

# The Center For Cultural Innovation

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## Annual Report 2013





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Friends,

When CCI was just getting off the ground in 2002, an esteemed colleague said to me, only half-jokingly, that an organization called the “Center for Cultural Innovation” needed to be highly entrepreneurial as nonprofits go, or run the risk of becoming the “Center for the Same Old Thing.” I have kept that thought in the back of my mind ever since then, and believe that the programs described in this 2013 Annual Report reflect CCI’s particular entrepreneurial approach to building knowledge, networking and financial independence for artists through effective training programs, grantmaking and convening and advocacy activities.

In our grantmaking, CCI has now been able to provide 264 grants to individual artists in California with more than \$1.92 million through our *Investing in Artists* grant program supporting both artistic innovation and purchase of equipment and tools needed by artists in all disciplines. We have also been privileged to work with The Durfee Foundation to administer the ARC Grants Program for Los Angeles artists, which has helped 592 artists get their work presented locally, nationally and even internationally since its inception in 2000.

In our training and professional development work, CCI has continued to present its signature Business of Art training workshops to artists, accompanied by the second edition of the *Business of Art: Artist’s Guide to Profitable Self-Employment* (2012), which is in high demand as a standalone resource and has been widely distributed. Because we believe in tapping the full marketplace of learning resources for artists, we also developed the Creative Capacity Fund to administer two professional development grant and reimbursement programs – the Quick Grant program in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, and the NextGen Professional Development Grant program for emerging arts leaders throughout the state. Both of these funding programs feature rolling applications on a monthly basis as a way to ease access to funding and ensure a quick decision turnaround.

Given that 2013 represents the beginning of CCI’s next ten years of activity, it also seemed timely for the Center for Cultural Innovation’s board and staff to invest in a year-long strategic planning process to both consider our accomplishments and envision the future. A preview is included at the end of this report, and we are excited and energized by these new directions.

As a final note, I would like to thank CCI’s staff, trainers and consultants for bringing their “A-game” to the table every day, and our funders and supporters for helping us to realize our very best work for artists in California, and everywhere.

Here’s to another great year ahead,



Cora Mirikitani  
*President and CEO*



## MISSION & VISION

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**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 by incubating innovative projects that create new program knowledge, tools and practices for artists in the field.**

CCI believes that by linking the natural creativity and tolerance for risk of artists and creative entrepreneurs to the latest business tools and practices, and by helping to connect them to new financial resources and to one another, CCI can give artists the knowledge and economic independence needed to bring their work and ideas into the marketplace, and establish a new voice for artists based on their collective clout. This is our vision. Knowledge is power. Personal networks build community. And financial independence supports creative freedom. This is what drives our work at the Center for Cultural Innovation.

## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS

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**Providing artists with financial resources to help them advance their careers is a cornerstone of CCI's work. Through our three innovative grant programs, *Investing in Artists*, the ARC program and the Creative Capacity Fund, artists and arts administrators have the opportunity to increase their sustainability, advance their professional development and expand their art practice.**

### INVESTING IN ARTISTS

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 \$1.92 million to 225 diverse artists working in various disciplines across the state.

In FY'13, CCI awarded a total of \$317,090 in grants through the 2013 Performing Arts and Media Arts round and the 2013 Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts round of the program to a record number of 47 California artists in two

categories:

Artistic  
Equipment  
and Tools  
and Artistic

Innovation. Grants were announced in April 2013 and September 2013.

#### 2013 PERFORMING ARTS AND MEDIA ARTS - 13 ARTISTIC EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS GRANTS:

Maria Breaux  
(Media Arts, San Francisco)  
Stephen Dick (Music, South Pasadena)  
Lara Downes (Music, Davis)  
Austin Forbord (Media Arts, Oakland)  
Ledoh (Dance, San Francisco)





## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS *continued*

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Hugh Livingston (*Music, Oakland*)

T. Kelly Mason

(*Media Arts, Los Angeles*)

John-Carlos Perea

(*Music, San Francisco*)

Suzan Pitt (*Media Arts, Oakland*)

Johnny Symons

(*Media Arts, Oakland*)

David Szlasa

(*Multidisciplinary, Oakland*)

Wu Tsang

(*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)

Sarah Wilson (*Music, Oakland*)

### 2013 PERFORMING ARTS AND MEDIA ARTS - 11 ARTISTIC INNOVATION GRANTS:

Charya Burt

(*Folk/Traditional, Windsor*)

Chitresh Das

(*Folk/Traditional, San Francisco*)

Ellen Fullman (*Music, Berkeley*)

Guillermo Gomez-Pena

(*Multidisciplinary, San Francisco*)

Margaret Jenkins

(*Dance, San Francisco*)

Jo Kreiter (*Dance, San Francisco*)

Emily Mast

(*Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles*)

Nobuko Miyamoto

(*Music, Los Angeles*)

Pat O'Neill (*Media Arts, Pasadena*)

David Rousseve (*Dance, Sherman Oaks*)

Susan Simpson (*Theater, Los Angeles*)

### 2013 VISUAL ARTS, CRAFT AND LITERARY ARTS – 12 ARTISTIC EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS GRANTS:

Julie Alland

(*Visual Arts, San Francisco*)

Dave Bailey (*Visual Arts, Van Nuys*)

Bonnie Begusch

(*Visual Arts, Berkeley*)

Matt Black (*Photography, Exeter*)

Marion Coleman

(*Crafts, Castro Valley*)

Bill Geisinger (*Crafts, Sebastopol*)

Joyce Hsu (*Visual Arts, Oakland*)

Nick Lally

(*Multidisciplinary, Oakland*)

Jennifer Reifsneider

(*Visual Arts, Burbank*)

May Wilson (*Crafts, Davis*)

Michiko Yao

(*Visual Arts, Los Angeles*)

Rene Yung

(*Multidisciplinary, San Francisco*)

"As an *Investing in Artists* grantee, I was able to obtain traditional instruments which enriched the performance of my musical compositions. Funding from CCI provided a critical element that allowed me to maintain the cultural integrity of my art form. I am appreciative of this opportunity to present my work and preserve the rich cultural traditions of my African Brazilian heritage."

– Gamo Da Paz

"Without the solid financial backing of the CCI *Investing in Artists* grant, this project would not have been on such solid footing in its early stages. It has been a privilege and an honor to be the recipient of this award."

– Lionel Popkin

## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS *continued*

### 2013 VISUAL ARTS, CRAFT AND LITERARY ARTS – 11 ARTISTIC INNOVATION GRANTS:

Deborah Aschheim  
*(Visual Arts, Pasadena)*

Sarah Christianson  
*(Photography, San Francisco)*

Sandra de la Loza  
*(Visual Arts, Los Angeles)*

James Gouldthorpe  
*(Multidisciplinary, Richmond)*

Stas Orlovski  
*(Visual Arts, Los Angeles)*

Jennie Ottinger  
*(Visual Arts, San Francisco)*

Alison Pebworth  
*(Visual Arts, San Francisco)*

Leslie Shows  
*(Visual Arts, San Francisco)*

Sheri Simons  
*(Visual Arts, Central Valley)*

Robert Wechsler  
*(Visual Arts, Glendale)*

Arisa White *(Literature, Oakland)*

### ARC PROGRAM

In FY'13, CCI continued administration of The Durfee Foundation's ARC Program (Artists' Resource for Completion), having completed 12 continuous years of funding through the 2012 Fourth Quarter grant cycle. Starting with the 2013 Second Quarter cycle, the program focused on artists who had never received an ARC grant and would therefore be "first-time" grantees, making funding available to artists who hadn't yet received ARC support.



ARC grants provide rapid, short-term assistance on a quarterly basis to individual artists in Los Angeles County who wish to enhance work for a specific, imminent opportunity that may significantly benefit their careers. Artists in any discipline are eligible to apply.

In the final two grant making cycles in 2012 and the first cycle of 2013, CCI awarded \$109,310 in grants through ARC to 39 Los Angeles artists.

### THIRD QUARTER ARC GRANTEES (2012)

Richard Alger *(Theater)*

Larissa Bank *(Visual Arts)*

Tuni Chatterji *(Media Arts)*

Kate Costello *(Visual Arts)*

Mark Z. Danielewski *(Literary Arts)*

"I am so very proud to have joined the ranks of colleagues who have received the *ARC* grant in years prior. It is such an unusual and wonderfully special program that provides tremendous support and encouragement to emerging L.A. artists at the time when they need it most. I am forever grateful."

— Tyler Adams, ARC Grantee,  
Los Angeles

"The *ARC* grant is a very special source of funding — one of the most functional, specific, direct sources of financial intervention for individual artists that I have come across in over a decade of locating funding both in experimental theater and the visual arts. The grant allowed me to show my work at its highest form, and take advantage of this incredible career opportunity in the best possible way."

— Maya Gurantz, ARC Grantee,  
Los Angeles



## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS *continued*

Tony de los Reyes (*Visual Arts*)  
Rochelle Ann Gazin (*Photography*)  
Sherin Guirguis (*Visual Arts*)  
Cynthia Ling Lee (*Dance*)  
Grace Lee (*Media Arts*)  
Matthew Lucero (*Visual Arts*)  
Alison O'Daniel (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Sohini Ray (*Dance*)  
Maureen Selwood (*Media Arts*)  
Miranda Jo Wright (*Multidisciplinary*)

### FOURTH QUARTER ARC GRANTEES (2012)

Timur Bekbosunov (*Music*)  
Jami Brandli (*Literary Arts*)  
Jennifer Celio (*Visual Arts*)  
Maya Gurantz (*Multidisciplinary*)  
William E. Jones (*Visual Arts*)  
Vishal Jugdeo (*Visual Arts*)  
Elena Manferdini (*Design*)  
Elana Mann (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Amitis Motevalli (*Multidisciplinary*)  
John David O'Brien (*Visual Arts*)  
Prumsodun Ok (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Chi-wang Yang (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Guy Zimmerman (*Theater*)

### SECOND QUARTER ARC GRANTEES (2013)

Tyler Adams (*Media Arts*)  
Lynn Aldrich (*Sculpture*)  
Karen Anzoategui (*Theater*)  
Edgar Arceneaux (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Mattia Casalegno (*Media Arts*)  
Audrey Chan (*Multidisciplinary*)

Bia Gayotto (*Media Arts*)  
Bettina Hubby (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Hirokazu Kosaka (*Multidisciplinary*)  
Shizu Saldamando (*Visual Arts*)  
Pat Taylor (*Dance*)

## THE CREATIVE CAPACITY FUND

Launched in 2009 by a consortium of California arts funders, the Creative Capacity Fund (CCF) provides funding for professional development to strengthen the management and administrative skills of artists and arts administrators by providing access to a wide range of capacity building and coaching opportunities.

CCF offers professional development grants in two categories:

THE QUICK GRANT PROGRAM, which provides \$500-\$1,000 in reimbursement funding to engage consultants or participate in workshops and conferences that will significantly impact administrative capacity or business skills.



In FY'13, CCF awarded 195 Quick Grants to 142 individual artists and 53 nonprofit arts organizations in the Bay Area and Los Angeles totaling \$106,546 in professional development reimbursement funding. Small to mid-sized organizations received significant support to help build their organizational capacity and artists used the funds to participate in professional development workshops, conferences and

## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS *continued*

coaching/consulting to hone their business skills and advance their careers.

Participating funders in the Quick Grant program include the San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Grants for the Arts/Hotel Tax Fund, the San Francisco Foundation, the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs, the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the California Community Foundation, the Lia Fund, The Fleishhacker Foundation and The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation. In FY'13, the funder list expanded to include The Entrekin Family Foundation.

**NEXTGEN ARTS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE**, initially funded as a three-year project from 2010-2012, received a renewal grant from 2012-2015 from The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in November 2012. This continued

support will deepen and sustain CCI's work in the following areas: 1) NextGen Professional Development Grants; 2) NextGen Organizational Grants; and 3) Outreach and convening activities for emerging arts leaders

statewide. Additionally, the grant includes support to develop and execute a strategic communications plan directed toward emerging arts leaders statewide, particularly in underserved, non-metro regions in order to make the Initiative and lessons learned more visible to the broader field.



**NEXTGEN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS** provided funding up to \$1,000 to individual California emerging arts leaders for professional development.

In FY'13, 124 next generation arts leaders in California received grants totaling \$86,215 to pursue proposed professional development activities. Grantees explored a variety of enriching projects to support their professional development in pioneering ways, ranging from shadowing senior staff to participation at national arts conferences.

**NEXTGEN ORGANIZATIONAL GRANTS** totaling \$75,000 will provide 5-6 California arts and cultural organizations up to \$15,000 each over an 18-month period from January 2014-June 2015 to support the development of new programs and policies to cultivate and sustain NextGen leadership within their organizations. The guidelines for the second round of NextGen Organizational Grants were released in July 2013, and CCI received 24 Letters of Inquiry from a diversity of small to mid-sized organizations from regions all over California.

**NEXTGEN OUTREACH** included two convenings of statewide representatives from Emerging Arts Professional groups from San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles and San Diego. These peer-learning sessions took place in Los Angeles and San Jose, respectively, as part of a three-year series of semi-annual meetings. The purpose of these meetings was to provide an opportunity for shared learning and information exchange to help ensure connectivity between

"The *Quick Grant* program has been immensely helpful to me as an artist. I developed my business capacity through film industry seminars and through working with a writing consultant on marketing. These experiences exposed me to state-of-the-art promotion, pitching, and marketing concepts that I would not have otherwise

accessed. A pleasant outcome was that I met high-caliber industry people and built my network during this process. Thank you, CCI!"

— **Ashia Chacko, Literary and Media Artist, San Mateo, Awarded April 2013**



## GRANT & FUNDING PROGRAMS *continued*

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fledgling efforts to organize NextGen leaders across the state.

In Summer 2012, The Hewlett and Irvine Foundations commissioned Harder & Company to pursue an early phase assessment to document the building process and identify early lessons that may inform the field and the progress/potential of the NextGen Leadership Initiative in its first three years. These early findings were profoundly encouraging. From the perspective of grantees, the NextGen Professional Development Grant Program has had a clear, positive impact on their job capacity and commitment to the field. Nearly 84% of NGPD evaluation participants reported that the professional development activity for which they were awarded funding exceeded or greatly exceeded their expectations.

Organizations receiving Next Gen Innovation grants felt just as strongly about their participation in the program. According to one managing director:

***“It opened our organizational leadership’s eyes and minds to the strengths of our Next Gen leadership. I think I will see a continuation of leadership growth of our Next Gen cohort, whether they stay with our organization or not. This is where we have to be appropriate stewards... Not only do we think they can do more, but they think they can do more too.”***

## TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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**Since its inception, CCI’s professional development training program has helped thousands of California artists acquire targeted business skills to help them advance their artistic careers. With a roster of business professionals with experience working with artists and nonprofit organizations, the program continues to positively impact the financial viability of art-making individuals throughout the state.**

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY’13 INCLUDE:

We continued to partner with The Six Points Foundation to provide targeted professional development training, focusing on Presentation Strategies, to the eight emerging artists in the Six Points Fellowship program.

“Participating in the Presenters Week at the Santiago a Mil Festival was absolutely needed in my development as a producer/presenter of contemporary arts. It . . . allowed for me to self-reflect on where I currently stand within the field and future possibilities.

I’d like to express my gratitude to the Center for Cultural Innovation for coordinating this wonderful program, and the James Irvine Foundation and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation for investing in the next-generation of leaders in the non-profit sector.” **Edgar Miramontes, REDCAT Theatre, Los Angeles, Awarded in November 2012**



## TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS *continued*

CCI's signature professional development program, *Business of Art*, was presented to 19 artists of varying disciplines in the spring of 2013.



CCI provided a total of 88 hours of professional development training to artists throughout California, including a series co-presented with the City of Ventura. Subject-specific topics included Financial Literacy, Negotiation Strategies, and Tax Tips. A total of 27 workshops were produced during the FY and attended by over 440 people.

"The Center for Cultural Innovation has provided valuable and intelligent programs that have engaged me and helped identify and drive the focus of my creative work. It has encouraged the thoughtful establishment of a strong base structure from which my projects, collaborations and creative work have been

### L.A. DANCE SUMMIT

On June 8, 2013 over 200 Los Angeles and San Diego artists, dance companies, presenters, funders, teachers, conditioning specialists and dance service providers convened for a Dance Summit at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center / Japan America Theatre. Sponsored by CCI, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, and the Los Angeles Dance Foundation, the event began with a plenary panel discussion, "L.A.'s Dance Ecology – Bright Spots and Challenges" and continued in six sessions throughout the afternoon with topics including "Big Vision: Leading the Field with Planning, Strategies, Models and Practices", "Cultivating Individual Donors", and "Meet the Funders". Also available to attendees were nine information round tables offering resources and specific information from a variety of Los Angeles-based arts service providers.



able to flourish. Through its programs, CCI has also provided access to first-class mentors and advisers in all realms of the field, who are seasoned experts in entrepreneurship and the arts."

**Leah Curtis, Workshop Participant**



## CCI STRATEGIC PLANNING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

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In April 2012, the CCI board of directors initiated a year-long planning process to reflect on CCI's accomplishments and envision what "CCI 2.0" might look like in the future. In its first 10 years, CCI evolved successfully by building a set of core programs around its mission to help California artists become more business-savvy and achieve greater financial sustainability, and as a result, more creative independence. After 10 years of operations, started in Los Angeles in 2002 and now including the San Francisco Bay Area and other parts of the state, CCI has achieved:

- A portfolio of programs and services that have modeled new approaches to financially educating and capitalizing working artists;
- A major entrepreneurial training program called the "Business of Art" – an innovation prototype that has seen steady growth and refinement, and is now in demand for expansion;
- A network of alumni artists from its grants, professional development, networking and advocacy programs; and
- Strong evidence through feedback from artists, funders and external evaluators of CCI's program strength and effectiveness.

The board affirmed that CCI's mission remains compelling, and that the need for CCI programs is intensifying in California, and beyond. CCI's next decade of work has been envisioned to include:

**2.0 PROGRAMS** – To deepen content and broaden impact of CCI's existing training and grantmaking programs, in particular, and develop a next generation of innovative programs to support artists and creative entrepreneurs.

**NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE MISSION** – To expand financial resources and expertise needed for program innovation, and to accelerate program development, distribution and learning.

**STAFF & BOARD LEADERSHIP** – To continue building a strong professional staff and governing board needed to successfully achieve the next phase of organizational development.

**ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS** – To increase public and field awareness of the value and impact of CCI's programs and brand, and support further community-building for artists everywhere.

The strategic planning process provided a special opportunity for CCI to reach out to many artists and colleagues in the arts, both in California and nationally, for your advice and feedback and we are enthusiastic about the possibilities ahead. In 2014, the CCI board and staff will be announcing further plans and activities and we look forward to your continued support and participation.





## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

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Center for Cultural Innovation continued its pattern of well-managed growth in FY'13, with income of \$1,523,270 received against program and operating expenses totaling \$1,235,712.

For further information on CCI's audited financial statements for FY'13, please contact the CCI Administrative Office at 244 S. San Pedro Street, Suite 401, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

**CCI would like to thank the following foundations and government agencies that supported its programs and operations in 2013:**

California Community Foundation  
City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs  
City of San José, Office of Cultural Affairs  
The Durfee Foundation  
The Entrekin Foundation  
The Fleishhacker Foundation  
The James Irvine Foundation  
Leveraging Investments in Creativity  
The Lia Fund  
Los Angeles County Arts Commission  
San Francisco Arts Commission  
The San Francisco Foundation  
San Francisco Grants for the Arts/Hotel Tax Fund  
Six Points Fellowship  
The Surdna Foundation  
The Walter & Elise Haas Fund  
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

**CCI would also like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions in 2013:**

Heather Myrick Arnold  
Rachel Bellow  
Bill Viola Studio  
David Brown  
Carsey Family Foundation  
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## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE *continued*

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