

**San Francisco
Arts Commission**

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Tom DeCaigny
Director of
Cultural Affairs

Programs:
Civic Art Collection
Civic Design Review
Community Arts & Education
Cultural Equity Grants
Public Art
SFAC Galleries
Street Artist Licensing

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City and County of
San Francisco

Community Arts and Education
Sights and Sounds of Bayview
FY2014-2015

PANELISTS

Tyra Fennell, Community Arts and Education Program Manager, San Francisco Arts Commission

Prior to joining us, Tyra Fennell served as the director of programs for the Humanities Council in Washington D.C. where she managed all programs including partnerships with public schools, school administrators, and community-based organizations. Tyra was the program manager for Turning the Page, a nonprofit organization that links local public schools, families, and communities to ensure students receive educational resources and high-quality public education. Tyra is also a singer and songwriter and holds a Masters in Education Administration and Policy from Howard University.

Robynn Takayama, Community Arts and Education Program Manager, 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 produces 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.

Beatrice Thomas, Cultural Equity Grants Program Manager, San Francisco Arts Commission

Beatrice Thomas is dedicated to integrating exceptional art into meaningful public experience. She received her bachelor's degree from Hampshire College and Masters of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Design from The University of Texas. Thomas' body of work centers on conceptually based, data-driven pieces that can manifest as a large-scale fiber installations, mixed media murals or power-point performance. Her research in traditional fiber arts and social entrepreneurship earned her a fellowship to live and study with master weavers in San Antonio Aguas Caliente, Guatemala.

She has worked professionally in the arts for over 10 years, as chair of Austin's Art and Public Places Panel, program manager for First Night Austin; the city's interdisciplinary urban arts festival and most notably, program associate for the San Francisco Arts Commission's Cultural Equity Grants.