The part of me people always see is...

Friendly

The most powerful part of me is...
My ability to love

The part of me people never see is...
Shameful
A community that thrives on inspiration.

Our Vision

Our Mission

We generate culture that moves people.
Dear friends,

Fiscal year 2014 marked my first full year as CEO of Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. It also marked YBCA’s 21st year of operation.

Around us, San Francisco and the Bay Area region experienced phenomenal change and the inevitable losses and gains that happen in the context of growth. Conversations about cultural equity and racial equality dominated traditional and new media. Amidst this intensity, we reflected carefully on the responsibility we have as a public benefit organization to convene, activate and impact our community.

We planted the seeds for the big ambitions we have for our organization moving forward: ambitions that strive for a community that thrives on diversity, creativity and inspiration.

In a recent keynote at the California Presenters Conference, author Jeff Chang talks about YBCA’s Creative Ecosystem. He says “This is why we use the metaphor of an ecosystem. Cultural spaces are spaces where society renews itself and grows its roots, sustains community in times of adversity, fosters creativity and interconnection, creates relations of abundance and visions of healing.”

Thank you for being part of YBCA’s growing community, supporting culture as a force for renewal, sustenance, connection and creativity.

Warmly,

DEBORAH CULLINAN

“We planted the seeds for the big ambitions we have... ambitions that strive for a community that thrives on diversity, creativity and inspiration.”

—DEBORAH CULLINAN
LETTER FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

To our YBCA supporters,

13-14 marked YBCA’s first year with our new CEO, Deborah Cullinan, at the helm. Alongside her leadership and vision, the board and staff created a strong team committed to developing a refreshed mission and strategic priorities for the years to come.

Ambitious, cutting-edge and participatory programming by YBCA’s deeply talented curators is ‘hallmark’ YBCA. Combining this with the creative talents of our financial management and development teams means YBCA continues to remain on firm financial ground.

As I enter the end of my 6th year as a board member, I am still challenged and surprised by the work presented and generated at YBCA. I am also full of gratitude to my fellow board members, and the staff, artists, young people, critics, activists, teaching artists, futurists and the many others who call YBCA their community. I hope you will join us!

Sincerely,

DIANA COHN

YBCA’S 13-14 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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EMERITUS
HELEN SAUSE
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71 FULL-TIME
579 PART-TIME AND ON CALL
295 VOLUNTEERS

PARTICIPATION
137,989 PARTICIPANTS
1,096 MEMBERS
452 FEATURED ARTISTS, ARTIST COLLECTIVES AND THOUGHT LEADERS FROM 21 COUNTRIES

ARTS PROGRAMMING
42 YBCA-COMMISSIONED ARTWORKS
160 UNIQUE PUBLIC PROGRAMS
142 FILMS SCREENED
7 VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS
4 ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS EXHIBITIONS
2 PERFORMANCE FESTIVALS
11 YBCA PRESENTS PERFORMANCES
33 COMMUNITY PARTNER PRODUCTIONS

“I left with a list of events that I NEED to see, books that I NEED to read, and a renewed sense of art community in San Francisco.”

- PARTICIPANT IN YBCA’S ANNUAL SNEAK PEEK EVENT
THREE KEY MOMENTS FROM 13-14 THAT FRAME OUR WORK GOING FORWARD...
Pursuing Breakthrough Solutions to the Challenges Facing Our Community Today

The Creative Ecosystem

In 13-14 YBCA launched its second community think tank, building on the explorations of Future Soul launched in 12-13 by convening diverse and exceptional minds across sectors to investigate a new theme of Body Politics.

Think tank members organized a Field of Inquiry community festival, filling YBCA’s indoor and outdoor spaces with more than twenty multidisciplinary installations that responded to their guiding questions:

- What is on the other side of your body’s joy?
- What is on the other side of your body’s shame?

From an examination of 100 sources of curatorial inspiration—looking at artists, activists and creative thinkers from the Bay Area and around the world—we have identified five themes that will serve as points of inspiration for our organization as well as inspire future community think tanks: Urban Future, Personal Labor, Economy, Ecology, and Place.

“The execution of the project was one of the most joyous moments I’ve experienced as a professional.”

—Body Politics Cohort Member
OPENING DOORS TO A CITIZEN-GENERATED FUTURE FOR SAN FRANCISCO

DISSIDENT FUTURES: ART & IDEAS FESTIVAL

At the free, day-long, interactive Dissident Futures: Art & Ideas Festival, nearly 1,500 community members engaged in collective exploration, ideation and action, investigating possible futures envisioned by artists, urban planners, environmentalists, scientists, robotic experts, designers, programmers and food activists through dynamic workshops, lectures, performances, interactive media, music and more.

With this first Art & Ideas Festival YBCA prototyped a new platform for convening local and national thought leaders with thousands from our community, so together we can build a city that is more open, creative and inclusive.

“Artists are the problem solvers, the illuminators, the provocateurs, and they are uniquely gifted in their ability to bring us together across sectors.”

—DEBORAH CULLINAN
CELEBRATING AND HONORING 
THE EXTRAORDINARY, GROUNDBREAKING
ART MAKERS OF OUR TIME

BILL T. JONES / ARNIE ZANE
DANCE COMPANY
30TH ANNIVERSARY

A special month-long program, extending from our galleries and screening room to our stages, marked the momentous occasion of dance legend Bill T. Jones / Arnie Zane Dance Company’s 30th anniversary.

An intimate conversation with Bill T. Jones himself, memorable to all who attended, touched on topics as far-ranging as science fiction, traditions in storytelling, audience expectation and the unique vibe of San Francisco.

“Art-making to me is participation in the world of ideas.”

—BILL T. JONES
“As a member, I’ve been more involved in art than ever before.”
– YBCA MEMBER AND YBCA:YOU PARTICIPANT

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$1,000 AND ABOVE

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Blue Angel Vodka*
Chevron Humankind Matching Gift Program
Delta Dental of California
Oaklandish/ThereThere
Yahoo! Matching Gifts Program

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Anne Germanacos
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Harvey and Leslie Wagner Foundation
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$500 AND ABOVE

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KQED*
IDEO
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ThirstyBear Brewing Company*

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Tucker and Charmly Ingham
Michael Pivovaroff and Sarah Elmes
Ayni Raimondi
Samia Rashed
Elizabeth Raymond
Dr. John P. Ryan
Diane Sanchez

*denotes in-kind gift

“I sweated, I danced, my soul was lifted.”

— PARTICIPANT IN YBCA’S 50¢ TABERNACLE FREE COMMUNITY DANCE CLASSES
“In a city that’s pricing us both out rent and real estate-wise, we both laughed that we may not have homes in the city to live, but there’s always a place for us to go in the art world.”

—COMMUNITY MEMBER
“Thanks for bringing important and sometimes forgotten work to the Bay Area!”

—COMMUNITY MEMBER
“YBCA is always stimulating and inspiring—totally in touch with what’s happening in the Bay Area and globally.”

—PARTICIPANT IN YBCA’S PROGRAMMING

THANK YOU TO OUR 13-14 VOLUNTEERS!

Claire Peaslee       Lois Roberts       Megan Simon       Carolyn Walkling
Lucy Perdichizzi    William Rodarmor    Loretta Smith     Doug Walkling
Helen Perina         Robin Rogers        Regina Sneed      Kitty Wallin
Howard Perkins      Andrew Rogge         Scott Snyder      Patricia Webb
Keiko Perri          Tony Roman          Jo Spezzano       Frank Wessling
Ebony Perryman      Marina Rose          Yvonne Steffen    Ed Whiteman
Christine Peterson  Polly Rosenthal     Martha Stein       Maureen Whiteman
Enid Pollack         Julio Ruiz            Terry Stephens    Dyjan Wiersba
Tamara Poole         Ethel Ruymaker       Isabel Stephenson Arthur Stubbs
Geoff Potter         Wafaa Sabil           Artur Stephenson  Priscilla Williams
Joan Procter         Andre Safar           Rita Sullivan     Shai Wilson
Miki Pryor           Laurie Sanchez       Alistat Sun       Bu Wirth
Guy Purks            Barbara Scheifler     Marilyn Teplow   Lori Wogslan
Joyce Putnam         Guenet Sebsibe       Carol Thenot      Geraldine Wong
Lisa Quail           Marsha Sendar         Janet Tom         Justine Xi
Demian Quesnel       Barbara Shapiro      Ruth Tretbar     Marita Yanisch
Josefina Quieta      Liz Shaw              Dolly Turnblad    Marci Yellin
Gloria Ramos         Ivonne Sheen          Janis Turner      Arthur Young
Dan Ramsey           Amy Sherman           Linda Vallee      David Zeff
Perviz Randeria     David Shiretzki       Paul Vallon      Sofia Zereyohannes
Tuesday Ray          Beverly Shniper       Sylvia Verange   Elisabeth Zurlinden
Don Rice             Jim Sichel            Joan Von Briesen
Allyson Rickard     Marc Siegler           Luise Vorsatz    Rhoda Wadler
Leigh Riley          Siska Silitonga       Rhoda Wadler
“Being part of a conversation with people I didn’t know before the evening, sharing food, stories and a performance, was fantastic.”

—YBCA:YOU PROGRAM PARTICIPANT