



For Immediate Release
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The Center for Cultural Innovation Announces Grants to 29 California Artists

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) today announced twenty-nine recipients in the 2012 Visual Arts, Craft, and Literary Arts round of funding under its *Investing in Artists* grants program, which is designed to build the personal and creative capacity of California's artists working in all disciplines.

The *Investing in Artists* grants program was established by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) in 2007 to enhance the working lives and strengthen the creative support system for California. Over the last five years, CCI has awarded \$1.45 million in grants to 161 California artists through *Investing in Artists*. With the ongoing support of The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, CCI is pleased to support California artists working in all disciplines over five additional rounds of *Investing in Artists* funding in 2012 to 2014.

The July 2012 round of the *Investing in Artists* grants program provided support to individual visual, craft, and literary artists in two categories: 1) for the acquisition of Artistic Equipment & Tools; and 2) for Artistic Innovation.

In the Artistic Equipment & Tools category, the following fourteen (14) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- Lita Albuquerque (Visual Arts, Santa Monica)
- Melanie Cervantes (Visual Arts, San Leandro)
- Patricia Fernandez (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Sherin E. Guirguis (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Julia Kate Haft-Candell (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Tony Labat (Visual Arts, San Francisco)
- Candice C. Lin (Visual Arts, Altadena)
- Jerome Reyes (Visual Arts, San Francisco)
- May Sun (Multidisciplinary, Culver City)
- Kristine Thompson (Photography, Altadena)
- Bruce Tomb (Visual Arts, San Francisco)
- Lizette Wanzer (Literature, San Francisco)
- Gordon Winiemko (Visual Arts, Long Beach)
- Jenifer K. Wofford (Visual Arts, San Francisco)

In the Artistic Innovation category, fifteen (15) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- Terry Berlier (Visual Arts, Oakland)
- Tammy Rae Carland (Multidisciplinary, Oakland)
- Camilo Cruz (Photography, Los Angeles)
- Krysten Cunningham (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)

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- Liz Glynn (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Taraneh Hemami (Visual Arts, San Francisco)
- Farrah Karapetian (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Hilja M. Keading (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Olga Koumoundouros (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Agustin Maes (Literature, Oakland)
- Daniel McCormick (Visual Arts, Fairfax)
- Chris Sollars (Visual Arts, San Francisco)
- Michelle B. Tea (Literature, San Francisco)
- Clarissa Tossin (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Burlee Vang (Literature, Cerritos)

“CCI could not be more pleased to support such an outstanding and diverse roster of California artists in this round,” noted CCI President and CEO Cora Mirikitani. “We are excited to be able to recognize these 29 artists and the excellence of their work.”

A panel of distinguished experts assisted CCI in reviewing the 2012 Visual Arts, Craft, and Literary Arts round of *Investing in Artists* applications, including: Clayton Campbell (*Visual Arts Curator/Consultant*); Karin Higa (*Adjunct Curator of Art, Japanese American National Museum*); Patricia Maloney (*Director, Art Practical*); Cora Mirikitani (*President and CEO, Center for Cultural Innovation*); Consuelo Velasco Montoya (*Program Coordinator and faculty member, MFA Public Practice, Otis College of Art and Design*); Joe Bastida Rodriguez (*Visual Artist/Consultant*); Emily Sevier (*Visual Artist/Consultant*); and, Maysoun Wazwaz (*Program Manager, Mills College Art Museum*).

About CCI: The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) was founded in 2001 as a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Its mission is to promote knowledge sharing, networking, and financial independence for individual artists and creative entrepreneurs by providing business training, grants, and incubating innovative projects that create new program knowledge, tools, and practices for artists in the field.

For more information about the Center for Cultural Innovation and the *Investing in Artists* grants program please go to CCI’s website at www.cciarts.org.

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