

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



Take This Hammer: Art + Activism in the Bay Area Opening Night Party. Photo by Tommy Lau.



LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



DEBORAH CULLINANCEO of YERBA BUENA
CENTER FOR THE ARTS



REKHA PATEL
YBCA BOARD CHAIR

Dear friends,

In a year of momentous change and heightened uncertainty, YBCA continued to ask how arts institutions can demonstrate and build on the power of collective imagination in our city, our region, and beyond. As we all bravely move into this new social and political climate, we remember and honor the legacy of our dear friend and Board Chair, Paul Connolly. Without Paul's leadership and commitment, we simply would not be where we are today.

In 2015—16 we stepped up and stepped forward. Our belief that art centers belong to the people regardless of their ability to pay led us to launch our new Pay What You Can membership level and together with our community we incubated and tested game-changing ideas around labor, ecology, and urban futures. Through arts experiences, personal empowerment tools, new ventures, and community outreach, we found new ways to imagine, iterate, and inspire.

We made great strides in our ongoing pursuit to be the place for people to come together, to grapple with hard questions, to push forward the best ideas in the form of art, new models, and policy, building coalitions that bring our vast collective resources to this work—and we could not do it without your committed and inspiring voices in our midst.

Warmly,

Deborah Cullinan and Rekha Patel



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Paul Connolly

IN REMEMBRANCE OF YBCA BOARD CHAIR PAUL CONNOLLY (1962–2017)

Serving on YBCA's Board since 2014, Paul's boundless energy, deep commitment, and extensive knowledge propelled YBCA's pursuit of new models for contemporary art centers in the context of their communities. As our Board Chair, Paul worked tirelessly to build a culture of engagement and to help evolve the organization to new levels. He was hands-on, extremely dedicated, and a thoughtful partner. He showed up to every project, every meeting, and every event with joy and passion. YBCA and the nonprofit sector has lost a brilliant and dedicated colleague, leader, and friend. The community of YBCA grieves his passing, and our thoughts are with his partner Chas Nol, his family, and his friends.



OUR MISSION: TO GENERATE CULTURE THAT MOVES PEOPLE

In 2015-16 YBCA declared its role as a creative home for civic action, offering programs that catalyze positive change in our city and the world. Throughout the year, thousands of creative people convened at YBCA to develop, explore, and share thought-provoking work, grappling with questions of **Personal Labor, Ecology, and Urban Futures**.

Why work?

What is a healthy ecosystem?

What is the future of urban life?



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2015-16 AT A GLANCE



2015 YBCA 100 Summit. Photo by Alex Herreria.

STAFF

88 Full-time

602 Part-time and on-call

243 Volunteers and interns

PARTICIPATION

284,393 People

1,049 Members

505 Featured artists, artist collectives, and thought leaders from **27** countries

PROGRAMMING

188 Public programs

117 Commissioned artworks and creative projects

4 Large-scale community festivals

2 Public art installations

11 Gallery exhibitions

157 Films screened

11 YBCA Presents performances

19 Community rental partner productions

YERBA BUENA THE ARTS



A YEAR OF FIRSTS: PAY WHAT YOU CAN MEMBERSHIP

In 2015–16 we launched a groundbreaking **Pay What You Can Membership** program, welcoming over 400 new people (and counting) into the YBCA family and ensuring that cost is never a barrier to participation at YBCA.



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A YEAR OF FIRSTS: YBCA 100 SUMMIT

Each year we release the YBCA 100 list, celebrating the innovators, provocateurs, and thought leaders who are using their platform to create cultural movement. On October 10, 2015, we convened YBCA 100 honorees with our broader community for the first annual YBCA 100 Summit, together unearthing urgent questions for our city, the region, and beyond.





A YEAR OF FIRSTS: PUBLIC SQUARES

During two **Public Squares** our community was invited to engage with 43 creative responses developed collaboratively by our Personal Labor, Ecology, and Urban Futures think tank cohorts—with ideas ranging from new enterprises and efforts to shift policy, original artworks, and more.



Public Square photo by Tommy Lau.



A YEAR OF FIRSTS: CENTRAL MARKET SHOWCASE

We continued our collaboration with the San Francisco Planning Department, and for four consecutive weeks in October the **Central Market Showcase** explored how our streets can be venues for public community programs, performance, education, and interaction.

Following the Showcase, over 130 people responded to our open call for creative ideas to reimagine public life on Market Street. We selected 45 teams to realize their projects in the fall of 2016 as part of the second large-scale **Market Street Prototyping Festival**.



Central Market Showplace photo by Tommy Lau.



A YEAR OF FIRSTS: EXPANDING YOUTH ARTS

2015–16 marked the first year of our expanded **Youth Arts Program** in partnership with the San Francisco Unified School District. Now reaching over 700 kids—from kindergarteners to high schoolers, both at YBCA and offsite—our artist-educators guided students in the development of public art projects inspired by civic issues.

We Walk Here

K-5 students at Bessie Carmichael Elementary created deeply moving murals which were installed on our streets, marking safe walking routes between the students' homes in the Tenderloin and their school in South of Market.

Putting the "A" in STEAM

MLK Middle School students experienced a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) approach to learning through creative problem solving with a real client, the Portola Branch of the San Francisco Public Library, and built their human-centered design skills.

Looking at the Future

YBCA's teen artists-in-residence leveraged their artistic talent to convey messages around the importance of empathy and connection to empower the individual, create movement, and carve out a better future for us all.



Bessie Carmichael Students. Photo by YBCA Staff



A WARM THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Thank you to our contributors for enthusiastically supporting YBCA's programs with gifts made between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. Special thanks to the City of San Francisco for its ongoing support.

\$100,000 AND ABOVE

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The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
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Institute of Museum and Library Services

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\$50,000 AND ABOVE

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\$500 AND ABOVE

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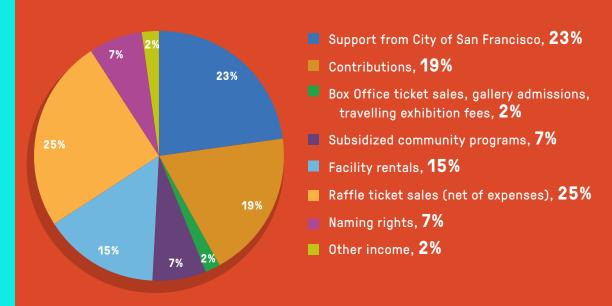
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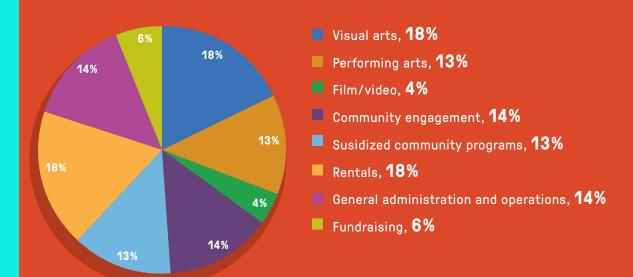


2015-16 FINANCIALS

TOTAL REVENUE \$14.692.152

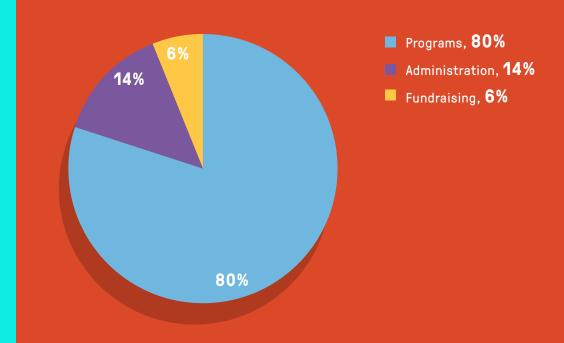


TOTAL EXPENSES \$14.105.812

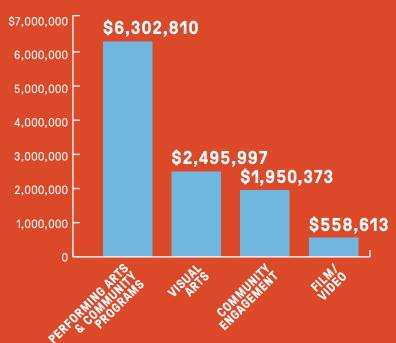




TOTAL EXPENSES \$14,105,812



ARTISTIC PROGRAM EXPENSES



YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2015-16 VOLUNTEERS!

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