



## Press Release

For Immediate Release  
April 1, 2014  
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### **The Center for Cultural Innovation Announces Grants to 24 California Performing Arts and Media Arts Artists**

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) today announced twenty-four recipients in the Performing Arts and Media 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 CCI in 2007 to enhance the working lives and strengthen the creative support system for California artists. Since that time, with the support of The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, CCI has awarded \$1.8 million to 250 diverse artists working in various disciplines across the state.

The 2014 Performing Arts and Media 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:

- 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 Jose*)
- 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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In the Artistic Innovation category, twelve (12) artists received *Investing in Artists* 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*)

"It is a pleasure to acknowledge the superb work of these diverse and talented California artists," noted CCI President and CEO, Cora Mirikitani. "Supporting their artistic endeavors is not only incredibly gratifying, but also vital to the community."

A panel of distinguished experts assisted CCI in reviewing the *Investing in Artists* applications, including: Christy Bolingbroke (Director, ODC Theater); Anne Bray (Executive Director, Freewaves); Sergio De La Torre (Filmmaker, San Francisco, CA and Tijuana, Mexico); Wayne Hazzard (Executive Director, Dancers' Group); Cora Mirikitani (President and CEO, Center for Cultural Innovation); Lionel Popkin (Choreographer, dancer and educator); Sharon Tanenbaum (Management Consultant for Arts & Cultural Institutions); and Francisco Velasquez (Senior Manager, Project Involve, Film Independent).

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](http://www.cciarts.org).

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