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**SOUTHERN EXPOSURE ANNOUNCES RELOCATION AFTER 32 YEARS & SEEKS NEW FACILITY**

**San Francisco, February 16, 2007**—Nonprofit visual arts leader Southern Exposure (SoEx) is announcing its search for a new facility as it enters its fourth decade in the San Francisco arts community. “We had 32 great years in the Project Artuad Annex building and expect that our new facility will enable us to expand on our strong history of alternative visual arts programming as well as the youth education programs that have become increasingly important to the work we do to provide extraordinary support to artists of all ages,” says Executive Director Courtney Fink. “Our space is not just an exhibition venue,” says President of the Board of Directors, Tracy Wheeler. “We serve as a vital hub for the arts and education communities. Southern Exposure seeks to bring people together, and we need a location that will allow us to continue doing that.”

Southern Exposure is a leader in the local and national arts community, particularly when it comes to arts education, employing 15-20 part-time artists per year to teach. Their *Artists in Education (AIE) Program* presents a series of in-school, after-school, and summer arts programs at the Columbia Park Boys & Girls Club of San Francisco, runs a year-long for credit media workshop at Balboa High School, and sponsors a summer arts program for youth in the Mission District in partnership with Horizons Unlimited among many other projects and partnerships. Fink reiterates Southern Exposure’s commitment to remain artist-run and to serve as a gathering space for students, artists and audiences alike; the new location, she says, “is a tremendous opportunity to transform Southern Exposure into an even more accessible, sustainable and vital organization.”

While the new location has not yet been chosen, the search continues and Southern Exposure is planning to settle into its new home in the coming year. In the meantime, Southern Exposure is taking great advantage of its transitional storefront space at Mission & 25th Street by presenting *SoEx Off-Site*, an innovative exploration of public art projects investigating diverse strategies for exploring and mapping public space. The yearlong series features thirteen projects utilizing strategies such as simple acts of walking and note-taking, and radio broadcasts, to projects employing high-tech apparatuses as a means to disseminate geographical and historical information, performances pieces, and events. Upcoming features of *SoEx Offsite*, such as Glowlab’s anti-social networking project *NOSO* and the Bureau of Urban Secret’s audio walking tour of Land’s End *Comings and Goings*, allow Southern Exposure to continue serving, supporting and engaging the local arts community during its transition.

“Of course we will miss our old space where we worked with, exhibited and supported many thousands of artists and youth, but we’ve known for some time of Project Artuad’s need to complete an extensive seismic upgrade and have been planning for the eventuality that their needs and ours would eventually diverge,” stated Fink. “In the long-run this enables us to take control of our destiny in a way that will only help to strengthen our organization. It will enhance our ability to evolve to meet the changing needs of the community we serve and invent new programs and models of support while remaining true to our roots as one of the most daring, fun and accessible arts organizations in San Francisco.”

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Southern Exposure (SoEx) is a 32-year-old, non-profit, artist-run organization dedicated to presenting diverse, innovative, contemporary art, arts education, and related programs and events in an accessible environment. Southern Exposure reaches out to diverse audiences and serves as a forum and resource center to provide extraordinary support to the Bay Area's arts and educational communities. Activities range from exhibitions of local, regional, and international visual artists’ work, education programs, and lectures, panel discussions, and performances. Southern Exposure is dedicated to giving artists—whether they are exhibiting, curating, teaching, or learning—an opportunity to realize ideas for projects that may not otherwise find support.