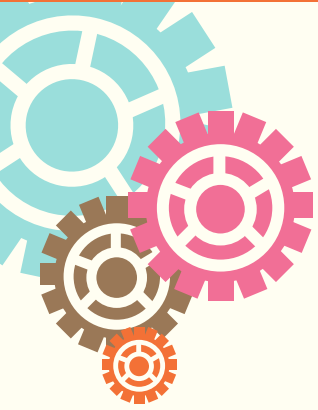


# CENTER FOR CULTURAL INNOVATION



**2014 ANNUAL REPORT**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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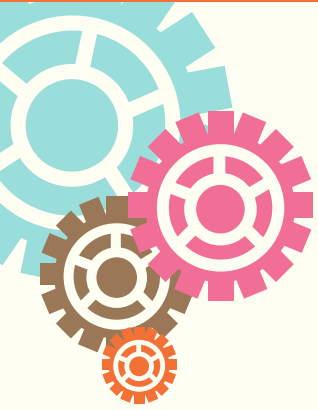
Dear Friends,

I've had the great privilege of being part of CCI as one of its original funders, as a board member since 2005, and as a colleague of and friend to Cora Mirikitani who stepped down as president and CEO at the end of this fiscal year. Cora led CCI for 10 fruitful years and has been, and will continue to be, a champion of the cause to support individual artists nationally. Throughout my relationship with CCI, I have been content to be supportive behind-the-scenes, but when the board of directors found ourselves without the right candidate to take Cora's place, I was happy to step in. I am honored to be entrusted with ensuring that CCI continues to be well-managed fiscally, governed actively and responsibly, operating smoothly, and meeting obligations. I am pleased to report that we ended the year (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014) having accomplished all these things. I am also proud to look back at CCI's history of accomplishments since 2001 and realize that we have helped 22,000 artists through workshops, funding, and convenings and invested more than \$3.6 million directly in artists' development, projects, and entrepreneurial activities. Such productivity over the years is made possible by the partnership and support of many people:

- Our funding partners and donors who understand the importance of artists in our society and who are CCI's thought partners and co-innovators in building artists' capacity, supporting next generation leadership, and investing in artists' enterprises.
- CCI's staff, trainers, and consultants whom I feel lucky to be working with for their knowledge, strategic thinking, institutional memory, and passion for our mission.
- CCI's board of directors whose diverse backgrounds in the arts, entrepreneurial practices, technology, social justice, and entertainment have found common purpose in our loyalty to CCI and its work.
- The artists. Whenever I read a book, see or hear a performance, or walk through an exhibition, I know that what I am seeing is but the tip of an artist's personal iceberg. Underneath that lovely presentation is hours and hours of sweat, stress, labor, and anxiety. We feel privileged and passionate about helping them manage that part of the iceberg that is invisible to their audiences but is at the core of realizing their artistic identities.

This is a time of change for CCI as we seek a permanent successor whose own vision will dictate CCI's next chapter. We are excited for this change as CCI is well-positioned to move forward in reflecting and shaping ever-shifting dynamics in the arts and culture sector. But, what remains constant is our appreciation for the artists who give our work purpose and our partners who make this work possible. I thank all of you for your support and participation to date and as CCI moves into the future.

Angie Kim  
*Interim President and CEO*

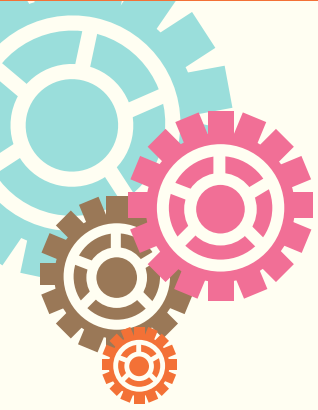


## **MISSION & VISION**

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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 and creative entrepreneurs with financial resources to help them advance their careers is cornerstone to CCI's work. Through our innovative grant programs, Investing in Artists, the ARC Program, Creative Capacity Fund, NextGen Arts Leadership Initiative and the Creative Industries Incentive 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 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 290 diverse artists working in various disciplines across the state.

In FY'14, CCI awarded a total of \$320,000 in grants through the 2014 Performing Arts and Media Arts and the 2014 Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts rounds of the program to 47 California artists in two categories: Artistic Equipment and Tools and Artistic Innovation.

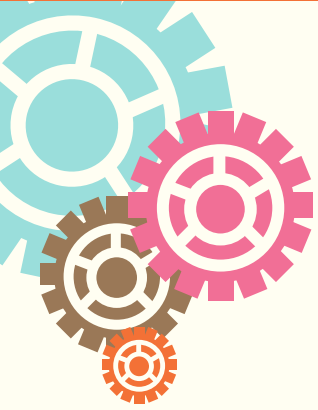
#### *2014 Performing Arts and Media Arts - Artistic Equipment and Tools Grants*

- Travis Andrews (Music, San Francisco)
- David Burns (Media Arts, Los Angeles)
- Bia Gayotto (Media Arts, Altadena)
- Erika Gentry (Media Arts, Oakland)
- Hilary Goldberg (Media Arts, San Francisco)
- Dee Hibbert-Jones (Media Arts, San Francisco)
- PJ Hirabayashi (Folk/Traditional, San José)
- Julie Orser (Media Arts, Los Angeles)
- Jay Rosenblatt (Media Arts, San Francisco)
- Irene Sazer (Music, Berkeley)
- Mina T. Son (Media Arts, Santa Monica)
- Natalie Zimmerman (Media Arts, Lagunitas)



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The Artistic Equipment & Tools grant was instrumental in expanding my capacity to create professional work. I can think of no greater gift than an opportunity to artistically render work from my imagination with high-end precision instruments as this grant award has allowed. It has been a remarkably effective way to infuse much-needed support into the life of an artist.

**-Hilary Goldberg, Animation Artist, Artistic Equipment and Tools Grantee**



**INVESTING IN ARTISTS (CONTINUED)**

*2014 Performing Arts and Media Arts - Artistic Innovation Grants*

- Ana Maria Alvarez (Dance, Santa Monica)
- Broderick Fox (Media Arts, Los Angeles)
- Amy Franceschini (Multidisciplinary, San Francisco)
- Janie Geiser (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Stanya Kahn (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Carole Kim (Media Arts, Pasadena)
- José Navarrete (Multidisciplinary, Oakland)
- Danial Nord (Multidisciplinary, San Pedro)
- Lisa Scola Prosek (Theater, San Francisco)
- Nadia Shihab (Media Arts, Berkeley)
- Erika Shuch (Multidisciplinary, Berkeley)
- Pamela Z (Multidisciplinary, San Francisco)

*2014 Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts – Artistic Equipment and Tools 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 A. C. 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)

*2014 Visual Arts, Craft and Literary Arts – Artistic Innovation Grants*

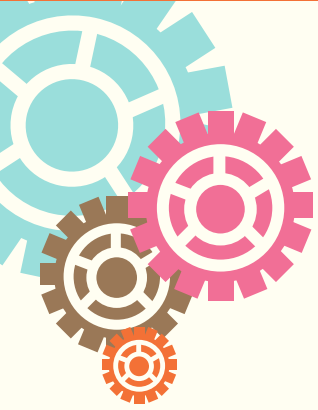
- Stephen Berens (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Guillermo Bert (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Jacqueline Gordon (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Suzanne Lacy (Visual Arts, Marina del Rey)
- Rebecca Lowry (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Susan Mogul (Visual Arts, Los Angeles)
- Alison O’Daniel (Multidisciplinary,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



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The Artistic Innovation grant enabled me to create a supportive framework to facilitate and develop a very new collaboration that bridges cultures, diverse forms of music and new media technologies. Receiving support from CCI helped me amass the ingredients (people, venue, materials and resources) to set this in motion. I am truly grateful to have been given the opportunity to pursue and realize this project. It’s a wonderful thing to run with a hunch and be able to create a supportive framework in which it can attain full bloom.

**-Carole Kim, Multimedia Artist, Artistic Innovation Grantee**



## **ARC PROGRAM**

The Artists' Resource for Completion (ARC) grants program concluded with the June 2014 announcement of the final round of grant recipients. The ARC grants program was established in 2000 by the Durfee Foundation to provide individual artists in Los Angeles County rapid, short-term assistance to enhance work for specific, imminent opportunities that significantly benefit their careers. In 2011, CCI took over the administration of the ARC Program at the request of the Durfee Foundation. For 14 years the ARC Program has had an extensive impact on the Los Angeles arts community, helping advance the careers of over 600 individual artists working in all disciplines. A list of all ARC grantees is available at [www.cciarts.org/arc.htm](http://www.cciarts.org/arc.htm)

In FY'14, CCI continued administration of The Durfee Foundation's ARC Program and awarded \$125,690 to 45 Los Angeles County artists, thus drawing the program to a close.

### September 2013 ARC Grantees

- David Bridel (Theater)
- Jeff Cain (Visual Arts)
- Kevin Cooley (Multidisciplinary)
- Nova Jiang (Media Arts)
- Flora Kao (Visual Arts)
- Jennie Liu (Dance)
- Shana Mabari (Visual Arts)
- Nicole Mitchell (Music)
- Suzan Pitt (Media Arts)
- Clarissa Tossin (Visual Arts)
- Amanda Yates Garcia (Multidisciplinary)

### December 2013 ARC Grantees

- Weba Garretson (Theater)
- Rennie Harris (Dance)
- Kenyatta A.C. Hinkle (Visual Arts)
- Katya Khan (Multidisciplinary)
- Joel Otterson (Visual Arts)
- Lina Patel (Theater)
- Aditya Prakash (Music)
- Donna Sternberg (Dance)
- Peiyi Wong (Multidisciplinary)

### March 2014 ARC Grantees

- Danielle Adair (Multidisciplinary)
- Timothy Berg (Sculpture)
- Kathryn Gilbert (Multidisciplinary)
- Erin Li (Media Arts)
- Nina McNeely (Dance)
- Jennifer Moon (Visual Arts)
- Carter Mull (Visual Arts)
- Genevieve Erin O'Brien (Multidisciplinary)
- Michael Parker (Visual Arts)
- Alexx Shilling (Dance)
- Andre Woodward (Visual Arts)

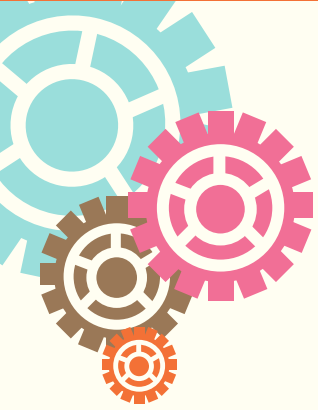
### June 2014 ARC Grantees

- Kim Abeles (Visual Art)
- Leilani Chan (Theater)
- Marsian De Lellis (Theater)
- Milka Djordjevich (Dance)
- John Fleck (Multidisciplinary)
- Rosanna Gamson (Dance)
- Lars Jan (Multidisciplinary)
- Michael Kass (Performing Arts)
- Allison Keating (Theater)
- Eve Luckring (Multidisciplinary)
- Arun Mathai (Dance)
- Danial Nord (Multidisciplinary)
- Julie Orser (Media Arts)
- David Weldzius (Visual Art)



I applied for the CCI ARC Grant while working on my installation for *Made in L.A. 2014* at the Hammer Museum. I was quite ambitious with my project, wanting to fully realize my vision for each piece without limit. Receiving the ARC Grant helped to finance the completion of the work, enabling my vision to be realized, which led to winning the Mohn Public Recognition Award.

**-Jennifer Moon, Multimedia Artist**



## **THE CREATIVE CAPACITY FUND**

Launched in 2009 by a consortium of California arts funders, the Creative Capacity Fund (CCF) aims to strengthen the management and administrative skills of artists and arts administrators by providing them with access to a wide range of capacity building and coaching opportunities. The consortium's Quick Grant Program provides \$500 in reimbursement funding, which individual artists and nonprofit arts workers use to engage consultants or participate in workshops and conferences that help hone their business skills and advance their careers. Since the program's inception, CCF has awarded 1007 Quick Grants to 671 artists and 336 nonprofit arts and cultural workers in Los Angeles and the Bay Area. In FY'14, CCF awarded 242 Quick Grants to 193 individual artists and 49 nonprofit arts organizations totaling \$109,191 in professional development reimbursement funding.

In spring 2013, the Creative Capacity Fund contracted consultant Diane Espaldon to conduct a follow-up evaluation of the Quick Grant Program on the mid-term impacts of professional development funding on grantees' careers. The findings of that evaluation, presented to the funder consortium in April 2014, were overwhelmingly positive with 96% of participating grantees rating their grant activity as excellent or good in meeting their professional development needs. Furthermore, 92% said they have been able to apply what they learned in practical ways to benefit their careers. Grantees directly tied their Quick Grant funding to achieving tangible career gains including securing book deals, distribution contracts, solo exhibitions and gallery representation.

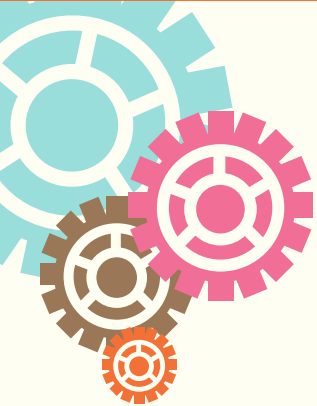
Participating funders in the Quick Grant program include San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Grants for the Arts/Hotel Tax Fund, San Francisco Foundation, City of San José Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, California Community Foundation, Lia Fund, and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.



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I want to let you know what a profound impact the Quick Grant funding had on our organization and my own artistic career. At the National Performance Network convening, I made incredible connections with my artistic peers, I had face-to-face meetings for the first time with presenters and commissioners, and I was able to deepen many existing relationships. I secured five new national commissions and seven new residencies and touring engagements through 2015! As a transgender and queer artist and leader, all of this powerful community-building, collaboration-making, learning, dreaming and planning was absolutely life-changing!

**-Sean Dorsey, Choreographer and Dancer and Executive Director,  
Fresh Meat Productions, San Francisco**



## **NEXTGEN ARTS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE**

A collaborative initiative of The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, CCI's NextGen Arts Leadership Initiative works in the following ways: 1) NextGen Professional Development Grants, 2) NextGen Organizational Grants and 3) Communications and Outreach activities for emerging arts professionals statewide.

- NextGen Professional Development Grants provides funding of up to \$1,000 to individual California emerging arts leaders for professional development.

To date, the NextGen Arts Professional Development Grant program has awarded 395 emerging arts leaders a total of \$327,418. In FY'14, 84 next generation arts leaders in California received scholarships totaling \$63,312 to pursue career enrichment activities. Grantees represented a diversity of California regions ranging from Los Angeles and San Francisco to Humboldt, Yolo, Tulare and Stanislaus counties to name just a few. The types of activities reflect the myriad leadership and professional development opportunities the program was designed to support, including mentorships with field leaders, self-designed curricula and studies abroad.

- NextGen Organizational Grants totaling \$75,000 provided California arts and cultural organizations up to \$15,000 each over an 18-month period between January 2014–July 2015 to support the development of new programs and policies that cultivate and sustain NextGen leadership within their organizations. The following organizations were selected to receive NextGen Organizational Grant funding:

- Cal Presenters
- Dancers' Group
- Palo Alto Art Center
- Santa Monica Museum of Art
- Mexican Heritage Plaza School of Arts and Culture
- World Arts West

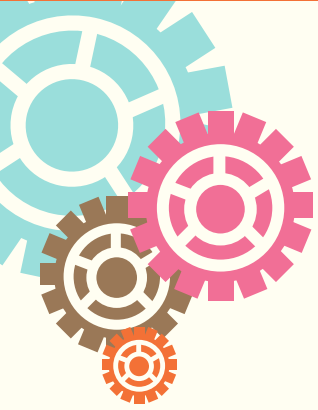
- NextGen Communications and Outreach activities sent CCI staff far and wide to over nine counties throughout the state. In an effort to raise visibility of the Initiative and encourage applications and engagement broadly, program director Jayna Swartzman-Brosky conducted in-person presentations in metropolitan regions as well as traditionally underserved, non-metro areas. Over 300 artists and arts workers attended 10 CCI information sessions. These field presentations were conducted in partnership with: The Community Media Access Collaborative, Ink People Center for the Arts, Intersection for the Arts, San Diego Foundation, Arts Council for Monterey County, The Community Foundation of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, Santa Barbara Arts Commission, Multicultural Arts Leadership Institute (MALI), Steinbeck Center and Cal Presenters.



I had an invaluable experience at the 2014 Annual Americans for the Arts Convention. As the head of a small rural local arts agency, it is a unique and highly rewarding experience to meet and develop relationships with colleagues nationally. This opportunity has already benefited our organization as well as my own professional development.

**-Olivia Everett, Arts Council Napa Valley**





## **CREATIVE INDUSTRIES INCENTIVE FUND (CIIF)**

In 2012, CCI partnered with the City of San José Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) to create the Creative Industries Incentive Fund (CIIF). CIIF is a ground-breaking pilot program providing project support to arts-rooted commercial businesses—which can include manufacturers, service providers, presenters and designers among others—involved in the production or distribution of the arts. In its first two rounds, CIIF grants totaling \$40,000 were awarded to 12 San José arts businesses. Each of the following grantees received project support grants of between \$2,000–\$5,000:

- Caffe Frascatti
- Content Magazine
- CSV2
- Die Hard Co.
- Empire 7 Studios
- Future Arts Now
- Interactive Cineparlors
- Moveable Feast
- San Jose Stock
- The Sign Artists
- Two Fish Design
- Universal Grammar



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Funding through the Creative Industries Incentive Fund helped us create a more noticeable storefront for E7S and therefore a more welcoming establishment since we are located in the middle of an industrial zone. We wanted to do this because many people would pass by our building and not want to walk inside because it was not your “typical” storefront. Since then, we’ve gained more recognition from the neighborhood and attracted outside visitors and tourists.

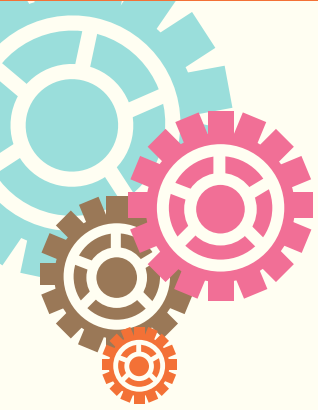
**-Carlos Araujo, Founder, Empire 7 Studios**



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Our CIIF grant for a marketing campaign helped us build awareness about FAN’s services with parents, youth, school administrators, city officials and Silicon Valley residents in general. Being able to get new signage and other marketing collateral helped to build legitimacy with our core group of clients and attract new businesses.

**-Demone Carter, Director/Founder, FutureArtsNow!**



## TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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CCI's professional development training programs have helped over 20,000 California artists acquire business skills to help them advance their artistic careers. In addition, CCI's convenings and in-the-field activities have helped artists develop professional connections as well as helped contribute to strengthening the arts field overall.

Professional development program highlights for FY'14 include:

- CCI's signature professional development program, *Business of Art*, was presented to 26 Los Angeles-area artists of varying disciplines in spring 2014. In addition, a tailored version of this program, *Business of Art Bootcamp*, was held in both fall and spring in the East Bay specifically for undocumented artists.
- CCI offered two discipline-specific workshops. In May, CCI presented *Creating Professional Dance Samples for Commercial Reels, Grants & Presenters*, our first dance-specific workshop, to 25 Los Angeles dance artists and professionals. In June, CCI partnered with The Future of Music Coalition to present the *Business of Music*. Attended by 24 musicians working in a variety of styles, this intensive 2-day workshop uniquely addressed the needs of musicians.
- CCI staff participated on panels on funding opportunities for artists at the 22nd Annual Empowerment Congress Summit at University of Southern California in January 2014 and at LA Stage Day at California State University, Los Angeles in May 2014.
- With generous support from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, CCI commissioned dance expert Bonnie Oda Homsey to conduct a scan and analysis of Los Angeles dance companies and venues. The result was a policy brief, *The Evolving State of Dance in Los Angeles*. This research was motivated by a recognition that dance in Los Angeles is underserved in terms of performance opportunities, funding and infrastructure. The report was presented to over 50 dance community stakeholders in June 2014 at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center.

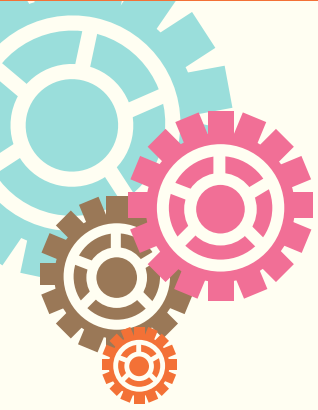
Overall, in FY'14, CCI provided a total of 114 hours of professional development training to artists throughout California. In addition to the above-mentioned activities, subject-specific topics included Business Planning, Selling Your Art, Alternative Funding Strategies and Tax Tips. A total of 28 workshops were produced this fiscal year, which were attended by over 570 people.



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When I first signed up for the *Business of Art*, I wasn't expecting a short series of evening workshops to make a difference in my art career. Soon enough, I began to understand my art practice as a business. I found the process fascinating and inspiring because I was simplifying my problems to basic elements I could understand and begin to affect. By the end of the course, I had put together a cohesive plan of action I have begun to implement. Instead of getting the "right" solutions, the *Business of Art* helped me simplify my challenges and equipped me with basic tools to begin to take charge of my artistic career. I am very grateful for what I learned!

-Francisco Cabas, Painter



## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

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Center for Cultural Innovation continued its pattern of well-managed growth in FY'14, with income of \$1,431,694 received against program and operating expenses totaling \$1,177,635.

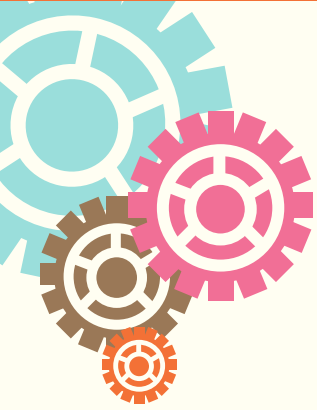
For further information on CCI's audited financial statements for FY'14, please contact the CCI Administrative Office at 244 S. San Pedro Street, Suite 401, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

CCI would like to thank the following foundations and government agencies that supported its programs and operations in 2014:

- California Community Foundation
- City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
- City of San José Office of Cultural Affairs
- The Durfee Foundation
- East Bay Community Foundation
- The Entrekin Foundation
- The Future of Music Coalition
- The James Irvine Foundation
- 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
- 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 2014:

Architectural Sculpture	Sally Jo Fifer	Ann Markusen
Traci Bartlow	Carla Gordon	Cora Mirikitani
Bill Viola Studio	Simon Hanna	Alison Pebworth
Bonnie Brooks	Michael Haight	Mari Riddle
Carsey Family Foundation	Edgar Hirst	Allison Sampson
Karen Constine	Jeffrey Holgate	Stampede Post Production
Joyce Dallal	Angie Kim	Sri Susilowati
Mark Danielewski	Lorna Lathram	Susan Silton
Joelle Dobrow	MadKat, Inc.	Koji Takei



## **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE (CONTINUED)**

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### **STAFF**

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Cora Mirikitani  
*President and CEO (through July 2014)*

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Jayna Swartzman-Brosky  
*Program Director*

Debra Broz  
*Programs Manager*

Luis Escareno  
*Programs Assistant*

Katie Ruiz  
*Bookkeeper*

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Cora Mirikitani, *ex-officio*  
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*Annual report design by Christine Louise Larson*