-A-Long. We hope you will join us for some of our festive events! For more information about the Center, please contact the center director, Barbara Piper at 415-554-7560 or bpiper@marindayschools.org.



Barbara Piper, Director and Kathleen Mangan, Assistant Director



THE CLEAN TEAM

In May 2008, the City Hall Custodial Department was the proud recipient of **S.F. Weekly's "Best of San Francisco 2008"** award for **BEST PUBLIC BATHROOMS!**

This award, which was unsolicited, has been bestowed upon the City's Crown Jewel for “impeccably clean bathrooms with an abundant supply of good quality paper products.”

While this award is not given annually, the recognition from the community is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to all those involved in maintaining the bathrooms and for their part in achieving this award.

Meet and Greet! Christine Munday

Let's welcome **CHRISTINE MUNDAY** to City Hall! Christine just began working for the San Francisco Film Commission and we asked her a few questions.

Q: Are you new to working for the city?

A: Yes. This is my first position with the City. I started working here in the beginning of May.

Q: What did you do prior to working for the Film Commission?

A: I worked for Industrial Light and Magic in their production department.

Q: Did you get to work on anything our readers would be familiar with?

A: Yes, I have worked on several movies, including *Mission Impossible 3*, the fifth *Harry Potter* installment, and most recently, I got to work on *Iron Man*.





Cool Globes

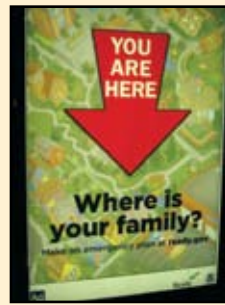
Have you come into the building on Goodlett and noticed the two large globes on either side of the stairs? If you haven't, walk slower...for those who have seen them, they are part of the 'Cool Globes' project which came to San Francisco this August.

The Cool Globes project was created with the idea that public art could be used to educate people about potential solutions to global warming. Cool Globes is public art with a purpose – to increase awareness about and motivate people to implement simple solutions in their day-to-day lives to help combat global warming.

City Hall is just one location where the Cool Globes are residing, with the majority being displayed in the Crissy Field Promenade, from August 5th to October 13th. An official grand opening celebration took place at Crissy Field on August 5th, which included the founder of Cool Globes, Wendy Abrams, the Executive Director of the Sierra Club, Carl Pope, and Mayor Gavin Newsom.

To find out more about the project, visit www.coolglobes.com.

NERT



Have you given much thought to how you will help protect yourself, your family, and possibly, your neighbors when the next big earthquake hits San Francisco? It is not a matter of “if,” but of “when.” The best insurance that you can not even purchase is to be prepared. San Francisco Fire Department offers free training in emergency preparedness through its NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) program.

What is the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training program? It is designed and instructed by professional firefighters to benefit individuals in personal preparedness. This series of sessions provides the knowledge and skills to: get personally prepared, use a fire extinguisher; turn off utilities; apply disaster medicine; conduct light search and rescue safely; and react in a natural or human-made disaster or emergency.

Emphasis is placed on the usefulness of these skills in any emergency, not just the “Big One”. The program teaches participants to work in teams to assist in their neighborhoods and the City at large if they choose. The most important aspect is personal preparedness.

Following a disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet all of the demand. People will have to rely on each other to meet their immediate and sometimes life saving needs. In the spirit of people helping people, every one of us will become a First Responder. In 2006, a Bay Guardian editor named NERT training the “Best Six-Week Superhero Lessons...the classes are a good way to meet your neighbors – and let them know you’ve got their backs.”



Being prepared for disaster takes forethought. Training is very beneficial. But if you do nothing else, do these three things — prepare an emergency supply kit, make a family reunification plan and determine an out-of-state contact — that would be a great first step.

A typical NERT volunteer is not one type. Everyone can benefit from NERT training. Graduates report feeling empowered, more prepared and less fearful. The highlight is the interactive hands on component.

The schedule is flexible and the locations vary throughout the City to maximize access for those who live and work in San Francisco.

Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdner or call (415) 970-2022 for a schedule and curriculum.



Mike's Movie Review

The Dark Knight comes to the Metreon IMAX



San Francisco's Metreon on Mission and 4th street houses shops and restaurants, but is probably best known for its AMC Loews movie theater featuring one of the only IMAX theaters in the Bay Area. Showcasing movies such as *Spiderman 3*, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, and most recently *The Dark Knight*, IMAX theaters bring movies to patrons in a whole new way. What makes the IMAX format so great you

may ask? IMAX (short for Image MAXimum) is a film format created by Canada's IMAX Corporation that has the capacity to display images of far greater size and resolution than conventional film display systems. A standard IMAX screen is 22 meters (72 ft) wide and 16.1 meters (53 ft) high, but can be larger. Additionally, IMAX theaters have the capability to present movies in 3D, and soon in Digital 3D.

This format lends itself exceedingly well to *The Dark Knight*, Director Christopher Nolan's follow up to *Batman Begins*. This film was made for IMAX, literally. Being shot in an IMAX format and displayed on a screen the size of a 5 story building makes you feel like you're right there in the action. Stunningly directed and full of non-stop action, *The Dark Knight* delivers on all fronts.

Christian Bale excels in his role as the caped crusader, an all too human character at war with his own conscience. The battle between his two egos over whether his actions are doing more harm than good, ultimately forces

him to endure the hatred of a city he's trying to save from the depths of chaos. Beginning the movie as the loved vigilante of Gotham City, Batman truly becomes the Dark Knight by its end doing what no one else can, preserving the hope of the city and gaining its disdain in the process.

The true star of this movie, however, is Heath Ledger. In what came to be his final performance, Ledger gives us a Joker unlike any we've ever seen. While Jack Nicholson gave us the comedic interpretation of this role, Ledger gives us the truly demented agent of chaos the Joker was intended to be. Cold, calculating, and comical, Ledger manages to accurately portray the Joker's thirst for destruction all while keeping a smile on his face.

While sequels often pale in comparison to original films, *The Dark Knight* surpasses *Batman Begins* on almost all levels. It's truly worth seeing on any screen, but if you have the chance, experience this film the way it was meant to be seen, at IMAX.



GREEN CORNER

Great News! As part of the City contract, and in accordance with the Green San Francisco vision, Office Depot picks up and recycles ALL used Toner cartridges and bottles, free of charge! All you need to do is to box up the used bottles or cartridges and give them to the Office Depot representative during your next delivery. All brands, models, and makes are accepted! So before you throw away that empty toner cartridge, consider the impact it will have in the landfill and on the environment, and please, box up all empty toner bottles and cartridges for recycling!



FLEET WEEK | October 9-14

The Blue Angels are coming!! For a schedule of events and related information, please visit www.military.com/fleetweek.

FALL PLANTING GUIDE

The climate in Northern California during September and October offers the perfect time to discover your green thumb. Take a trip to the nursery and try planting some of these:

African Daisy	Delphinium	Alyssum
Canterbury Bell	Chrysanthemum	Pansy
Forget-me-not	Foxglove	Snapdragon

Fertilize your lawn in early September and do subsequent feedings about every 2 months to keep your lawn looking beautiful and healthy.

Fall and Winter vegetables should be planted now. You can plant lettuce, cauliflower, cabbage, broccoli, mustard, collards, celery, carrots, onions, garlic, radishes, and more.

Now is a good time to plant fruit trees, shade trees, and shrubs to take advantage of the Fall growing season. Trees and shrubs planted now will have a chance to become established, enabling them to take full advantage of the Spring growing period.

Many of the early spring blooming bulbs are available now for planting. Daffodils, tulips, hyacinth, crocus, alliums, watsonia, bearded iris and more are available from September through November.

Perennials should be planted now to help them naturalize so that they will bloom during their proper times next year. Some of these perennials are delphiniums, foxglove, coreopsis, myosotis, cynoglossum, and more.

The San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery

401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102 • t: 415.554.6080 • f: 415.554.6093 • www.sfacgallery.org

Insights 2008: An exhibition of works by artists who are blind or visually impaired

October 2-December 12, 2008

Opening Reception: Meet the Artists

Tuesday, October 21, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Artists: Lois Ann Barnett, Charles Curtis Blackwell, Phillip “Otiss” Brown, Mari Cardenas, George A. Covington, Martha Cowden, Kristi Dean, Annabella Denisoff, Virginia Knepper Doyle, Pete Eckert, Rosemarie Fortney, Carmelo Gannello, George Geadah, Haley Goodlett, Quin Graddy, Bobbie Gray, Felecia Griffin, Charles Grover, Susan Joy Gustafson, Sharon Haynes, Passle Helminski, Anne Hesse, Michelle Hurd, Lacey King, David Kontra, Laura Landry, Marie Lane, Sarah Levin, Sergio Lopez, Genesse Mc Gaugh, Richard Mickley, Theadora Moore, Angel Muñoz, Mari Newman, Barbara Romain, Shirley Sanchez, Tamar Solomon, Michael Sutton, John Theiss, Kurt Weston, Dona Wilson

Featured Artists: Phoebe Barkan, Bruce Hall, Michael Jameson

Mari Cardenas, Leaving, 2006

“Insights is the venue that both celebrates the work of talented artists who are blind or visually impaired and raises the general public’s awareness of visual impairment. The exhibition also sets an example for all exhibitions to follow by making the art accessible to individuals with visual impairments who attend the show.”

- Anita Shafer Aaron, Executive Director of the LightHouse



The LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery are proud to present the 19th annual **Insights 2008** juried art exhibition, with works from 45 artists who are blind or visually impaired. This year’s show is the largest to date, featuring over 100 works of photography, painting, touchable sculpture, mixed media and more. Showing in the gallery’s “Art in City Hall” program, the show emphasizes the diverse range of how people express themselves and how they see. Insights invites sighted, blind and visually impaired viewers alike to experience the artwork. Touchable sculpture, Braille and alternative format materials, as well as a full audio description including interviews with the artists offer multiple ways to engage the viewer in the art. Audio tours are provided by Acoustiguide, Inc. and Guide by Cell, which allow you to use your own cell phone or donated cell phones from AT&T.

For information on purchasing, audio tours, sponsorship and other questions, contact the LightHouse at **415-431-1481** or email insights@lighthouse-sf.org.

2008 Jurors: Renee Baldocchi, Director of Public Programs at the de Young Museum; Paul Mahder of the **Paul Mahder** Gallery and artist **Dav Pate** selected 45 artists who are blind or visually impaired from all over the Bay Area, across the U.S. and as far away as Beirut, Lebanon.

Insights 2008 is supported by the Community Arts and Education Program of the San Francisco Arts Commission, the San Francisco Foundation, Guide by Cell, Acoustiguide, Inc., Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, RL & Associates, Inc., Envision, RV Kuhns, and 7x7 Magazine.

The **LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired**, a non-profit organization, is the largest agency in Northern California to promote the independence, equality and self-reliance of people who are blind or visually impaired through rehabilitation services, advocacy and access to information and employment. For more information, call 415-431-1481, or visit www.lighthouse-sf.org.

The **San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery** makes contemporary art accessible to broad audiences through curated exhibitions that both reflect our regional diversity and position Bay Area visual art production within an international contemporary art landscape. For more information, call 415-554-6080, or visit www.sfacgallery.org.

SAFETY CORNER

CITY HALL SECURITY



In the event of **any** type of emergency, the City Hall Unit of the S.F. Sheriff’s Department requests that all building tenants call the Sheriff’s Control Room immediately after calling 911. This allows on-site personnel to respond to the incident, regardless of severity.

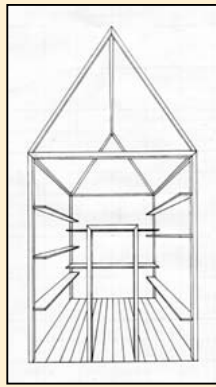
Call 911 First
THEN call
Sheriff’s Control
x4-7251
or 415-554-7251

THE SEED

A proposal for a new branch of the San Francisco Public Library

August 29 – October 18, 2008

Architect: **Jesse Schlesinger**
Urban Planning: **Jerome Waag**
Curated by: **Joyce Grimm and Justine Topfer**



The San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, in a partnership with New Langton Arts, is pleased to present **Jesse Schlesinger and Jerome Waag's** site-specific sculptural installation, ***The Seed: A proposal for a new branch of the San Francisco Public Library***, at their window installation site at 155 Grove Street.

"The project itself is a seed planted in the cultural soil of the city to be nurtured, irrigated and grown to full maturity by the San Francisco community." - Jerome Waag

Schlesinger and Waag are San Francisco-based artists who share a passion for both food and art. Their Grove Street collaboration will explore this intersection and extend the vernacular of food to social, political, economic and environmental issues. Their conceptual installation takes the form of a proposal for a new branch of the San Francisco Library dedicated to seed exchange. From the street the viewer will see an archetypal model, which will embody the essence of the proposed seed library. In Schlesinger's view the Grove Street installation "represents two potentials: a new branch of the San Francisco Public Library system devoted to a specific environmental effort, and the possibility that individual citizens will think about how art can incite social change."

"We believe seeds accomplish in the soil what words accomplish in the mind and that seeds carry stories just as complex and varied as books. Considering the resurgence of interest for urban farming and its subversion of the hierarchy culture/agriculture which has pitted the cities against the countryside"
- Jerome Waag

The Seed: A proposal for a new branch of the San Francisco Public Library will run concurrently and act as a platform for conversation with Slow Food Nation (<http://slowfoodnation.org/>). Slow Food Nation is "the largest celebration of food in America." It will take place in the Civic Center (and various other locations throughout San Francisco over Labor Day weekend (August 29 – September 1, 2008). Showcasing an extraordinary range of events; taste halls, workshops, lectures, dinners and more Slow Food Nation highlights the connection between plate and planet.

ARTISTS BIOS

Jesse Schlesinger is a visual and social practice artist residing in San Francisco. He works with a hand made aesthetic, utilizing foraged urban materials and recycled objects from which he creates sculptural dwellings. Both private and public, these dwellings explore how we inhabit and contemplate space. Currently, Schlesinger practice reveals a conversation between culture and agriculture. His work is a direct synthesis of his personal history with carpentry, eight years of experience farming with Dirty Girl Produce and a belief in the "back-to-the-land movement".

Jerome Waag is a performance artist living in San Francisco who also works as a chef at Chez Panisse restaurant in Berkeley CA. He is currently collaborating with New Langton's Arts on *OPEN* restaurant. *OPEN* restaurant is an experimental restaurant run by a collaborative of restaurant professionals as a way to explore the issues associated with the production, distribution and consumption of food. Set in an art context, it invites the creative participation of people interested in food and its politics to a discussion about the way we feed ourselves and cultivate our communities.

Events:

Celebration of Artist Project: Sunday, August 31

