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OFFICE OF THE  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

# Cultural Equity Hearing Presentation

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## **Agenda**

- 1: Overview of Grants for the Arts**
- 2: Responses to the Budget Analyst's Report**
- 3: Looking Forward**

## Mission & Objective

Grants for the Arts was established in 1961 under the Charter to promote the City through an economic investment in the arts.

Its foremost goal is to provide a stable, dependable base of support for the City's arts and cultural organizations that meet funding criteria.

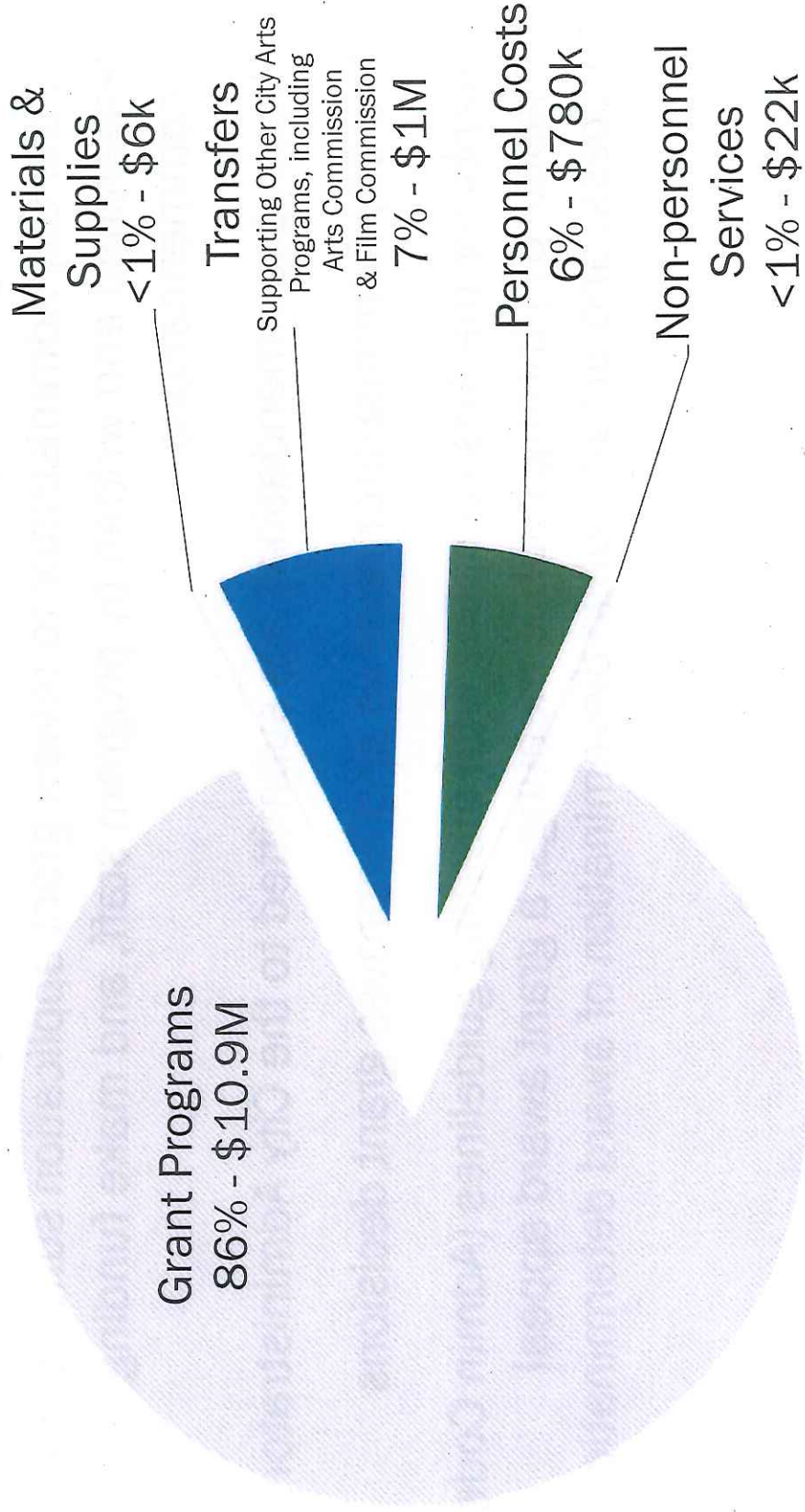
## Overview of Grant Programs

- General Operating Support Grants (\$9.5m)
- Arts & Tourism Program (\$615k)
- Neighborhood Arts Collaborative (\$195k)
- Re-granting Program (\$125k)
- Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund (\$100k)
- Northern California Community Loan Foundation (\$100k)
- Creative Capacity Fund (\$70k)

## Grant Review Process

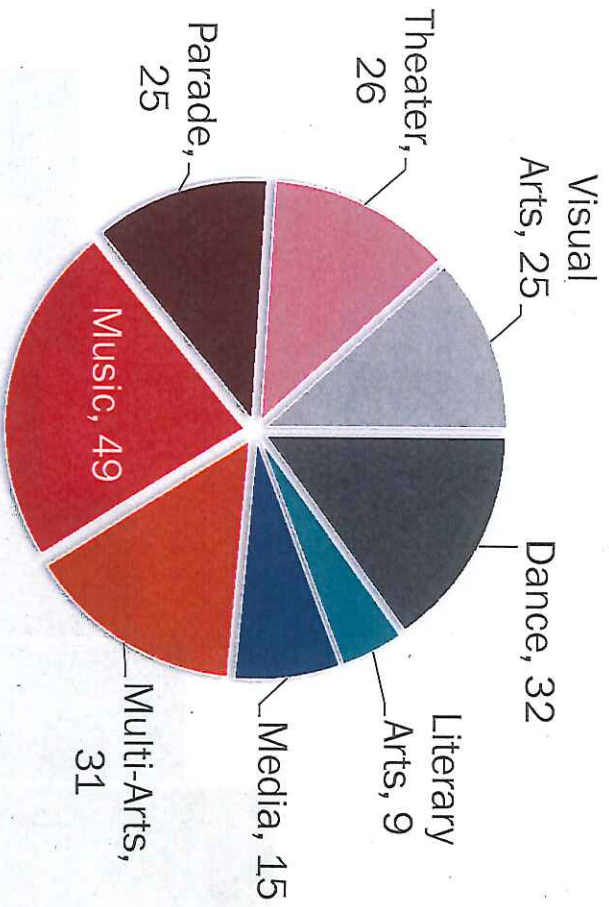
- An Advisory Committee of 10 San Francisco citizens are appointed by the City Administrator to review grant application summaries researched and written by program staff, and make funding recommendations
- These recommendations are submitted to the City Administrator
- The City Administrator reviews and approves grant decisions
- Grants for the Arts complies with meeting guidelines (Admin Code Chapter 67) through public meetings, a grant award appeal process, and broad, public dissemination of award determinations

# FY15 GFTA Operating Budget by Expenditure Category



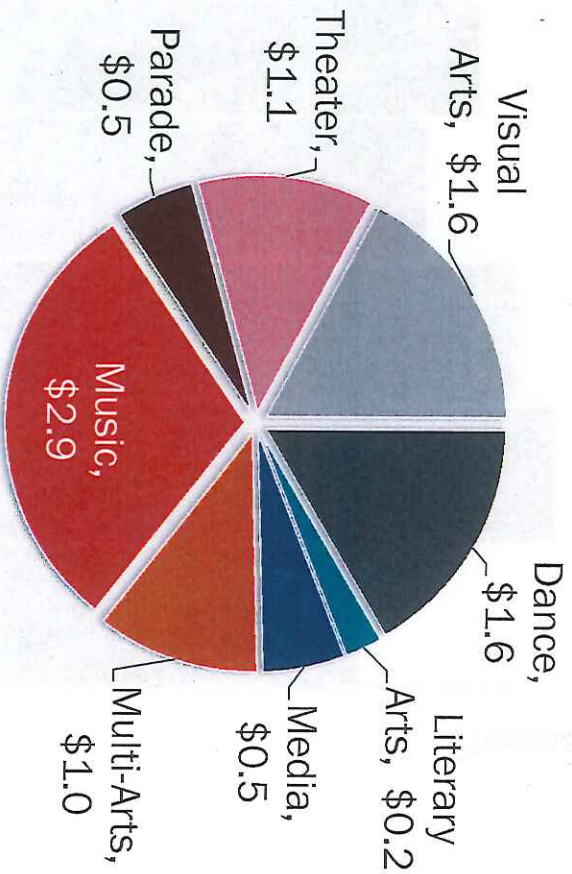
# General Operating Support Grants: FY15 Breakdowns

## Grantee Count



## Grant Amount

(Millions)

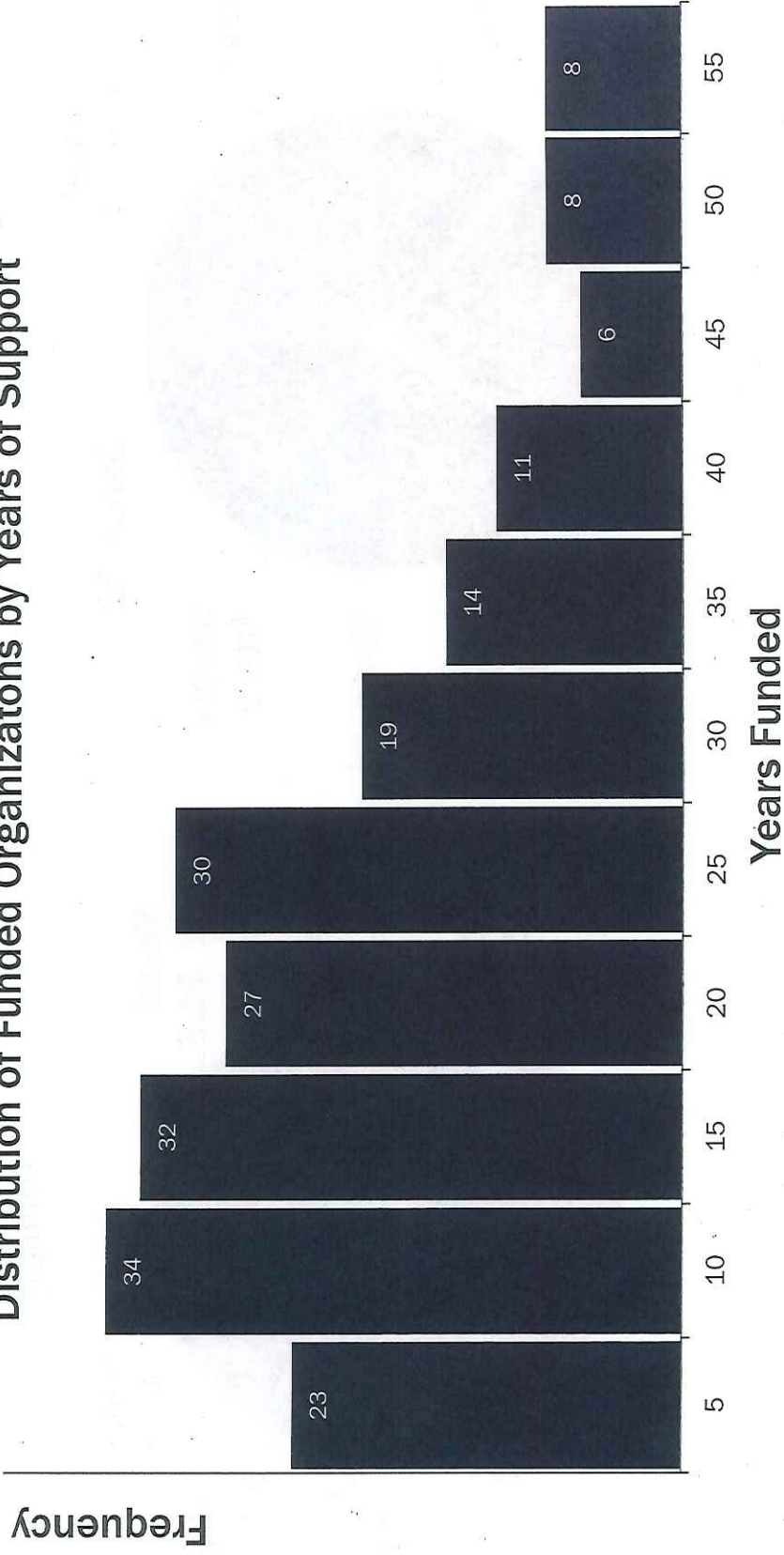


N=2112

Source: GFTA FY15 Grant Awardee Listing

# Stability and Dependability: Distribution of Grants

Distribution of Funded Organizations by Years of Support



N=212

Source: GFTA FY15 Grant Awardee Listing



## Concerns on the Budget Analyst Report

- Attempts to measure the performance of GFTA using the mission and purpose of another grant program, rather than GFTA's mission and purpose—to foster economic development through cultural tourism
- Limits its definition of cultural equity to *only* include identities bounded by race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation
- Does not fully explain the process of how organizations were sorted into cultural equity categories, e.g. research or survey method collection, nor contemplate self-identification
- Inaccurately categorized a number of organizations

## **Guidelines for Public Contracting**

The City Attorney's Office has advised the City Administrator and GFTA staff that according to Article I, Section 31 of the California Constitution ("Prop. 209")

**The government "shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting."**

In light of this legal determination, GFTA does not collect demographic information because it is legally precluded from basing any funding decisions on the categories in the Budget Analyst's report.

## Looking Forward

- Grants for the Arts recognizes that more can be done to meet equity-based objectives, while remaining consistent with the legal constraints of Proposition 209
- The San Francisco Foundation is conducting a broader analysis of equity in the arts which will offer new recommendations and insights to make progress on this issue
- A budget request was submitted for consideration by the Mayor which would provide new funds benefitting small to medium sized organizations
- Grants for the Arts will expand its outreach and technical assistance efforts to underserved communities

