



**DREAM
KEEPER**

SAN FRANCISCO

Dream Keeper Initiative: Board of Supervisors Hearing

April 21, 2022



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SF Arts Commission

**Presenter: Joanne Lee
Deputy Director of Programs**

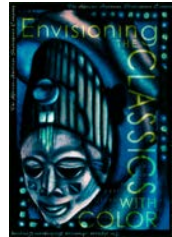
Funding Area

The Arts Commission supports:

- Culturally affirming spaces that celebrate Black people (i.e., arts and culture, public space, community centers)
- Building organizational knowledge and infrastructure (i.e., capacity building)
- Financial support for Black artists and Black-led and –serving organizations

Program Highlights

- The Arts Commission invested **\$2.1 million** in arts and culture organizations, awarding grants to four organizations. Funding supports: Black Theater Companies; Mini-Grants to Black Artists and Black-Led Arts Organizations; and support for a Black Artists and Creatives Collaborative.



AFRICAN-AMERICAN
SHAKESPEARE COMPANY



AFRICAN AMERICAN
ART & CULTURE
COMPLEX

Program Highlights continued:

- **Cultural Odyssey's** grant supports African American Theater Alliance for Independence (AATAIN), a collective of Black Theater Companies



Program Highlights continued:



Program Highlights continued:



- **SF Bay Area Theatre Company** (SFBATCO) produced the first annual New Roots Theatre Festival (NRTF)
- **African American Shakespeare Company** is developing a legacy giving campaign
- **Lorraine Hansberry Theatre** intends to produce a new musical, *HALIE*, about renown gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson in late 2022.

Program Highlights continued:

- **African American Art and Culture Complex (AAACC)** increased its organizational capacity for the Creative Collaborative and Mini-Grants programs and launched the Creative Development Cohort and the Self-Care Quick Grant opportunities in April 2022
- Funding supports professional and creative development for up to 120 SF Black Creatives



A F R I C A N A M E R I C A N
A R T & C U L T U R E
C O M P L E X



Initial Learnings

- DKI funding affirms that the arts celebrate joy
- Grantees need more time to plan and build internal capacity to implement new programs
- COVID-19 continues to impact staff, cultural workers, organizational capacity, programs and community services
- Grantee plans and timelines may be extended

Collaborative Systems Change

- SFAC simplified the online grant application process, includes a public and transparent review process, and provides advance payments to grantees so they have funding to begin planning and implementing programs.
- Using an equity-based framework, the SFAC's Cultural Equity Endowment Grant Program awarded over **\$4 million to 102 grantees in 2021**.
- Close to 70% of the organizational grantees engage communities of color and 73% of artist awardees identify as Black, Indigenous and POC.
- In 2018, we had 43 first time applicants, in 2019 we had 50, and in 2020, we had 55.

Investing in the Black Community

- For FY19-FY21: Our Public Art program commissioned 17 Black/African American artists with a total payment of **\$3,779,900**
- Our Gallery program exhibited 17 Black/African American artists with a total payments **\$52,593**
- Grants: 51 Organizations that are Black-led or primarily serving Black and African American communities for a total of **\$8,556,596**
- 42 Individual Artists who identify as Black/African American for a total of **\$280,000**

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