FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alt rnative Exposure 2020: Second Round of Emergency Relief Funding for Artists

Applications Now Open for Emergency Funding for San Francisco-Based Artists

October 16, 2020, San Francisco, CA – In response to the urgent needs of the Bay Area arts community, Southern Exposure is offering a second round of Alternative Exposure grants to support local artists and arts groups who are in dire need of emergency support, with funds becoming available in December 2020. SoEx recognizes that artists are facing unforeseen and potentially catastrophic challenges right now due to canceled and postponed exhibitions, performances, and other gigs and day jobs due to COVID-19.

Southern Exposure, with the support of San Francisco Grants for the Arts, is allocating a total of $19,000 to support San Francisco-based working artists in need right now. Nineteen grants of $1,000 each will be made available to visual and multidisciplinary artists. Priority will be given to artists who are Black, Indigenous, POC, elder, LGBTQ+, disabled, immunocompromised, and immigrants. Funds may be used to cover any needed expenses that are related to lost income due to COVID-19.
Southern Exposure’s Alternative Exposure grant program has supported Bay Area independent, self-organized work by artists for 13 years, giving away over $953,400 to date. Alternative Exposure is administered with support from San Francisco Grants for the Arts and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:
- San Francisco-based visual and multidisciplinary artists. Applicants can be individual artists or an individual representing an artist collective, ensemble, or group.
- The City of San Francisco, which is funding this round of grants, defines a “San Francisco-based” artist as someone who falls within one or more of the following categories:
  - Currently resides in San Francisco; and/or
  - Has a studio space with a San Francisco address; and/or
  - Is fiscally sponsored by an organization which is based in San Francisco (Southern Exposure is not able to offer fiscal sponsorship. Please note that other potential fiscal sponsoring organizations often have a long application lead time); and/or
  - Is a university student at a San Francisco institution.
- Artists who have received Alternative Exposure grants in the past are eligible, aside from those who received funding in June 2020 from Alternative Exposure Round 14. All other years are eligible.

Please note that proof of one of the above criteria will be required as part of being awarded a grant.

Artists should be prepared to make current or recent work publicly viewable to residents of San Francisco via Southern Exposure’s website.

As there are many in need right now, we ask applicants to use their own good judgement and make space for others if they are not facing a current emergency.

TIMELINE:
- October 16 – November 9, 2020: Applications accepted
- November 20, 2020: Grantees determined and notified
- December 2020: Funds distributed

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
- Short description of your artistic practice
- Description of how funds will be allocated
- Link to website, sample of past work, or CV

HOW TO APPLY
The online application process opens on October 16, 2020. Visit soex.org to begin your application. Applications are available to submit in English and Spanish.

NOTIFICATION
Applicants will be notified of their status no later than Friday, November 20, 2020.

INQUIRIES
Questions regarding eligible projects or the application process can be directed to alternativeexposure@soex.org after October 16, 2020.
FAQ’s

How will the grantees be determined?
Applicants will be reviewed for eligibility and prioritization will be given to Black, Indigenous, POC, elder, LGBTQ+, disabled, immunocompromised, and immigrant artists.

Am I eligible to apply if I have received an Alternative Exposure grant in the past?
Yes, unless you received funding in June 2020 from the Alternative Exposure Round 14 Emergency Relief Grants. All other years are eligible.

Am I eligible to apply if I applied for but did not receive an Alternative Exposure grant in the past?
Yes, prior application will not have any bearing on this round of funding. All other above criteria will need to be met for consideration.If I receive funding, will I be taxed on this grant?

Southern Exposure is unable to provide tax advice. IRS Publication 525 states: “You can exclude from income any amount you receive that is a qualified disaster relief payment. A qualified disaster relief payment is an amount paid to you: To reimburse or pay reasonable and necessary personal, family, living, or funeral expenses that result from a qualified disaster ... You can exclude this amount only to the extent any expense it pays for isn’t paid for by insurance or otherwise.”

How quickly will the funds be sent out?
Grants will be distributed in December 2020.

What can I use the funds for?
You may use the grant to pay for reasonable and necessary personal, family, or living expenses that are related to lost income due to COVID-19.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ALTERNATIVE EXPOSURE
The program was launched in 2007 in partnership with The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Since then, The Andy Warhol Foundation has invested in the creation of a growing national network of sixteen regional regranting programs.

With support from San Francisco Grants for the Arts and the Warhol Foundation, Southern Exposure continues to expand support for the vital creative work that would otherwise fly under the radar of traditional funders. Alternative Exposure reinforces the creative landscape of the San Francisco Bay Area arts community and plays a significant role in its growth, supporting the independent, self-organized work of artists and small groups that play a critical and significant role within the San Francisco Bay Area arts community. Additional generous support is provided by Grants for the Arts.

To learn more about the many projects funded by Alternative Exposure, visit soex.org.

ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE
Southern Exposure (SoEx) is an artist–centered non-profit organization committed to supporting visual artists. Through our extensive and innovative programming, SoEx strives to experiment, collaborate and further educate while providing an extraordinary resource center and forum for Bay Area and national artists in our Mission District space and off-site, in the public realm.

An active presence in the Bay Area since 1974, SoEx is continually evolving in response to the needs of artists and the community while engaging the public in artists’ work. Central to our mission is to remain the most accessible space for visual artists to produce and present new work, learn, and connect. SoEx
provides visual artists with the tools and resources they need to experiment in an open and supportive environment. We also work to advocate to new, diverse audiences and build an ever-growing community of enthusiasts and supporters of the visual arts.

For more information and images, contact Stevie Sokolouski at (415) 863-2141 x 102 or stephen@soex.org. Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office hours are Wednesday through Friday, 12:00PM to 5:00PM. Please note that our office hours are limited and our gallery is currently closed in accordance with San Francisco’s shelter-in-place restrictions.

Website: soex.org.


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