



Press Release

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Contact: Lauren Bailey
(213) 687-8577
grants@cciarts.org
www.cciarts.org

The Center for Cultural Innovation Announces Grants to 23 California Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts Artists

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) today announced twenty-three recipients in the 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 artists working in all disciplines. Since that time, with the support of The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, CCI has awarded over \$2 million to 270 diverse artists working in various disciplines across the state.

Administrative Office

244 S. San Pedro Street
Suite 401
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 687-8577
(213) 687-8578 fax

Bay Area Office

925 Mission Street
Suite 109
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 288-0530
(415) 288-0530 fax

The 2014 Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts Round of the *Investing in Artists* grants program provides support to individual 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 twelve (12) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- S.A. Bachman (LOUDER THAN WORDS) (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Jeff Cain (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Dino Dinco (*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)
- Mark Flores (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Micol Hebron (*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)
- Kenyatta Hinkle (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Olga Koumoundouros (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Janis Crystal Lipzin (*Multidisciplinary, Sebastopol*)
- Richard Montoya (*Literature, Los Angeles*)
- Maria Porges (*Visual Arts, Oakland*)
- Isaac Resnikoff (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Chris Thorson (*Visual Arts, Oakland*)

In the Artistic Innovation category, eleven (11) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- Stephen Berens (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Guillermo Bert (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Jacqueline Gordon (*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)
- Suzanne Lacy (*Visual Arts, Marina del Rey*)
- Rebecca Lowry (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Susan Mogul (*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)
- Alison O'Daniel (*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)
- Michele O'Marah (*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)
- Erica Lorraine Scheidt (*Literature, Berkeley*)
- Tracey Snelling (*Visual Arts, Oakland*)
- Weston Teruya (*Visual Arts, Berkeley*)

"CCI believes that directly supporting artists and their artistic endeavors is essential to the vitality and diversity of expression in society," said CCI Interim President and CEO, Angie Kim. "Our investments in these 23 artists will do just that. Whether affording a new artistic project or essential equipment, our support will help these artists advance artistically thereby contributing to the richness and dynamism of California's arts and culture landscape. We feel privileged and proud to be recognizing such outstanding artists."

A panel of distinguished experts assisted CCI in reviewing the *Investing in Artists* applications, including: Kevin B. Chen (Curator, Writer, and Visual Artist); Donna Conwell (Associate Curator, Montalvo Art Center); Alexander Jarman (Manager of Adult and Community Programs for the Walters Art Museum. Previous adjunct professor at Point Loma Nazarene University and Artist-in-Residence at the San Diego Museum of Art); Aimee Le Duc (Executive Director, Berkeley Art Center); Sohrab Mohebbi (Curator and Writer); Robert L. Pincus (Writer, Previous Art Critic, The San Diego Union and The San Diego Union-Tribune); Corrina Peipon (Artist & Museum Liaison, Honor Fraser Gallery); Emily Sevier (*Visual Artist/Consultant*); and Anuradha Vikram (Director of Residency Programs, 18th Street Arts Center).

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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