

Applicant	Discipline	Average Score (%)	Request Amount	Grant Amount
Jenifer Wofford	Visual Arts	92.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Rudy Lemcke	Visual Arts	92	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Rene Yung	Visual Arts	90.4	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Truong Tran	Literary Arts	89.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Kevin Simmonds	Literary Arts	89.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Madeleine Lim	Media Arts	88.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Bernie Lubell	Visual Arts	86.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Veronica Majano	Media Arts	86.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Aron Kantor	Media Arts	86.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Shizue Seigel	Literary Arts	85.4	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Jerome Reyes	Visual Arts	85	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Lynn Hershman Leeson	Media Arts	84.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Jacqueline Francis	Literary Arts	84.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Tina Takemoto	Media Arts	84	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Valerie Soe	Media Arts	83.5	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Ploy Pirapokin	Literary Arts	83.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Sandra Davis	Media Arts	83	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Sarah Jimenez	Literary Arts	82.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Juliana Delgado L'Opera	Literary Arts	82.75	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Josephine Iselin	Literary Arts	82	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Jack Walsh	Media Arts	81.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Craig Calderwood	Visual Arts	81.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Ilana Crispi	Visual Arts	81.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Dana Hemenway	Visual Arts	80.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Clement Goldberg	Visual Arts	80	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Anthony Robles	Literary Arts	79.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Anita Chang	Media Arts	79.25	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Bonnie Ora Sherk	Visual Arts	78.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Christopher Burch	Visual Arts	78.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Justin Hoover	Visual Arts	78.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Ron Saunders	Visual Arts	78.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Yarrow Slaps	Visual Arts	78.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
John Jota Lea-os	Media Arts	78	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Wendy Baker	Media Arts	78	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Dan Goldes	Media Arts	77.4	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Celeste Chan	Media Arts	77.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Storm Miguel Florez	Media Arts	77.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Mary Elizabeth Yarbrough	Visual Arts	77.2	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Evelyn Leder	Media Arts	77	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Chirag Bhakta	Visual Arts	77	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Monica Magtoto	Visual Arts	76.6	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Lisa Wanzer	Literary Arts	75.8	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Shani Heckman	Media Arts	75.4	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000

**San Francisco Arts
Commission**

**Individual Artist Commission Grant
Panel Rankings**

FY2016-2017

Jay Rosenblatt	Media Arts	75	\$	15,000	\$	15,000
Viviana Paredes	Visual Arts	75	\$	15,000	\$	15,000
Ariel Dunitz-Johnson	Visual Arts	74.4	\$	15,000	\$	-
Jennifer Kroot	Media Arts	74	\$	15,000	\$	-
Sergio de la Torre	Media Arts	74	\$	15,000	\$	-
Phillip Hua	Visual Arts	73.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Abhijit Singh	Media Arts	73.4	\$	15,000	\$	-
Matt Borruso	Visual Arts	73	\$	15,000	\$	-
Alexis Arnold	Visual Arts	72.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Jason Jagel	Visual Arts	72.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Heather Gibbons	Literary Arts	71.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Wendy Farina	Media Arts	71.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Suzanne Husky	Visual Arts	71.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Jeffrey Martin	Literary Arts	70.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Denise Sullivan	Literary Arts	69.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Eric (Guoveng) Cheng	Visual Arts	68.8	\$	14,933	\$	-
Socrates Parra	Literary Arts	67.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Alice Elizabeth Rogoff	Literary Arts	67.2	\$	15,000	\$	-
Sona Avakian	Literary Arts	65.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Tim Sullivan	Visual Arts	65.5	\$	15,000	\$	-
Teresa Wills	Media Arts	63.2	\$	15,000	\$	-
Brian Singer	Visual Arts	63	\$	15,000	\$	-
Nathaniel Dorksy	Media Arts	62.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Herve Cohen	Media Arts	61.4	\$	15,000	\$	-
Kelly DeFayette	Visual Arts	61.4	\$	15,000	\$	-
Frank Pietronigro	Media Arts	57.2	\$	15,000	\$	-
Micah Morgan	Media Arts	56.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Lucinda Buxton Martin	Media Arts	54.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Suki Liebow	Visual Arts	54.6	\$	15,000	\$	-
Julie Marsh	Visual Arts	54	\$	15,000	\$	-
Daniel Grant	Visual Arts	53.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Mesfin Sinke	Media Arts	52.2	\$	15,000	\$	-
Việt Lê	Media Arts	51.4	\$	15,000	\$	-
Jeffrey Zygmunt	Visual Arts	50.8	\$	15,000	\$	-
Zachary Krasner	Visual Arts	48.2	\$	15,000	\$	-
Stuart Schuffman	Literary Arts	39.8	\$	15,000	\$	-

Total \$ 675,000

Applicant	Grant Amount	Project Description
Anita Chang	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the completion and exhibition of the interactive documentary web application ROOT TONGUE: Sharing Stories of Language Identity and Revival, where participants explore the challenges of language endangerment and preservation on a personal level by sharing their own perspective through dialogue and creative expression. Upon completion, live multimedia exhibitions will take place throughout 2017-2018 at various educational and community-based venues in San Francisco including The Interval/Long Now Foundation, Kearny Street Workshop, and the de Young Museum.
Anthony Robles (Fiscal Sponsor: Manilatown Heritage Foundation)	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support publication of , "Fingerprints of a Hunger Strike"--a book of poetry and short stories by current San Francisco Poet Laureate Nominee Tony Robles. The book will feature poems addressing San Francisco's fight against gentrification, displacement and the fight against police violence against long time communities of color. The work will reflect San Francisco's working class and born and raised residents-- that is often excluded from the city's narrative. Live performance will take place at the I-Hotel Center in the city's historic Manilatown neighborhood.
Aron Kantor	\$ 15,000	This proposal requests \$15,000 for the first of 4 phases of creating a feature film about the historic Continental Bathhouse, where the gay sexual revolution and liberation movement and the beginning of modern queer dancefloor culture crossed paths. Phase 1 includes the research and writing of a feature length screenplay with my co-writer, Lambda Award winning writer K. M. Soehnlein. The proposed project will culminate in a staged reading of my work in progress for a public audience of 100 people at SOMArts Cultural Center. SFAC will pay artist fees and production expenses.

Bernie Lubell \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support "Aspirations", an installation of interactive inflatable sculptures presented in a month long residency at the de Young museum. The museum's collections will provide Inspiration for some sculptures and the public will be invited to help build and test components and take part in a kinetic art workshop.

The selection of inflatables and the new technologies for the interactions with participants are departures from my previous work even as they carry forward my concerns for our relationship to our technologies and to each other.

Bonnie Ora Sherk \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support further design development and technical engineering of sculptural, multi-functional, Green Powered Digital Gateways to be installed to interconnect Branch Living Library & Think Parks. Resulting designs with diverse sizes of display technology, powered by wind/sun, will be shown in ECO-ART Exhibition/Workshop with local Branch Living Library community. Future Gateways will support live, interactive broadcast between sites and showcase local resources, and as needed, pump underground water, creating new ecological habitats adding magnetic sense of place.

Celeste Chan \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the creation and presentation of Art Heart: Children of Riot Grrrl, a 40-50 minute documentary tracing the Riot Grrrl movement from its birth in 1991 Olympia, WA to the current-day Bay Area art activism it has inspired. We will conduct community outreach with an Art Heart Tumblr blog, and a community-sourced voicemail hotline. Art Heart will be presented at a screening and zine-making workshop at Artists Television Access in June 2018 as part of the National Queer Arts Festival, and will attract an audience of 200 people.

Chirag Bhakta	\$ 15,000	<p>SFAC funds will be used to support “The Arch Motel Project,” an installation and artistic expression of racial and cultural identity through a heretofore overlooked immigrant population, Gujarati-Americans, that live and work in motels across the US. They originally immigrated from a small region in India to SF in the 1940’s.</p> <p>I’m presenting several pieces of work (assemblage) made from relevant found ephemera, accompanied by photos capturing the spirit of that community as well as the aesthetics of the assemblage. Accompanied with be a zine. It’ll be on view at Alter Space, a gallery in SoMa.</p>
Christopher Burch	\$ 15,000	<p>The project that I am seeking funding for a 100 page black and white fully illustrated graphic novel entitled” Oh ye of little Faith: The Legend of Pinetar.” The story follows Pinetar a tongue-less, wondering blues musician possessed by an entity who calls itself Kon, across the Mississippi River Basin during the forties and late fifties. Haunted by his past and tormented by Kon, Pinetar, if he is to find reconciliation, must regain his tongue from, an ancient trickster deity, Br’er Rabbit.</p>
Clement Goldberg (Fiscal Sponsor: CounterPulse)	\$ 15,000	<p>SFAC funds will be used to support Our Future Ends, a multidisciplinary work of discrete objects, sculptural installation, animation/video projection, and live theater. The piece connects, as a metaphoric and conceptual frame, the near extinct lemur primates of Madagascar to an imagined queer prehistory, paralleling species loss with cultural atrophy. Our Future Ends will be exhibited October 2017 at the non-profit gallery and performance space CounterPulse in San Francisco.</p>
Craig Calderwood	\$ 15,000	<p>SFAC funds will be used to support Church Camp, a visual arts exhibition exploring early queer identity formation through objects and materials deemed useless. The solo exhibition will take place at The Luggage Store Gallery in May 2018.</p>

Dan Goldes (Fiscal Sponsor: San Francisco Film Society)	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support 5 Blocks, a 60-minute film documenting changes in the Central Market Street neighborhood of San Francisco between 2011 and 2016, as policy decisions and a booming economy brought unprecedented change to one of the poorest, most marginalized areas of the city. Screenings will be held at the Ninth Street Independent Film Center, near the area covered in the film, where I am a Filmmaker Resident, and at Kelly Cullen Community Auditorium in the Tenderloin, to share the project with area residents who are part of the film.
Dana Hemenway	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support, 'A Grid, A Plant, An Intersection, A Net', an expanded social and research project that explores all the ways in which the formal motif of the grid, often used in my work, is analogous to other societal systems, and how these systems could be complicated or undermined. The sculptural installation will be a platform for collaboration, by inviting four other creative practitioners, from different cultural points of view, working in writing, dance, sound, performance, and/or video, to collaborate with me and interpret the meaning of one of the title phrases.
Evelyn Leder	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support Evie Leder in creating a new body of work in the multi-part Kaddish series, a project through which she has been exploring the process of mourning, beauty, intimacy, and family through abstracted, non-narrative and low-resolution LED video installations. These works build upon the concept of Kaddish, the Jewish prayer of mourning to honor and grapple with the loss of her sister who passed away 17 years ago at the age of 38. The completed LED videos will be exhibited at Black & White Projects in 2018.

Ilana Crispi \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support Mission Guerrilla Dirt, an interactive installation exploring ideas of community, history, and place. Dirt from the Mission District will be transformed into furniture and ceramic vessels to create an outdoor tearoom – a place where everyone sits at the same level and shares an experience, dialogue, and tea. This temporary public gathering space will be an invitation for members of a diverse and changing neighborhood to slow down and experience our histories and stories of place through a shared experience of the physical material of the land.

Jack Walsh \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support roughly 10% of my budget which represents one week of personnel costs, two days of production, and one week support for my editor to complete a trailer of up to 20 minutes to present as my work-in-progress.

Jacqueline Francis \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the creation, development and self-publication of *Gone Foreign*, a collection of five short stories about the cultures, lives, and experiences of American immigrants of African descent from the Caribbean nations, including Jamaica, Haiti, and Trinidad and Tobago. I will read excerpts at the Museum of the African Diaspora during the June 2018 National Queer Arts Festival. To increase public awareness of the Caribbean diasporic experience, I will self-publish *Gone Foreign* on lulu.com. SFAC funds will support my commission and the fee of a contracted editor.

Jay Rosenblatt \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support *THE ANTS ARE STILL BURNING*, a follow up experimental documentary to the 1994 award-winning film, *THE SMELL OF BURNING ANTS*. Written and directed by Jay Rosenblatt, the film will screen at the SF Cinematheque.

Jenifer Wofford \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support Death Songs, an interdisciplinary visual art project that about the space, time, aesthetics and soundtracks of grief and celebration, by Jenifer K Wofford. It will take multiple forms as a web project, illustrated/animated music videos, performance, drawing/painting and a book project. The videos and performance will take place at YBCA in October 2017; the book project will launch at Southern Exposure later in fall 2017.

Jerome Reyes \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support SOMCAN: Field Notes towards Freedom. San Francisco native artist Jerome Reyes will create with South of Market Community Action Network a new multi-platform political campaign to circulate primarily text-based artwork across the neighborhood. Themes include migration and local issues of their Filipino & Latin-American immigrant members. Public & indoor artworks on the complexities of urban life occur around the South of Market area and 2,000 sq. foot storefront. Resulting materials then enter the archive, Contact Points: Field Notes towards Freedom.

John Jota Leaños \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support “Eureka!,” a half-hour animated documentary and interactive eBook/graphic novel that traces key moments of colonial California and the making of the West from Native and Latina/o perspectives. The documentary uses cartoons, music and humor to weave an alternative social history of California, revealing histories of migration, upheavals and racial tension that contribute to the shaping of the American west.

Josephine Iselin	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the research, writing, image creation and layout design of a book titled California Seaweed Stories. This project is about resilience, evolutionary success and astounding beauty in our near-shore ocean ecosystems. By describing the life history and unique characteristics of fifteen iconic California seaweeds in a visually stunning volume, I hope to inspire thoughtfulness towards coastal conservation. The project will be presented to the public in a lecture or forum at San Francisco State University, highlighting the convergence of art and science.
Juliana Delgado L'Opera	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the development and completion of FIEBRE TROPICAL, a non-traditional novel that investigates Spanglish, religion, queer migration and family dysfunction via memory and storytelling traditions. I will finish the first draft by February 2018, stage developmental readings as part of RADAR's spring 2018 West Coast tour and read major excerpts from FIEBRE TROPICAL at the San Francisco Main Library in Civic Center during the 2018 National Queer Arts Festival. SFAC funds will underwrite my commission and the editor's fee.
Justin Hoover	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support The Body Shop: Art Gym, an immersive art installation and series of community-focused happenings lead by artist and curator Justin Charles Hoover. In partnership with the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco (CCC), community "workouts" will culminate in happenings lead by Hoover and curated associates over three months in the collaboratively run gallery space known as 41 Ross Alley in the heart of San Francisco's Chinatown, and will unify the practices of traditional kung fu and contemporary performance art.

Kevin Simmonds	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the creation and accompanying performance of <i>Less than Infinity: a San Francisco Psalter</i> , a book of interactive readings, psalms and other secular devotional works that variously praise, eulogize and memorialize people, places and ideas that are quintessentially San Francisco. The book's recitation/call-and-response format will facilitate performances, by anyone, at places throughout San Francisco.
Lisa Wanzer	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support <i>Jaywalking</i> , a collection of hybrid, composite, and lyrical essays addressing four intersection points: black girlhood (race and gender), cultural assertion, and what it means to be "the other." I plan to arrange the book's chapters in triptychs: three essays intended to be appreciated together, with each essay accosting otherness at different life stages. The finished book will consist of five triptychs. Free essay-writing workshops for underserved communities will occur at the Mechanics' Institute Library.
Lynn Hershman Leeson	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support Lynn Hershman Leeson in creating a multimedia memorialization project in honor of Tina Modotti, a photographer, actor, and revolutionary figure who, unbeknownst to many in the city, launched her early work in San Francisco, a place that she called home even through an international career. The project will take the form of a short video documentary and plaque, the culmination of more than 10 years of collaborative work. The project builds on Hershman Leeson's history of creating transdisciplinary work honoring radical women artists.

Madeleine Lim (Fiscal Sponsor: Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project)	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support JEWELLE: Art, Activism & Vampire Futures, a 35-minute documentary Produced and Directed by award-winning filmmaker Madeleine Lim, which charts the confluence of generations and social movements through the art and activism of author, poet, journalist, playwright, arts administrator, philanthropist, activist, loway/Wampanoag Native American and Cape Verdean/African American Femme lesbian elder, Jewelle Gomez. The film will world premiere at the 2018 San Francisco Queer Women of Color Film Festival presented by QWOCCMAP.
Mary Elizabeth Yarbrough	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support Lexicon 2D/3D, which expands and transforms the visual language I been developing for 11 months, bringing it into the physical and virtual realms, as sculptures and a downloadable emoji pack called "artmoji". I will create a large-scale installation of sculptures of this visual language, which will be exhibited at Black&White Projects. I will also develop a set of 2D pictograms called 'artmoji', which will be submitted to the Unicode Consortium for consideration for the existing emoji bank. The installation and emoji pack will be presented in May 2018.
Monica Magtoto	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the fabrication of a mobile workstation and the creation and exhibition of a new series of paintings that highlight memories, people, and objects that are significant to me in that area. The project, entitled "Drifter" will take place in the Mission district, specifically around the 24th street area. The final exhibition of the workstation and series will take place at Incline Gallery. Inspired by travelling salesmen and paleteros (ice cream men) of the area, this project seeks to explore the way I interact with my work, my surroundings, and my identity.

Ploy Pirapokin \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support SFAC funds will be used to support An Equation to tell your mother your boyfriend is Black, a nonfiction book written by Ploy Pirapokin. It is an autobiographical poetic portrayal of a Thai woman who confronts her mother’s racism against her Tanzanian boyfriend, and is related through the work of poets, philosophers, architects, and cultural critics. An excerpt of this work will be read at the Kearny Street Workshop as a solo exhibition with a questions and answer session at the end.

Rene Yung \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the development of “Written on Water,” a sculptural-library comprising a set of mixed media books with text, imagery, artifacts, and media, that reflects on the intersection of dislocations and erasures in the forgotten history of Chinese shrimp fishing in San Francisco Bay; the loss of Bay Edgelands where the former fishing sites were located, due to development and sea level rise; and my experience as an immigrant from the island city of Hong Kong. I will create 4-5 prototype books and present a public artist’s talk at the Exploratorium’s Bay Observatory.

Ron Saunders \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the creation of new photograms (a cameraless photographic technique) using the full human body to explore history, emotions and place. To increase my viability for large scale public art projects, one third of the new work will be printed on nontraditional materials such as metal and glass. I will create 15 - 20 new images for an exhibit, and one third will be new media presented at the Bayview Opera House.

Rudy Lemcke	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support The New World, a video game and installation created for the de Young Museum's Artist's Studio program. The New World uses the museum as the site of a multi-level video game and uses visual elements inspired by artworks from the permanent collection. The installation will give an in depth look at the multi-media process of creating a video game. From initial sketches through character development, level design, and final production, the installation will include examples of various techniques involved in the planning, prototyping, and deployment of the game.
Sandra Davis	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support Sandra Davis in completing "That Woman," a 20 minute video work reinterpreting the 1999 Barbara Walters interview of Monica Lewinsky. The project comes at a critical moment in our national discourse around women's agency over their own narratives--and the ways this is mediated through news coverage. The piece centers on Davis's restaged performances featuring a woman resembling Lewinsky and filmmaker George Kuchar playing Barbara Walters, intercut with the original broadcast. Grant funds will enable Davis to complete the post-production phase of the video.
Sarah Jimenez	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will support the creation of the young adult novel titled, Las Primas. The novel will be a 200-page literary reading that depicts three stories of teenage cousins who, as pregnant teens, explore options of abortion, adoption, or motherhood. Grant funds will support the artistic composition, led by emerging novelist, Sarah C. Jiménez, along with a public program to be hosted at Galería de la Raza as part of its Women's Day 2018 celebration.

Shani Heckman	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support Carmelita Reyes, a short film about Matou's upcoming eviction from his haunted Victorian house on 22nd street. Filmed in the Mission, the project explores the changing neighborhood through the home's last residents, Matou, and Carmelita Reyes, the 300 year old ghost who worries what will happen to her when they gut-remodel the building. An interactive community screening event of the film will be held at Artist Television Access in June, 2018 featuring a Q&A and music.
Shizue Seigel (DBA: Carol S. Seigel)	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support ENDANGERED SPECIES, a multi-disciplinary community stories project that will increase cross-cultural, intergenerational understanding of San Francisco's rich diversity. Writer/artist Shizue Seigel, working with beginning and experienced writers of color, will explore our values, history, culture and lifestyles through prose, poetry, photography and art. Our stories of sustainable community will be published on-line and in a community anthology launched at the San Francisco Main Library during the API Cultural Center's United States of Asian America Festival.
Storm Miguel Florez	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support the creation and development of The Whistle, a documentary film that will tell the story of a secret code created by and shared among young dykes in 1980s Albuquerque, NM as a means of self-identification and finding community. The Whistle will be screened as a work-in-progress at the 9th Street Independent Film Center in June 2018. SFAC funds will underwrite the fee of the principal artist, Director of Photography, and a second camera person.

Tina Takemoto	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will support ISA's LUNCH: BUTCH BENTOS FOR SALE, an experimental performance film that tells the story of Isa Shimoda, a gender nonconforming immigrant serving meals to female Japanese American cannery workers in prewar San Diego. In 1942, when Roosevelt issued an Executive Order to arrest all Japanese Americans, Shimoda was imprisoned in Poston incarceration camp. When she arrived, Isa was identified as a female; however when released she was listed as a male. I will enact Isa's character in this experimental film, which will premiere at the June 2018 National Queer Arts Festival.
Truong Tran	\$ 15,000	PreEmptive will be a two part literary project comprised of a written text of poetry, prose, poetics addressing issues of racism and discrimination woven into the consciousness of society and the academy. I am a person of color and a lecturer in the academy. I am choosing to tell my story now because as Claudia Rankine puts it in her poetry, " just getting along shouldn't be an ambition." There will also be a community writing workshop by the same title. The workshop will explore ways to combat and challenge the thinking that perpetuates racism in society through the act of writing.
Valerie Soe	\$ 15,000	SFAC funds will be used to support partial postproduction costs for the feature-length documentary film LOVE BOAT: TAIWAN. The documentary looks at the Taiwan Love Boat, an unusual summer cultural program that acts as a propaganda tool, as a means of fostering Taiwanese American identity, and as a site for romance. It will screen at a work-in-progress rough cut event at the Documentary Film Institute at San Francisco State University in early 2018 and premiere in mid-2018.

Veronica Majano \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support Remember Los Siete, which integrates archival film, audio recordings, music, and narration to explore the lives of 7 young men known as Los Siete, seven Central American men were accused in 1969 of killing a white police officer in. During the 2 years in jail awaiting trial, Latino youth organized to free them and a movement flourished. Through six 10-minute chapters, Majano narrates the archival film footage, exploring explore the youth, trial-era, and adult lives of Los Siete, investigating hero-worship, forgiveness, and police brutality.

Viviana Paredes \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the creation and presentation of Comida y Curación: A Lost Treasure, a sculptural glass food cart that represents the adverse contemporary relationship that many Latinos have with fast food and the disconnection to our rich agricultural roots. The piece will debut at Acción Latina’s Juan R. Fuentes Gallery in Spring 2018 and attract an audience of approx. 500 people during its month-long exhibition. If funded, SFAC monies will support artist fees, and marketing and productions costs.

Wendy Baker \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support Noodle Mania, a collaborative art project that combines zine-making, audio interviews, and drawing parties. The focus of the project is documenting oral history of working artists who are using art to address social justice issues in the Bay Area. The pieces will be shared in art parties that functions as listening salons and an art-making space. The results of the process are a print zine that includes all of the drawings and stories, a collection of audio pieces that live online, and a series of art parties where people can actively participate.

Yarrow Slaps \$ 15,000 SFAC funds will be used to support the creation of approximately 15 new paintings by visual artist Yarrow Slaps and their exhibition at the Luggage Store Gallery in May 2018. The paintings will reflect Slap’s life experience growing up in San Francisco’s urban and multi-racial culture. Awarded SFAC funds will support Slap’s commission and the exhibition’s fabrication, installation and documentation costs.



FY2016-2017 Individual Artist Commission- Media
Thursday, March 9, 2017 and Friday, March 10, 2017
Panelist Biographies

Karim Ahmad, ITVS Digital Open Call

Karim Ahmad oversees ITVS's digital content funding initiatives & portfolio, including original digital series and immersive media projects, from conceptualization through distribution & marketing. He was the Creator and Showrunner of the acclaimed sci-fi digital series FUTURESTATES and led its reinvention as an immersive story world experience at futurestates.tv. He recently created the ITVS Digital Open Call, a development fund & content incubator of digital series for public media distribution.

Soumyaa Kapil Behrens, Director, Documentary Film Institute at San Francisco State University

Soumyaa Behrens is the Director of the Documentary Film Institute at San Francisco State University where she also serves on the School of Cinema Faculty. Behrens is a writer, filmmaker and producer interested in marginalized communities, expanding histories, racial and economic equality as well as the family unit. She recently completed work on Con Moto: The Alexander String Quartet (short doc), Abina and The Important Men (feature animated hybrid doc) and Nail House (feature doc). Behrens is President of Bay Area Women in Film and Media and holds an MFA in cinema.

Fay Darmawi, Filmmaker, Founder, SF Urban Film Fest

Fay founded the SF Urban Film Fest in 2014 based on the theory that urban social change at the public policy level starts with awareness, education and cultural norms at the community level. The SFUFF leverages storytelling, film and other expressive media to help bridge an understanding between complex macro-social issues and the every-day lived experience of city dwellers. During a week-long festival in November, SFUFF screen films about housing, transportation, urban design, and activism. The films include narrative fiction like "Blade Runner", the David Simon HBO mini-series "Show Me A Hero", and short documentaries by local filmmakers. The organization also offers affordably priced one-day and 2-hour workshops in storytelling and video production geared toward community organizers, urban planners and policy makers interested in more effective communications and increased public engagement. For her work at the SFUFF, Fay was selected as a 2016-2017 YBCA Fellow in the "equity" co-hort. Prior to working in the intersection of film and civic engagement, she earned a master's degree in city planning from MIT, worked in affordable housing finance for 20 years, and also studied advanced screenwriting at UCLA for 5 years. Fay is currently working on a short film about change in SOMA.

HP Mendoza, Filmmaker, Screenwriter, Musician

H.P. Mendoza started his professional career by writing and composing the independent film COLMA: THE MUSICAL in 2006 and has written, directed, scored and produced over a dozen feature films since, including his directorial debut FRUIT FLY, an Asian-American musical about modern San Francisco and I AM A GHOST, his award-winning arthouse crossover feature. Aside from his published motion picture soundtracks, Mendoza has released three solo albums apart from the music he creates with his band, Digital Crafts Night - whose music was featured heavily in the Richard Wong film, YES WE'RE OPEN. In March of 2016, H.P. Mendoza staged a "Takeover" at the San Francisco Asian Art Museum, where he utilized the space of every floor by showcasing his animation, video art, 3D video, live performances and a video game he designed specifically for the museum called "Super Museum Hunt" that is now a permanent addition to the museum's digital assets. H.P. Mendoza is currently a resident filmmaker of the San Francisco Film Society Filmhouse working on his newest feature film, BITTER MELON. He is also currently developing a "choose-your-own-adventure-musical" planned for 2017.

Kirthi Nath, Filmmaker, Educator

Kirthi Nath is a filmmaker, educator and creative professional who believes that ordinary people ripple extraordinary change. As founder, creative director and lead filmmaker at Cinemagical Media, Kirthi works with social entrepreneurs, nonprofits and values based companies to create films that support individuals and communities to 'be the cause that creates the effect'. Kirthi's films have featured cultural visionaries such as Tara Sophia Mohr, Eve Ensler, Jack Kornfield and Alice Walker, and tell stories with bravery, courage and heart that bring messages alive and inspire social change. In addition to filmmaking, Kirthi offers group and one-on-one trainings that focus on film production, post-production and messaging, as well as business coaching. Kirthi's experiences as a media maker and creative professional translate into educational experiences that connect students to innovative, cutting edge contemporary practices and critical, intentional frameworks that open up deep, engaged and empowering learning environments.



**FY2016-2017 Individual Artist Commission- Visual
Thursday, March 23, 2017 and Friday, March 24, 2017
Panelist Biographies**

Aimee Le Duc, Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs, Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture

Aimee Le Duc, was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1994, she moved to the Bay Area to attend Saint Mary's College in Moraga, California. After graduating with a BA in Philosophy, Aimee returned to Utah to work as the Assistant Visual Art Coordinator at the Utah Arts Council, but soon the Bay Area would come calling again. In 2003, Ms. Le Duc moved to San Francisco and received her MA in Visual Criticism from California College of the Arts (CCA) and her MFA degree in CCA's Creative Writing program in 2004. Ms. Le Duc is currently the Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs at Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture and she has held multiple esteemed positions in the Bay Area arts community including; Galleries Manager at the San Francisco Arts Commission, Associate Director of Southern Exposure and Executive Director at Berkeley Art Center. Ms. Le Duc is also co-chair of the Award Committee on the SECA Board at SFMoMA and is on the board of directors for San Francisco Camerawork. Her critical writing appears in publications including Frieze, Sculpture, Contemporary Arts Quarterly, the Journal for Aesthetics and Protest, ArtPractical and Camerawork: A Journal of Photographic Arts.

Ernest Jolly, Artist, Museum Professional

Ernest Jolly is an Oakland based artist and Museum professional. Jolly is currently an Arts Commissioner for Alameda County, previously served on the Oakland Public Arts Advisory Committee (6 years) and the Board of the Berkeley Art Center (3 years). Jolly holds a BA in Visual Art from San Francisco State University and an MFA from Mills College in Oakland. He has experience working with diverse students at University level both as a lecturer and museum manager. As an arts adviser he manages artist and public art projects for cities and arts institutions. Jolly is currently creating a project space in North Oakland that will assist emerging and underrepresented visual artists with professional portfolio development.

J. John Priola, Artist, Educator

J. John Priola has been teaching at the San Francisco Art Institute (SFAI) for 17 years creating and leading critique and portfolio reviews, and is faculty for the International Limited Residency MFA Program at Hartford Art School. Priola has also taught at ICP Bard, SF State and CCA. His work has been shown in exhibitions including In A Different Light, Berkeley Art Museum, and Prospect '96, at the Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany. Priola's work is included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Art

Institute of Chicago among others. Once Removed, a monograph of Priola's work was published in 1998. Priola is represented by the Anglim Gilbert Gallery, San Francisco, Joseph Bellows, LaJolla and Weston Gallery, Carmel. Priola received his MFA from SFAI in 1987.

Lordy Rodriguez, Artist

Lordy Rodriguez was born in 1976, the Philippines, raised in Louisiana and Texas, and currently lives and works in Benicia, CA. He obtained his B.F.A. degree from School of Visual Arts, New York and his MFA at Stanford University. For several years he has been working on a series of ink drawings that critically look at the effect visual languages have on culture and identity through the use of mapping and cartography. His recent exhibitions include, "Tahoe: a Visual History", Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, NV (2015), "The Map at Art", Kemper Museum, St. Louis, MO (2012), "Code Switch" and "The Map is Not the Territory", Hosfelt gallery New York, New York (2013 and 2011 respectively), "Surface Depths", Nevada Art Museum (2009), "States of America", Austin Museum of Art (2009), "Optimism in the Age of Global War", 10th Annual Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey, (2007), "The California Biennial", Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, California (2006), as well as public art projects with the San Francisco Arts Commission at San Francisco International Airport and the Federal General Services Administration.

Zeina Barakeh, Artist, Director, Graduate Administration at San Francisco Art Institute

Zeina Barakeh (b. Beirut) is a Palestinian-Lebanese artist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She currently serves as Director of Graduate Administration at the San Francisco Art Institute, where she has also taught graduate level-courses. Exhibitions include: Harlem International Film Festival (11th), MIST Harlem, New York; Los Angeles Art-House Film Festival, The Promenade Theater, Santa Monica; Bring It Home: (Re)Locating Cultural Legacy Through the Body, San Francisco Arts Commission Galleries, San Francisco; PULSE New York, Art Fair, New York; UNTITLED, Art Fair, Miami Beach; Editions/Artists' Book Fair, New York; International Film Awards Berlin, KINO im Kulturhaus Spandau, Berlin; Night Light: Making a Scene, SOMArts, San Francisco; The Chasm Arena, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; Women Redrawing the World Stage, SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery, New York; The Fertile Crescent: Gender, Art, and Society, Bernstein Gallery, Princeton University, Princeton; Jaffa Mangoes: History, Memory, and Myth, Ictus Gallery, San Francisco; The Third Half, The Public Theater, New York; and Passages, Golden Thread's ReORient Festival, San Francisco. Awards include: Winner of Animation Category, Los Angeles Art-House Film Festival, Santa Monica; Perspectives: Here and There residency, Brodsky Center for Innovative Editions, Rutgers University, New Brunswick; and Vermont Studio Center residencies.



FY2016-2017 Individual Artist Commission- Literary
Thursday, April 6, 2017
Panelist Biographies

Ingrid Rojas Contreras, Writer

Ingrid Rojas Contreras is a Colombian writer living and working in San Francisco. Her debut novel "The Fruit of the Drunken Tree" is forthcoming from Doubleday (2018). She is the recipient of the Mary Tanenbaum Literary Award for Non-fiction from the San Francisco Foundation. Her work has been published in Guernica, Los Angeles Review of Books, Electric Literature, and more. She has collaborated on art projects with her partner, performance artist Jeremiah Barber. She is working on a memoir about her grandfather, a medicine man from Colombia who it was said had the power to move clouds.

Caroline Grant, Writer, Founder, Sustainable Arts Foundation

Caroline Grant earned a PhD at U.C. Berkeley and taught writing for nearly ten years at U. C. Berkeley, Stanford, and the San Francisco Art Institute; her writing classes always emphasized community engagement, as her students volunteered their writing skills for local nonprofits as an element of their coursework, and studied the different ways idiolects define communities. After she started a family, she found academic life incompatible with parenting. Carol began editing for Literary Mama, working her way up the masthead and ultimately serving five years as editor-in-chief of the site. She also co-edited two anthologies, *Mama, PhD: Women Write About Motherhood and Academic Life* (Rutgers University Press, 2008) and *The Cassoulet Saved Our Marriage: True Stories of Food, Family, and How We Learn to Eat* (Roost Books, 2013). Her work with writers over the years crystallized her desire to support writers and artists who are parents. In 2011, Carol and her husband founded the Sustainable Arts Foundation and have awarded over \$500,000 to individuals and organizations that support writers and artists who are parents; this year, they announced a commitment to racial equity, and will make at least half of the awards to writers and artists of color.

Melissa Hung, Writer, Journalist, Media Maker

Melissa Hung currently produces stories for print, digital, and radio. She also writes creative nonfiction. A former newspaper reporter, she co-founded Hyphen, an award-winning magazine about Asian American culture, and led the publication for more than five years as its editor in chief. She directed WritersCorps, a nationally-recognized arts education program that helped youth tell their own stories through creative writing and digital projects. Melissa also founded and curated *Slant: Bold Asian American Images*, an annual program of short films in Houston. On occasion, she makes short films herself. Her work has appeared in NPR, NBC News Digital,

Houston Press, East Bay Express, Mother Jones, and KPFA-FM. A native Texan, she lives in San Francisco where she enjoys recycling and composting, but misses Tex-Mex and cafeterias.

D. Scot Miller, Writer, Founder, Afrosurreal Manifesto

D. Scot Miller is a recipient of the San Francisco Arts Commission cultural equity grant and is currently Columnist-In-Residence for San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Poet, visual artist and curator, he sits on the Board of Advisors to Nocturnes Literary Review, is a regular contributor to Mosaic Magazine and Ishmael Reed's Konch among others, and is the author of *The Afrosurreal Manifesto* and founder of the movement from which it's named.

Niloufar Talebi, Writer, Editor, Translator

Talebi is the Editor/Translator of *BELONGING: New Poetry by Iranians Around the World* (North Atlantic Books, 2008), which won 4 translation awards. Willis Barnstone said, "Niloufar Talebi has accomplished the ultimate magic trick in her clean and modern translation. Talebi has been published in *Catamaran Literary Reader*, *World Literature Today*, *PBS Frontline*, *ArteEast*, *Bidoun*, *Poetry International*, *Rattapalax*, *Mother Jones*, *Harvard Divinity Bulletin*, *Two Lines*, and more. Her work has been presented at numerous venues including, the Asia Society, PEN World Voices Festival of International Literature in NYC, the National Arts Club, St. Mark's Poetry Project, LA Craft and Folk Art Museum, Riverside Theatre, SOMArts Gallery, Visible Verse Film Festival, Persian Arts Festival, Neustadt Festival of International Literature and Culture, DUMBO Arts Festival, the New York Public Library, The New School, City University of New York, State University of New York (SUNY), City University of New York (CUNY), Universities of California at Berkeley, Irvine and Los Angeles, California College of the Arts, Yale University, Queens College, CalArts, Theater Artaud, Berkeley Repertory Theater, ODC Theater, Actor's Theater, Intersection for the Arts and more. Talebi is the recipient of numerous grants (James Irvine Foundation, Walter and Elise Haas Foundation, Zellerbach Foundation, Christensen Fund, San Francisco Arts Commission (2X), the Creative Work Fund, PARS Community Foundation, Unique Zan Foundation, Farhang Foundation, and more), and 5 translation awards: NEA Literature Translation Fellow (2015), PEN American Center/New York State Council on the Arts grant for editing and translating *BELONGING*, the International Center for Writing and Translation Prize, American Literary Translators Association Fellowship and the Willis Barnstone Translation Prize. She is Artist-in-Residence at School of the Arts in San Francisco. She was in residence at the Ledig House International Writers Residency (2005 and 2008). Talebi was born in London to Iranian parents. She received a BA in Comparative Literature from UC Irvine and an MFA in Writing and Literature from Bennington College, and studied performance with John White, the NEA 4, Jean Shelton, and Cyril Clayton.