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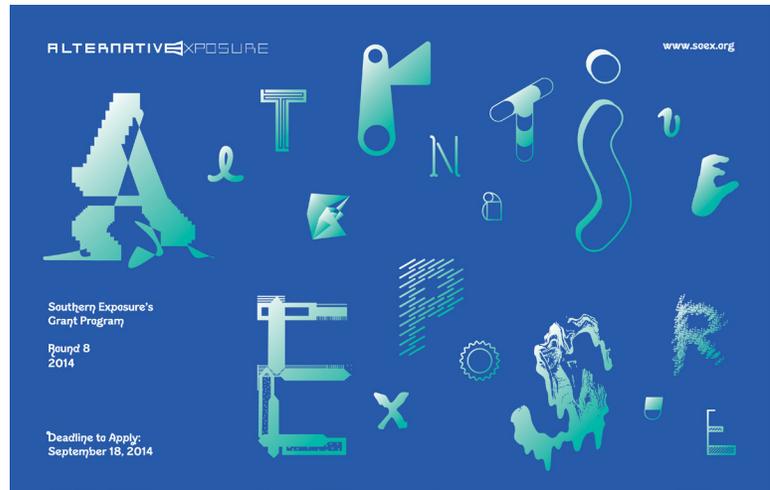
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Southern Exposure Awards \$70,000 to Bay Area Visual Arts Groups in Round 8 of the Alternative Exposure Grant Program

15 Alternative Exposure Grant Recipients Announced

San Francisco, CA, November 12, 2014 – Southern Exposure is proud to announce the Round 8 grant recipients of our Alternative Exposure Grant Program. This year, Southern Exposure awarded \$70,000 to 15 projects at levels ranging from \$2,138 to \$5,000, distributing much-needed monetary support at a time of reduced opportunities and resources for artists. In the current economic climate, this noticeable surge of independent organizing, based on the strength and number of applications we received, is a heartening sign of the energy and vitality of the San Francisco Bay Area arts community.



With major funding from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and additional backing from the San Francisco Grants for the Arts, Alternative Exposure supports the independent and self-organized work of artists and small groups playing a critical role in the San Francisco Bay Area arts community.

Fifteen recipients were selected from 143 applications. This year's grant recipients are 3.9 Art Collective, Alter Space, Bench Projects, Birdhouse Arts Collective, Book and Wheel Works, Free Oakland UP, Haxan Film Festival, Heavy Breathing, Incline Gallery, KIDmob / Public Workshop, Material Print Machine at the OMNI Commons, Publication Studio Oakland, Ramon's Tailor, San Francisco Zine Fest, Y'all Come Back: Stories of Queer Southern Migration.

An outside panel selected the 2014 grantees including Deana Haggag, director of The Contemporary, a nomadic and non-collecting museum in Baltimore, MD; Carrie Hott, interdisciplinary artist and former Alternative Exposure grantee; and Frank Smigiel, Associate Curator of Public Programs at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

ABOUT ALTERNATIVE EXPOSURE

The program, launched in 2007 in partnership with the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, was developed in response to the dynamic, under-the-radar work of artists and small groups that have long been emblematic of the San Francisco Bay Area's arts community. Now in its eighth year, Alternative Exposure has awarded \$491,000 in direct funds to 135 projects.

Alternative Exposure provides monetary awards – giving grants of up to \$5,000 – to foster the development and presentation of artist-led projects and programs in San Francisco and Alameda counties that are direct, accessible and open to the public. Funded activities may include a new exhibition or exhibition series, the ongoing work of an arts venue or collective, a public art project, a one-time event or performance, publications directly related to the visual

arts, an online project, an artist residency, a series of film screenings and more.

ROUND 8, 2014 ALTERNATIVE EXPOSURE GRANTEES:

3.9 Art Collective

Rodney Ewing, William Rhodes, Rhiannon Evans MacFadyen: \$5,000

An association of African American artists, curators and art writers, the 3.9 Art Collective seeks to draw attention to San Francisco's dwindling population of black residents. In 2015 they will organize a one-day conference of panels, workshops and performances highlighting the issues and influence of African Americans in the arts, providing opportunities for networking, professional development and discussion.

Alter Space

Kevin Krueger, Elise McMahon: \$5,000

Alter Space is an artist-run gallery, residency program and production workshop located in San Francisco's SOMA district. In the next year the space will offer five Jail Cell residencies in their dungeon-like basement and sponsor the refurbishment of Garage Project, a Mission district lodging for out-of-towners. Residencies will culminate in a public presentation at Alter Space.

Bench Projects

Ellen Lake: \$5,000

Bench Projects is an artist-led public art platform that will rent advertising space at Oakland AC Transit bus stops to create six 'bench galleries' in North Oakland. The project will commission artists to create new site-responsive work and encourage community members – including public transit riders, pedestrians, cyclists and drivers – to engage more deeply in their surroundings.

Birdhouse Arts Collective

Sadie Harmon, Ian Dolton-Thornton, Kim Bennett, Chris Daniels, Scott Nanos, Niki Shelley, Joanna Steinhardt: \$5,000

Birdhouse is a community-based art program housed within the OMNI, a new cultural and creative commons in Oakland. Offering classes, workshops, lectures, exhibitions and a residency program, Birdhouse provides a free and accessible public forum to engage with art in multiple ways.

Book and Wheel Works

Kate Connell, Oscar Melara: \$5,000

Book and Wheel Works is a collaborative committed to forging a regional cultural identity, preserving southeast San Francisco's working class identity and supporting a diverse range of artists. Their project Moving Art House, a Mexican school bus re-purposed as a mobile cultural space, will host a series of visual arts, musical, literary and game-playing community events in San Francisco's Portola District.

Free Oakland UP

Jocelyn Meggait, BekiRose Tooman, Joey Patrick, JR Thomason: \$5,000

Free Oakland UP is a multi-purpose, alternative art space in East Oakland with curated exhibitions featuring local artists, a free gift/thrift shop and a free maker space with resources for everyone to create art. Presenting experimental, interactive projects focused on functioning alternative economies, the project promotes community art viewing and creating.

Haxan Film Festival

Hannah Schulman, Courtney Fellion, Phaedra Restad: \$5,000

The Haxan Film Festival features Bay Area filmmakers exploring psychic and mystic connections through experiments in video and film. Launched in 2014 as a one-night film screening, it will expand in 2015 into a multimedia weekend long festival featuring short experimental works, live performance, music, installation and an accompanying zine at an accessible Oakland location.

Heavy Breathing

Lisa Rybovich Crallé, Sophia Wang: \$5,000

Heavy Breathing brings together Bay Area arts, music, dance and writing communities for a series of experimental art and performance "seminars" in the form of free fitness classes with live musical accompaniment. Activating the channels between mind and body, participants will *feel the burn* through group discussion, movement exercises and a physical engagement with critical theory.

Incline Gallery

Christo Oropeza, Sholeh Asgary: \$5,000

Incline Gallery, a passageway within a former San Francisco mortuary, creates opportunities for emerging and established artists to show in a non-cube format, encouraging experimentation in exhibition design. The gallery will host *Meanwhile*, three five-week long exhibitions in 2015-2016, organized by curators displaced by the shifting economies of the Bay Area.

KIDmob / Public Workshop

Katherine R. Ganim, Coby Unger, Tyler Pew: \$5,000

KIDmob, the kid-integrated design firm, and Public Workshop will develop and facilitate Adaptive Playscapes, an intensive workshop for middle school-aged artists. In collaboration with professional designers and fabricators, youth artists will design and build a mobile structure to inspire exploration in a range of urban contexts, culminating in an exhibition at the 2015 Market Street Prototyping Festival.

Material Print Machine at the OMNI Commons

Kate Robinson, Emji Spero, Ian Dolton-Thornton, Lara Durback, Ava Sayaka Rosen, Joel Gregory, Nora McKinnon: \$4,739

Material Print Machine is a collective printing and binding studio at the OMNI Commons in Oakland. Collective members have 24/7 access, with resources to create and print their own books, broadsides and more. Open studio hours, free workshops and training sessions allow community members to use the equipment, fostering creative engagement and collaboration between literary micro-communities.

Publication Studio Oakland

Ian Dolton-Thornton: \$4,885

Publication Studio Oakland is an artist-run press focusing on arts and literary publishing, part of an international network of eleven sibling studios. In 2015, PS Oakland will publish a series of five books examining the promises and problems of artists' self-organization, accompanied by readings and facilitated discussions.

Ramon's Tailor

Frank Merritt, Teri Gardiner: \$5,000

Ramon's Tailor is an alternative storefront art space and community clubhouse located in a former tailor shop in San Francisco's Tenderloin district. Dedicated to promoting visual art through exhibitions, salons, workshops and artist-in-residence programs, Ramon's Tailor challenges artists to experiment with new ideas while responding to the space and surrounding neighborhood.

San Francisco Zine Fest

Elizabeth Mayorga, Ramon Solis, Jennie Hinchcliff, Sarah Godfrey, Channing Kennedy, Emily Alden Foster, Ric Carrasquillo, Rick Kitagawa, Sean Logic and Lauren Davis: \$2,138

The San Francisco Zine Fest is a free annual two-day exhibition-style festival showcasing an array of small-press writers and artists. During the fest, SFZF organizes workshops and panel discussions, creating a temporary community space for zine enthusiasts both old and new. Labor Day weekend 2015 will mark the 14th year of SFZF.

Y'all Come Back: Stories of Queer Southern Migration

Amanda "Arkansassy" Harris, Jaison Gardner: \$3,238

Y'all Come Back questions the definition of 'home' when queer Southerners relocate to San Francisco. Challenging the notion of the city as a queer mecca, a 2015 exhibition and event will explore queer Southern migration and the large-scale displacement of local queer/trans people, the poor and people of color from the Bay Area.

THE REGIONAL REGRANTING PROGRAM: A NATIONAL NETWORK

Since developing Alternative Exposure with Southern Exposure in 2007, The Andy Warhol Foundation has invested in the creation of a growing national network of nine regional re-granting programs in addition to San Francisco – including grants in Houston, TX (Diverse Works, Aurora Picture Show, and Project Row Houses); Kansas City, MO (Charlotte Street Foundation and Spencer Museum of Art); Chicago, IL (Threewalls and Gallery 400); Portland, OR (Portland Institute for Contemporary Art); Miami, FL (Cannonball); Portland, ME (SPACE Gallery); New Orleans, LA (Press Street, Ashé Cultural Arts Center and Pelican Bomb); and Baltimore, MD (The Contemporary).

The Warhol Foundation aims to support vibrant, under-the-radar artistic activity by partnering with leading cultural institutions in communities across the country. Groups like Southern Exposure allow the Foundation to reach a sizeable population of informal, non-incorporated artist collectives and projects and to support their alternative gathering spaces, publications, websites, events and other endeavors. The Foundation plans to expand this program with partner organizations in areas where on-the-ground, self-organized artistic activity is most prevalent.

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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 Sarah Hotchkiss at (415) 863-2141 or communications@soex.org. Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 6 PM and gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12 to 6 PM. Admission is always FREE. Website: www.soex.org.