Southern Exposure to Surpass $1 million in Grants to Bay Area Arts Groups

15th Year of Alternative Exposure Grant Program Opens August 6, 2021

San Francisco, CA, August 6, 2021 – Southern Exposure is proud to announce the opening of Round 15 of our Alternative Exposure Grant Program. Alternative Exposure grants fund the unincorporated, independent work of artists and collaboratives who invigorate and transform the San Francisco Bay Area arts community. This year $60,000 will be granted to 12–15 projects, each receiving an award of up to $5,000. To date, Alternative Exposure has awarded a total of $952,400 to 289 projects, and will surpass $1 million in grants this year thanks to major support from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

SoEx Artistic and Co-Director Valerie Imus shared, "This million dollar milestone is significant because it points to the impact of support that Alternative Exposure has provided and the expansive network of Bay Area artists that continue to create opportunities for each other. It’s thrilling to have been able to see the seeds planted by Alternative Exposure grow into such diverse, ongoing projects. Amidst the ongoing economic crisis experienced by so many, it’s exciting to see Bay Area artists continue to create dynamic work and to show up for each other again and again."
Alternative Exposure grants fund a wide range of projects and activities led by self-organized artists and small groups in the San Francisco Bay Area. Previously funded projects have included 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. In general, Alternative Exposure seeks to foster the development and presentation of artist-led projects that provide opportunities for San Francisco Bay Area artists and include programs that are accessible and open to the public.

The 2021 grantees will be selected by an outside panel of three artist organizers comprised of former grantees, local artists, and organizers from partner organizations from the Regional Regranting Network.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

• Visual artists and groups based in San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Napa, Marin, and Sonoma Counties. For collectives, some collaborators may live outside of these counties, but the majority of collaborators must live in an eligible county.
• Resulting project activities must be accessible and presented to the public within the San Francisco Bay Area.
• 501c3 nonprofit organizations are NOT eligible to apply. Projects may NOT be a part of the primary programming of an established 501c3 nonprofit arts organization.

TIMELINE

• August 6–September 13, 2021: Applications accepted
• October 29, 2021: Grantees notified
• December 2021: Funds distributed

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Proposed Project Description
• Budget Proposal
• Visual Support Materials
• Annotated Descriptive List of Support Materials
• Contact Information

HOW TO APPLY

The online application process opens on August 6, 2021. 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, October 29, 2021.

INQUIRIES

Questions regarding eligible projects or the application process can be directed to alternativeexposure@soex.org after August 6, 2021.

ABOUT 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 fourteen regional regranting programs. The Regional ReGranting program has awarded nearly $10 million in grants through organizations in Alabama, Albuquerque, Atlanta, Arizona, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Knoxville, Los Angeles, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Newark, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Philadelphia, Portland (OR), Portland (ME), Providence, Puerto Rico, St. Louis, Seattle, Washington DC, and here, in the Bay Area via Alternative Exposure.
With lead support from 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 support provided by Grants for the Arts.

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

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ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE
Southern Exposure (SoEx) is an artist-centered nonprofit 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 x102 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 main gallery is currently open by appointment in accordance with San Francisco’s health and safety guidelines during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Website: soex.org.