

**SFAC Review Panelists Pool for Approval
FY2016-2017 and FY2017-2018
Full Commission Meeting
February 6, 2017**

Kayan Cheung-Miaw, independent cartoonist, teaching artist

Kayan Cheung-Miaw is a cartoonist, an organizer, and an educator. She is from Hong Kong and New York, and comes from a family of garment and restaurant workers. She spent eight years organizing in the San Francisco Bay Area. Her work as the lead organizer for the Yank Sing workers' campaign resulted in a historic \$4 million settlement for 280 workers. As an artist, she aims to humanize those who have been dehumanized by sharing the stories of marginalized communities. Comics are her favorite medium because she considers it an art for the people. She is an educator at public schools and community organizations, and earned her MFA in Comics from the California College of the Arts.

Lily Tung Crystal, Founding Artistic Director, Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company

Lily Tung Crystal is an actor/singer and the founding artistic director of Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company, which is committed to working with professional Asian American theatre artists. More than diversity, Ferocious Lotus promotes the reality that our neighborhoods comprise people of all races, cultures and backgrounds, and that theatre should represent that reality. Favorite roles include: Prosecutor Li in Chinglish (Portland Center Stage, Syracuse Stage); Bloody Mary in South Pacific (Mountain Play); Korean #2 in Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven (Crowded Fire/AATC, Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle nomination); Amanda in Private Lives (Whirligig Theatre, Shanghai); Mrs. Park in Worlds Apart (Magic Theatre, New World Stages); and Mother/Doctor in Crane (Ferocious Lotus). Lily also appears in the film Steve Jobs directed by Danny Boyle. She recently made her directorial debut helming Chinglish at Palo Alto Players (Theatre Bay Area Award nomination).

Nizhoni Ellenwood, mixed media artist

Nizhoni Ellenwood (NiMiiPuu/Nez Perce, Apache, and Italian) was born in Pacifica, CA, and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is a graduate from the San Francisco Art Institute (SFAI) and studies traditional artistry with her NiMiiPuu elders. Nizhoni is a mixed media artist, Northern traditional dancer, American Tribal Style Bellydancer, teacher, and a special education Para educator with over 16 years' experience working in schools, homes, and diverse communities. She has created workshops with and for Native youth, which focuses on self-exploration and expression through photography and film, as well as silk screening. In addition, she has directed plays and performances for youth; facilitated creative writing lessons; and has done demonstrations in schools of singing, drumming, and dancing. As the co-

founder of the Indigenous Arts Coalition in 2008, Nizhoni has supported Indigenous students and artists of all disciplines to acknowledge, support, promote, and maintain all visual aspects of contemporary indigenous arts in the San Francisco Bay Area in California.

David Inocencio, Program Founder and Director, The Beat Within

David Inocencio graduated from the social work program at San Francisco State University; he worked in the San Francisco Public Defender's Office Juvenile Division. David later helped launch the Detention Diversion Advocacy Project, a nationally recognized program of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice. In 1995, as the education director of Youth Outlook Magazine, a publication produced by Pacific News Service, he continued to work with detained youth and encouraged them to share their stories. David's commitment to these young people led to him to develop an entire program to expand on the workshops in San Francisco and promote an ongoing dialogue with the community, through the national award-winning program, The Beat Within, which was founded in 1996. Today, the program is not only in San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center (the mother-ship), but in 12 juvenile halls in California, and the work has been replicated in Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, St. Louis, New Mexico, Texas, Hawaii, Oregon, Florida and Washington DC.

Avanna Lawson, visual artist

Avanna Lawson is currently an abstract painter, of which her work incorporates her creative processes and creative writing. Her abstract paintings embody the emotions and the spirituality of being indigenous. She received her AFA in creative writing from the Institute of American Indian Arts of Santa Fe, New Mexico and a BFA in photography from San Francisco Art Institute. She utilizes every aspect of her education to develop a multimedia perspective in writing, photography, and painting. Avanna is also a published poet. Avanna was a recipient of the Gate Millennium scholar award while she was attending SFAI from 2000 to 2003. She received the Puffin Foundation Arts Grant in 2006 for a project called "Young Elders Song", in which she photographed elders of the bay area community. After graduation, she helped with fundraising at a local Native American nonprofit organization called the Friendship House in Oakland, California. She has participated in recent Native America art exhibitions in the bay area including Humboldt State University and University of San Francisco.

Peggy Simmons, Founding Director and Lead Facilitator, Green Windows

Peggy Simmons is the Founding Director and Lead Facilitator of Green Windows: Writing Groups; Library Assistant for Teen Services at Oakland Public Library; Editor, Trainer and Facilitator with The Beat Within; and the President of the Board of Directors of ATD Fourth World USA. For twenty-five years, she has been facilitating creative and communication projects that

bring together people from all walks of life and has a special affection for working with teenagers. Peggy is a published creative writer who has been writing in community for twelve years. Her art now cannot be separated from this community process, from writing with people who are very different from herself, and from supporting the voices that are the least heard in our society. Peggy was born in Oakland, California and returned in 2004 after living in six other U.S. cities as well as in four other countries on three other continents.