

Artistic Legacy Grant (ALG) Grant Program Overview

The Artistic Legacy Grant (ALG) acknowledges the impact of an artistic leader who has served a San Francisco-based organization consistently for 25 years or more. An artistic leader may be an individual that conceives, develops and implements the artistic vision of an organization. This may include artistic directors, chief artistic officers, program directors, executive directors or curators.

Through the vision of the artistic leader, the applicant organization is a vital member of their respective community(ies) and has a history of working to educate the broader community on the importance of their culture and/or artistic genre.

Panel Composition

One panel of three members convened on January 13, 2022 to rank the ALG applications according to the stated review criteria in the published ALG 2021-2022 guidelines.

The panelists brought a range of expertise in nonprofit arts leadership and administration and community-based programming. They identify as African American, Asian American and Latinx. Thirty-three percent identify as LGBTQ.

FY21-22 ALG Funding Recommendations

7 grant applications were received requesting a total of \$280,000.

The panelists reviewed 7 ALG applications according to the stated review criteria. ALG Funding recommendations include 1 applicant for a total of \$40,000.

Successful proposals clearly articulated their organization's mission and history of engaging communities identified in the [Cultural Equity Endowment legislation](#), and clearly articulated the artistic leadership's history and accomplishments and demonstrated a meaningful evolution. Their proposal will further the artistic leader's vision and ensure the organization's longevity and lasting change on the community(ies) engaged.

Funding requests include a range of artistic leaders of small and mid-sized arts organizations that engage San Francisco's diverse audiences and communities, spanning a range of artistic disciplines including jazz and performing arts, ancient and modern Chinese dance, movement and theater.

The applicants that did not score well were unable to clearly articulate their organization's history of engaging communities identified in the [Cultural Equity Endowment legislation](#), and did not clearly articulate how the proposal will further the artistic leader's legacy. Or, they provided incomplete or missing financials and work samples.

Attachments

Attachments to this memo include the list of ALG applicants recommended for funding with project descriptions and panelist biographies.

Community Investments

FY21-22 Artistic Legacy Grant Funding Recommendation



Applicant Category Grant Amount	Project Description
Theatre of Yugen \$40,000	San Francisco Arts Commission funds will be used to support Yugen's documentary project which includes digitizing archival materials and interviewing Yugen's founder Yuriko Doi along with the Kyogen ensemble members. The funds will also be used for the inaugural year activities of the new Kyogen training program with master artists from Japan.



FY22 Artistic Legacy Grant (ALG) Panelist Biographies

David Herrera is a choreographer/producer in San Francisco. He grew up in Hollywood, CA influenced by his diverse neighborhood and his Mexican and American heritages. In 2007, he launched David Herrera Performance Company as a response to the lack of Latinx visibility and representation in the U.S. modern dance field. He advocates to provide Latinx/POC dance artists opportunities and demanding cultural equity from institutions.

David is a Hope Mohr Dance Community Engagement Resident, advisor to the Festival of Latin American Contemporary Choreographers, an Isadora Duncan Awards committee member, and member of “Dancing Around Race”, a cohort dedicated to the implementation of cultural equity in the dance sector. David has also mentored homeless individuals through the Community Housing Partnership in San Francisco.

Commissions by Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, ODC Theater, Asian Art Museum, U.C. Santa Cruz, FWD.US, Novato School for the Arts, Williams Sonoma, and Push Dance Company.

Lenora Lee has been a dancer, choreographer, and artistic director in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York. She has been pushing the envelope of large-scale, site-responsive, immersive, and multimedia dance performance that connects various styles of movement and music to culture, history, and human rights issues, inspired by individual stories as well as community strength. Lenora’s work integrates contemporary dance, film, music, text, and research, and has gained increasing attention for its sustained pursuit of issues related to immigration, global conflict, incarceration. It has grown to encompass the creation, presentation, and screening of films, museum and gallery installations, civic engagement, and educational programming. She is a 2019 United States Artists Fellow, an artist in residence at Pao Arts Center and Arts Emerson, and her company Lenora Lee Dance is a recipient of the 2021 New England Foundation for the Arts National Dance Project Production Grant.

Sherri Young is an M.F.A. graduate from the American Conservatory Theatre; and former Commissioner for the San Francisco Arts Commission proudly serving for Mayor Gavin Newsom. She founded the African-American Shakespeare Company in 1994 and has been its Executive Director ever since. Sherri has directed 16 productions; produced and executed four programs for the organization; and speaks at various colleges, universities, and conferences across the nation. She manages approximately 60 company members and volunteers for the organization’s programs. Some career highlights include creating the company’s signature holiday performance Cinderella, effectively building and stabilizing the organization over the past five years, increasing audience attendance by 30%, and increasing new funding support by foundations and individual donors within the past two years.