



## FY2013–2014 Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships Grants

<b>RANKING</b>				
	<b>Panel Rating</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Grant Request</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
<b>1</b>	110	Anne Bluethenthal and Dancers (ABD Productions)	\$15,000	\$15,000
<b>2</b>	105	Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA)	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>3</b>	97	Au Co Vietnamese Cultural Center	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>4</b>	82	Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>5</b>	117	Chinese Progressive Association	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>6</b>	128	CounterPULSE	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>7</b>	127	Elizabeth Gjelten	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>8</b>	89	Emelle Sonh	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>9</b>	105	Hospitality House	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>10</b>	102	Jerome Reyes	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>11</b>	103	Kulintang Arts Inc.	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>12</b>	96	Navarette x Kajiyama Dance Theater	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>13</b>	109	Out of Site: Center for Arts Education	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>14</b>	107	Queer Cultural Center	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>15</b>	110	Root Division	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>16</b>	129	Small Press Traffic Literary Arts Center	\$10,000	\$10,000
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>



**CEG 2014 Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships Project Summaries**

**ACIP 2014**

**Anne Bluethenthal and Dancers (ABD Productions) \$15,000**

**Project Summary**

Anne Bluethenthal & Dancers is seeking support for the expansion of *Skywatchers*, an engagement project that brings formerly homeless residents of the Tenderloin District together with professional artists for the creation of multi-disciplinary, site-specific performance installations that reflect the complex stories and life experiences of the community participants. ABD will develop and present installation performances – incorporating movement, lighting, sound, and improvisational choral singing – at four different Community Housing Partnership facilities in the neighborhood in 2014/15.

**Asian American Women Artists Association \$25,000**

**Project Summary**

A PLACE OF HER OWN, an ongoing an arts healing project invites Asian American social service providers to create answers to the question, "If you had a place of your own, what would it be?" with guided discussions and art workshops, and culminating in an open house. Because of this project's engagement and healing capacity, AAWAA and Asian Women's Shelter are partners to increase the scope and reach of this project.

**Au Co Vietnamese Cultural Center \$10,000**

**Project Summary**

ACVCC proposes to work with the Laotian American National Alliance (LANA) and the Burmese Youth Association (BYA) to pursue an exploratory phase for the Tenderloin Southeast Asian Arts Coalition (TSEAAC). Major Project activities will include: A Tenderloin Southeast Asian Arts and Culture Summit and A Day of Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Tenderloin Vietnamese Resettlement during Lunar New in 2015.

**Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco \$10,000**

**Project Summary**

CCF respectfully requests an Exploration grant of \$10,000 to support its In the Nearness of Distance Project CCF will collaborate with multimedia artist Summer Mei Ling Lee and cultural workers from the neighborhood to engage a multigenerational group of Chinatown residents and partner Chinatown Community Development Center to explore the role of contemporary arts processes can have in stimulating discourse about cultural estrangement in our community and enabling cultural connection.



## **CEG 2014 Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships Project Summaries**

**ACIP            2014**

**Chinese Progressive Association**

**\$10,000**

### **Project Summary**

CPA will work with artist Leon Sun to develop youth stake holders and their capacity to engage in local community issues. Youth will explore the use of serigraph art and other mediums, practice integrating art and politics, and use their art to promote issues affecting their community.

**CounterPULSE**

**\$10,000**

### **Project Summary**

CounterPULSE will partner with the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TNDC) to develop a partnership that will address social isolation among the Tenderloin community. Through a series of meetings, CounterPULSE and TNDC will determine the feasibility of a program plan that offers residents of the Dalt Hotel opportunities to engage in social artistic activities, in partnership with CounterPULSE artists and constituencies.

**Elizabeth Gjelten**

**\$10,000**

### **Project Summary**

“Home/Cooking” is a community-based theater project bringing together artists, activists, and women living in Single Residence Occupancy (SRO) hotels in the Tenderloin and Central City to address the lack of access to healthy food and cooking facilities. Through small-scale public events involving communal meals, story-sharing, visual art and live performance, participants will engage with the project and each other, and share stories that will become source material for an eventual full-scale theater piece.

**Emelle Sonh**

**\$10,000**

### **Project Summary**

Artist Emelle Sonh and San Francisco Senior Center (SFSC) will partner to clarify roles and processes for a project to address ageism. Ageism excludes and isolates and will be addressed by engaging 50+ SFSC members to explore aging, ageism, and a sense of literal and metaphoric place. A prototype deck of Question and Image Cards with photographic images created by the artist will reflect constituent experience and be a tool for expanded conversations about ageism.



**CEG 2014 Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships Project Summaries**

**ACIP 2014**

**Hospitality House \$25,000**

**Project Summary**

Hospitality House is collaborating with Urbanstreet Films and Archive Production in "Oral NowStories," a film/video project drawing attention to the issues of displacement and gentrification as a consequence of the revitalization efforts in Mid-Market, Tenderloin, and South-of-Market neighborhoods. Oral NowStories will collect voices of the often under represented people impacted by their changing neighborhood and will utilize new media strategies to distribute the footage. The project commences with free Storytelling & Technical workshops for residents.

**Jerome Reyes \$10,000**

**Project Summary**

SOMCAN Echoes, pairs San Francisco native artist Jerome Reyes with South of Market Community Action network to develop new functional art installations, text-based ephemera, and workshops that engage their immigrant membership's everyday concerns of urban life in San Francisco. Reyes and staff will interview members towards ideas that will influence new onsite activities (installations), circulate text in the neighborhood, invite new members, and continue immigrant services (both existing and newly designed workshops.)

**Kulintang Arts Inc. \$25,000**

**Project Summary**

Kwentóhan is a participatory cultural arts engagement project exploring the personal histories of Pilipinos in San Francisco. Using photography and storytelling, community members and professional artists will unearth the stories behind vintage family photos, creating artful homages with staged contemporary photos, poetry, and prose. A series of photography and storytelling workshops will culminate in a public exhibition in October 2015, giving visual presence to the Filipino community and contextualizing the Pilipino American narrative.

**Navarrete x Kajiyama Dance Theater \$10,000**

**Project Summary**

Navarrete x Kajiyama Dance Theater (NAKA) will conduct a nine-month investigation of the intersection of racial equity principles and the making of socially-conscious art. We will partner with Racial Equity educator Tammy Johnson, Joanna Haigood/ZACCHO Dance Theater, and two college-aged artists from BayviewHunter's Point: Nathanael Armstrong and Michael Turner.



**CEG 2014 Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships Project Summaries**

**ACIP 2014**

**Out of Site: Center for Arts Education \$25,000**

**Project Summary**

Out of Site requests \$25,000 to realize a public art & architecture project in the Persia Triangle, the anticipated hub of activity in the Excelsior neighborhood where Persia, Ocean, and Mission meet. Out of Site has been working closely with the Excelsior Action Group to realize a community driven look-and-feel to the space, which will be enhanced and implemented through this project.

**Queer Cultural Center \$25,000**

**Project Summary**

This proposal requests \$25,000 to promote social justice and build a healthy LGBT community by presenting 20 original literature, performance, visual arts and film programs as well as community conversations about LGBT health and wellness issues. Awarded funds will underwrite personnel fees of leadership, artists and technical production fees as well as venue rental, production expenses and marketing.

**Root Division \$20,000**

**Project Summary**

Root Division requests support to extend/enhance our partnership with Mission Education Center (a K-5 Latino immigrant/newcomer school). In utilizing the Latino Teaching-Artist Fellowship (LTAF), we will train & place 2 Spanish/English bilingual artists to be Artists-in Residence at MEC for the fiscal year. The LTAF will develop & teach the My Two Homes curriculum to 60+ students, helping them build a visual arts language to creatively express their immigration experiences & new life in the U.S.

**Small Press Traffic Literary Arts Center \$10,000**

**Project Summary**

Small Press Traffic, (a literary organization with a large constituency of writers working in various forms of social action) would like to partner with St. Anthony's, (a low-income/homeless service agency with social action programs) to create a series of interventions supporting St. Anthony's Hunger Day and it's Homeless Bill of Rights initiative. Interventions may include Poets Theater performances, publications or staged readings. This 9 month period will help determine the course of action.

**Cultural Equity Grants  
Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships  
FY2013-2014**

**PANEL BIOS**

**Cristal Fiel**

**Program Associate, Community Arts and Education  
San Francisco Arts Commission**

Cristal currently serves as Community Arts and Education Program Associate with the San Francisco Arts Commission. She holds bachelor degrees in Sociology and Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. During her stint at Berkeley, she was Editor in Chief of the literary and arts organization, Maganda Magazine, where she discovered her calling to work in the arts field. She has served as administrative coordinator and later board member of the Asian American Women Artists Association, and has volunteered with a number of Bay Area arts and cultural organizations including the San Francisco Film Society, Manilatown Heritage Foundation, and Bindlestiff Studio. Cristal was born and raised in San Francisco and currently resides in Oakland.

**Beth Rubenstein**

**Nonprofit and Arts Consultant**

Beth is passionate about the intersection of the arts, community development and youth. She is the co-founder of the Out of Site Youth Arts Center in San Francisco. Her work there as the long-time executive director was driven by a two-fold aspiration: to put the arts at the forefront of community change and health, where it is both the core and catalyst for the neighborhood, and to empower youth to be articulate, engaged community members. She is also an architect, and has taught at the high school and college level (Yale College and RISD). After 13 years at Out of Site, she is now a nonprofit and arts consultant. She has a Master of Architecture from Yale University, and a B. A. in art history from Barnard College, Columbia University. Her architectural practice has focused on design/build projects, and she has led community development projects in Nicaragua.

**Raissa Simpson**

**Artistic Director**

**Push Dance Company**

Raissa began training in San Jose, California at Dance Art Studio and later continued onto San Jose Dance Theatre, Cleveland Ballet, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and the Paul Taylor School. After receiving her BFA from the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase, Simpson had an extensive performance career in the San Francisco Bay Area dancing with Robert Moses' Kin and Joanna Haigood's Zaccho Dance Theatre, among others. As a freelance artist, she danced with Lucas Films, Tori Quinn at BAPC, Alleluia Panis Dance Theater, Capacitor, Flyaway Productions, Liberation Dance Theater, Michael Mayes, and Peninsula Ballet. Along with serving as Assistant to the Director at Zaccho Dance Theatre, she is featured as a dancer in the film "Never Stand Still," at Jacob's Pillow. Seamlessly integrating multimedia with cutting-edge choreography, Simpson's pieces do not reside merely on stage—they are also site-specific installations in public spaces like museums and city centers. Her work is sweeping, vibrant, multi-layered, and socially relevant often involving multiple aspects such as video projection, live music, and Aerial Dance. She currently teaches and guest choreographs her unique style of movement to all types of movers.

**Robynn Takayama**

**Program Manager, Community Arts and Education**

**San Francisco Arts Commission**

Robynn Takayama is a community artist whose work has been presented through video, web, and gallery installation in San Francisco, Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Chicago. A graduate of the KPFA First Voice Apprenticeship, she has contributed to national and local public radio programs and the Peabody-awarded documentary on Asian American history, Crossing East. Robynn produced Apex Express on KPFA and served on the CPB-funded Makers Quest Talent Committee, charged with finding the most imaginative producers, reporters, and sound artists and urging them to take public radio beyond its traditional airwaves.

**Weston Teruya**

**Program Associate, Cultural Equity Grants**

**San Francisco Arts Commission**

Weston is a Program Associate with the Cultural Equity Grants program of the San Francisco Arts Commission. He is also a member of the Berkeley Civic Arts Commission where he serves on the Grants Committee. Weston has been a grant panelist and juror for institutions including the Center for Cultural Innovation, Headlands Center for the Arts, Southern Exposure's Alternative Exposure, and California College of the Arts. He has curated exhibitions for Southern Exposure, Berkeley Art Center, and Kearny Street Workshop and written for Hyphen Magazine. Weston has facilitated youth and community arts projects for the Youth Justice Coalition, Asian Pacific American Legal Center and Public Allies-Los Angeles and created murals for Little Tokyo Service Center and Strategic Actions for a Just Economy.

Weston has had solo exhibitions at Intersection for the Arts and Patricia Sweetow Gallery in San Francisco and Pro Arts in Oakland. He has also exhibited at Southern Exposure, the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and the Palo Alto Art Center. Weston was an Irvine Fellow at the Lucas Artist Residency of the Montalvo Arts Center and was a recipient of a 2009 Artadia grant. Weston received an MFA in Painting and Drawing and MA in Visual & Critical Studies from California College of the Arts.

**Tyese M. Wortham**

**Program Associate, Cultural Equity Grants**

**San Francisco Arts Commission**

Tyese currently serves as a Cultural Equity Grants (CEG) Program Associate with the San Francisco Arts Commission. Prior to CEG, Tyese served as Program Manager with the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival producing and presenting culturally-specific artist populations. Tyese is highly committed to advancing cultural equity in San Francisco Bay Area's arts landscape by serving underrepresented and under-resourced communities. Recognized for her expertise in cultural arts as a panelist, consultant, facilitator, and committee member, Tyese has worked for various Bay Area arts organizations, including Arts Council Silicon Valley, Alliance for California Traditional Arts, Black Choreographers Festival, and the Isadora Duncan Dance Awards. In 2011, Tyese was a fellow with the Emerging Arts Professionals/San Francisco Bay Area, and she currently serves on the advisory committee.

Tyese has acquired over twenty years of dance experience and has danced as principal with Emesè: Messengers of the African Diaspora and De Rompe Y Raja Cultural Association. She has had the pleasure and honor of studying and practicing closely with her teachers and mentors: José Francisco Barroso, Carlos Carvajal, Teresita Dome-Pérez, CK Ladzekpo, and Gabriela Shiroma.