

# SFAC GRANTS DATA & COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

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# RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

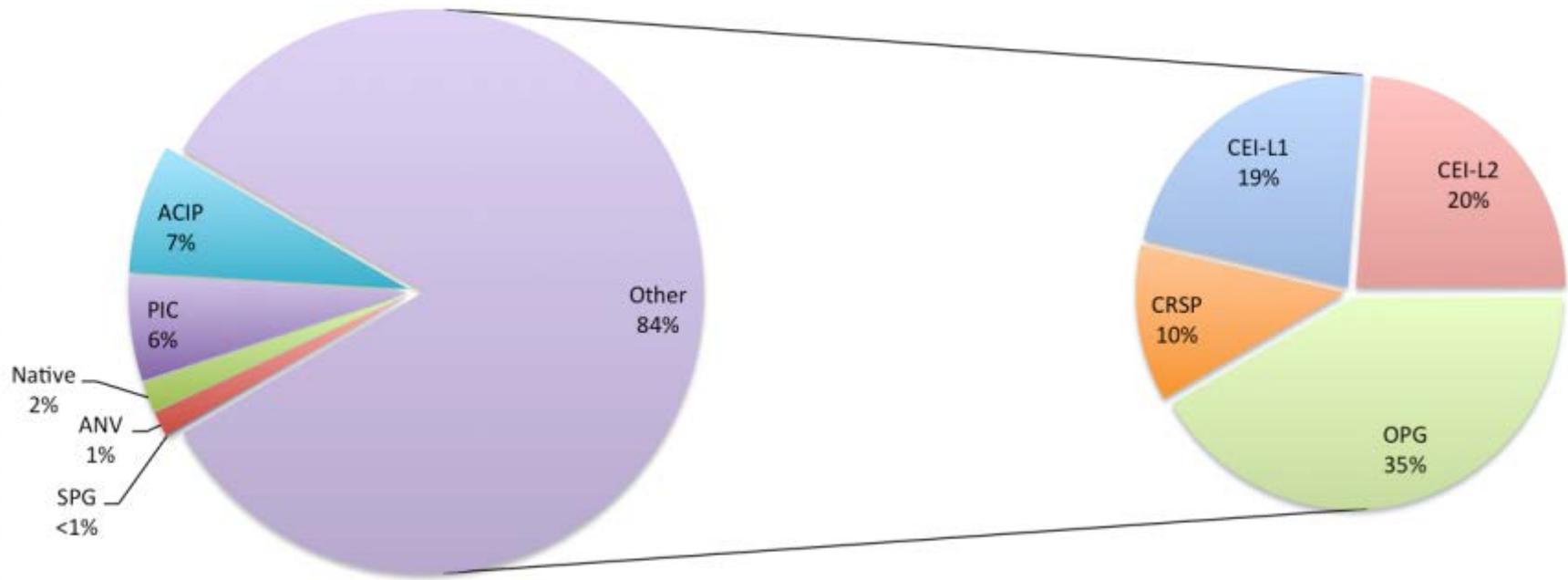
- **Purpose: to assess the grant-making of the San Francisco Arts Commission within the context of the Strategic Plan**
  
- **Research Questions**
  - What has been SFAC's funding pattern in the past?
    - Study of SFAC grants data from 1995-2014
  
  - What are promising practices in the field of grant making?
    - Review of secondary literature on promising practices in grant-making
  
  - What is the local context of SFAC grants?
    - Focus group with prospective and former grantees, as well as experts in the field

# FINDINGS ORGANIZATIONS 1995-2014

## (EXCLUDING CULTURAL CENTER FUND GRANTS)

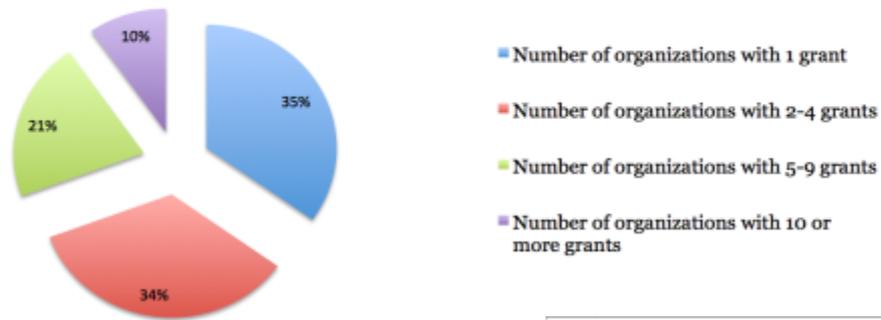
Total Number of Grants Given	1,881
Total Amount of Grants Given	\$29,672,835
Number of Organizations Grantees	421
Mode (Most Frequent Grant Amount)	\$12,000
Maximum Grant Amount	\$120,000
Minimum Grant Amount	\$900

# DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL GRANTS BY CATEGORY: 1994-2014

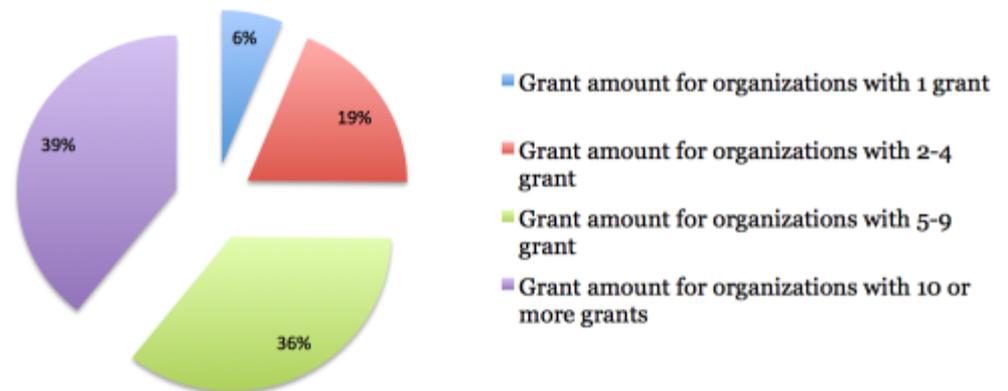


# BREADTH VS. DEPTH

Distribution of grant numbers



Distribution of grant amount



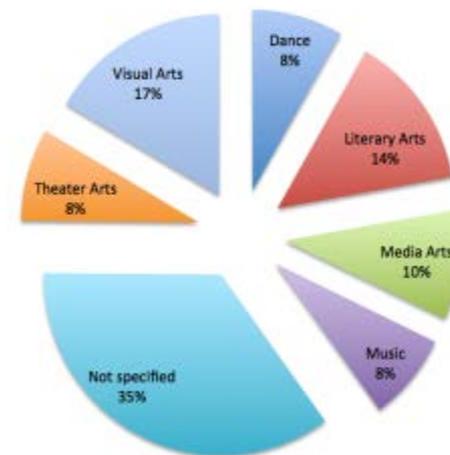
# 14 GRANTEES WITH HIGHEST INVESTMENT 1995-2014

<b>Organizations</b>	<b>Total Grant Amount</b>	<b>Number of Grants</b>
509 Cultural Center / The Luggage Store	\$411,560	14
ABADA Capoeira San Francisco	\$451,830	15
Aunt Lute Books	\$447,125	8
Brava Theater Center	\$356,510	14
Chinese Cultural Productions	\$402,300	15
Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco	\$444,883	20
Chinese Historical Society of America	\$395,950	14
Cultural Odyssey	\$362,750	9
Dance Brigade	\$438,800	14
Galeria de la Raza	\$661,525	22
Kulintang Arts Inc.	\$345,110	17
Queer Cultural Center	\$515,755	17
Women's Audio Mission	\$335,950	10
ZACCHO Dance Theatre	\$404,550	14

# FINDINGS INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS 1995-2014

Total Number of Grants Given	495
Total Amount of Grants Given	\$4,373,350
Number of Individual Artists Grantees	361
Mode (Most Frequent Grant Amount)	\$10,000.00
Maximum Grant Amount	\$10,000.00
Minimum Grants Amount	\$2,433.00

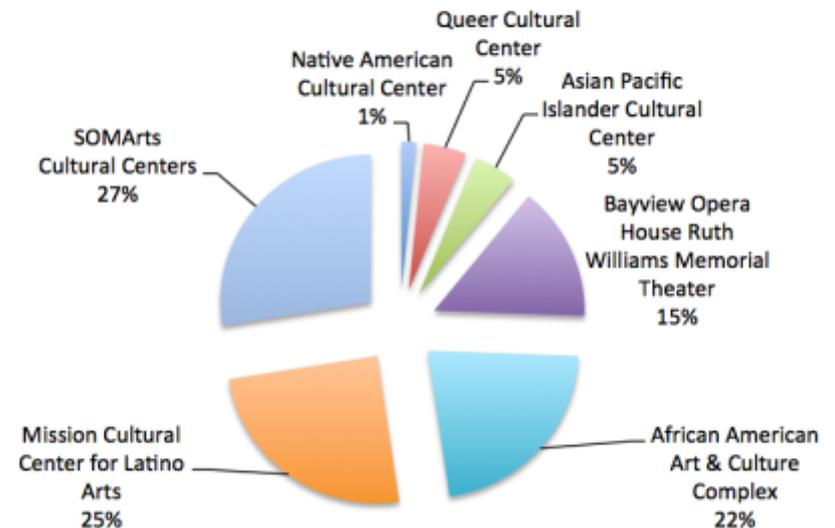
IAC Number of Grant Distribution by Disciplines



# FINDINGS CULTURAL CENTERS 2004-2014

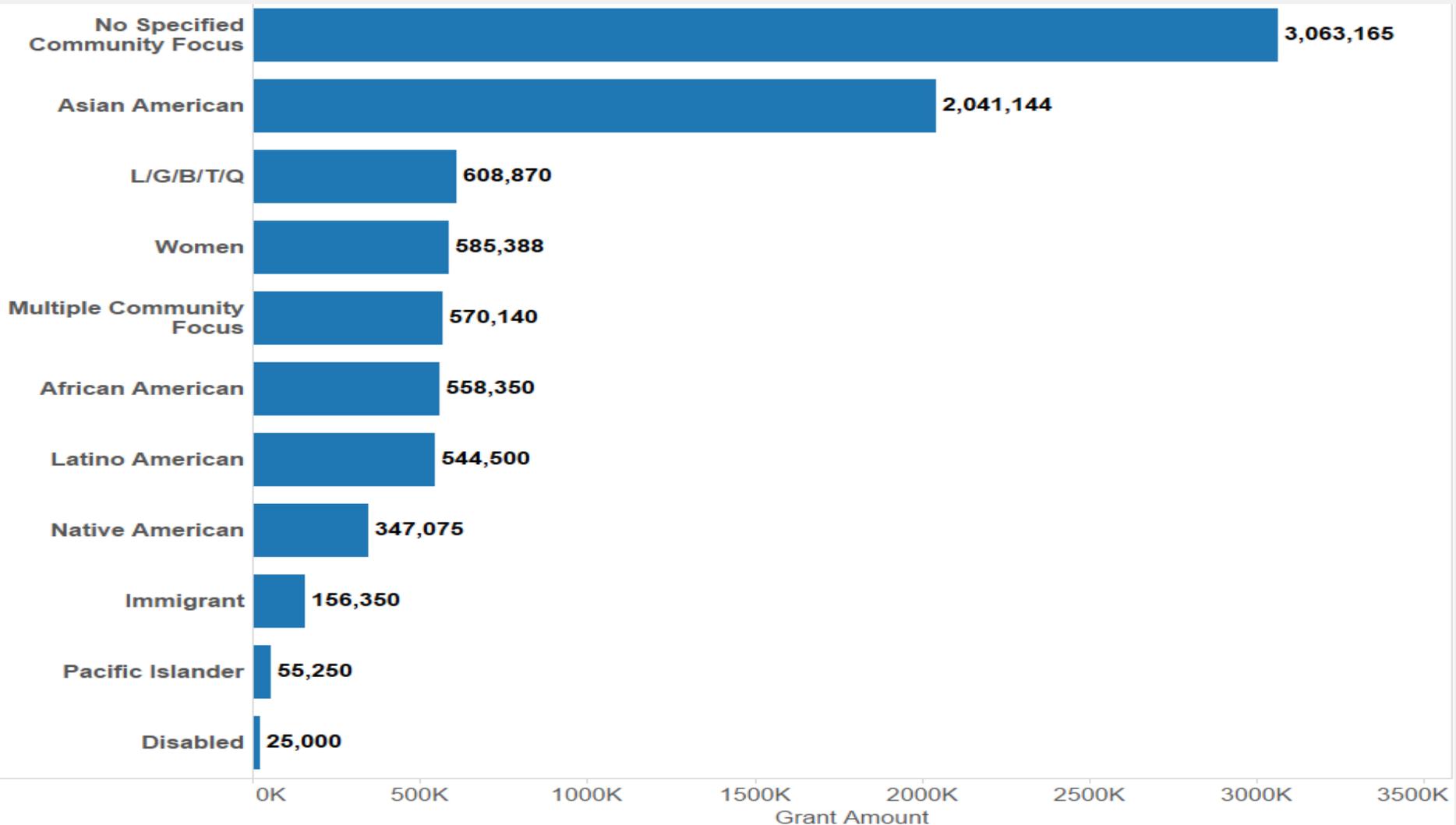
Total Number of Grants Given	70
Total Amount of Grants Given	\$24,634,646
Number of Cultural Center Grantees	7
Mode (Most Frequent Grant Amount)	\$96,974
Maximum Grant Amount	\$621,551
Minimum Grant Amount	\$84,847

**Cultural Center Grants Distribution**



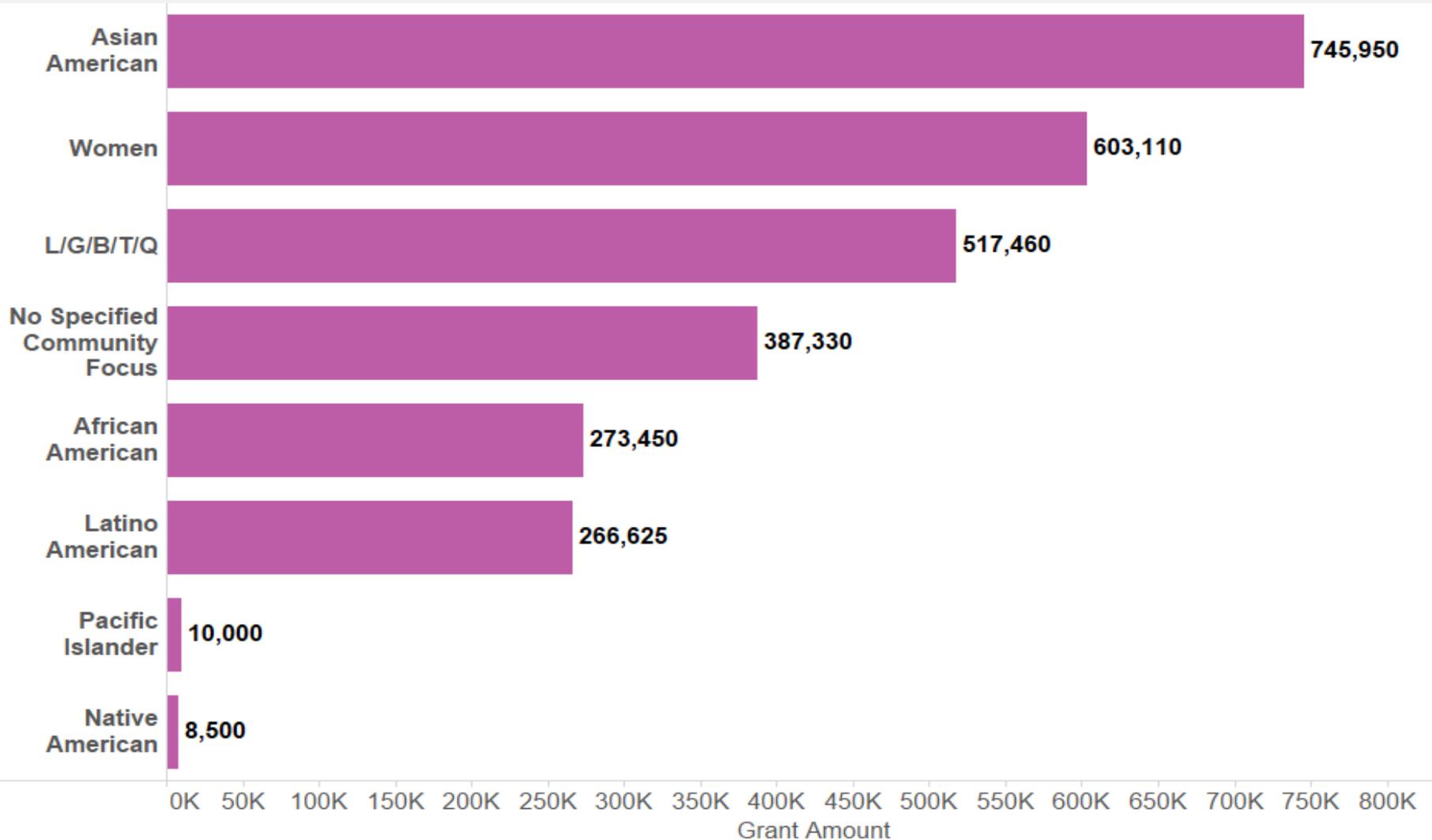
# COMMUNITY FOCUS – ORGANIZATIONS 2004-2014

(EXCLUDING CULTURAL CENTER FUND GRANTS)

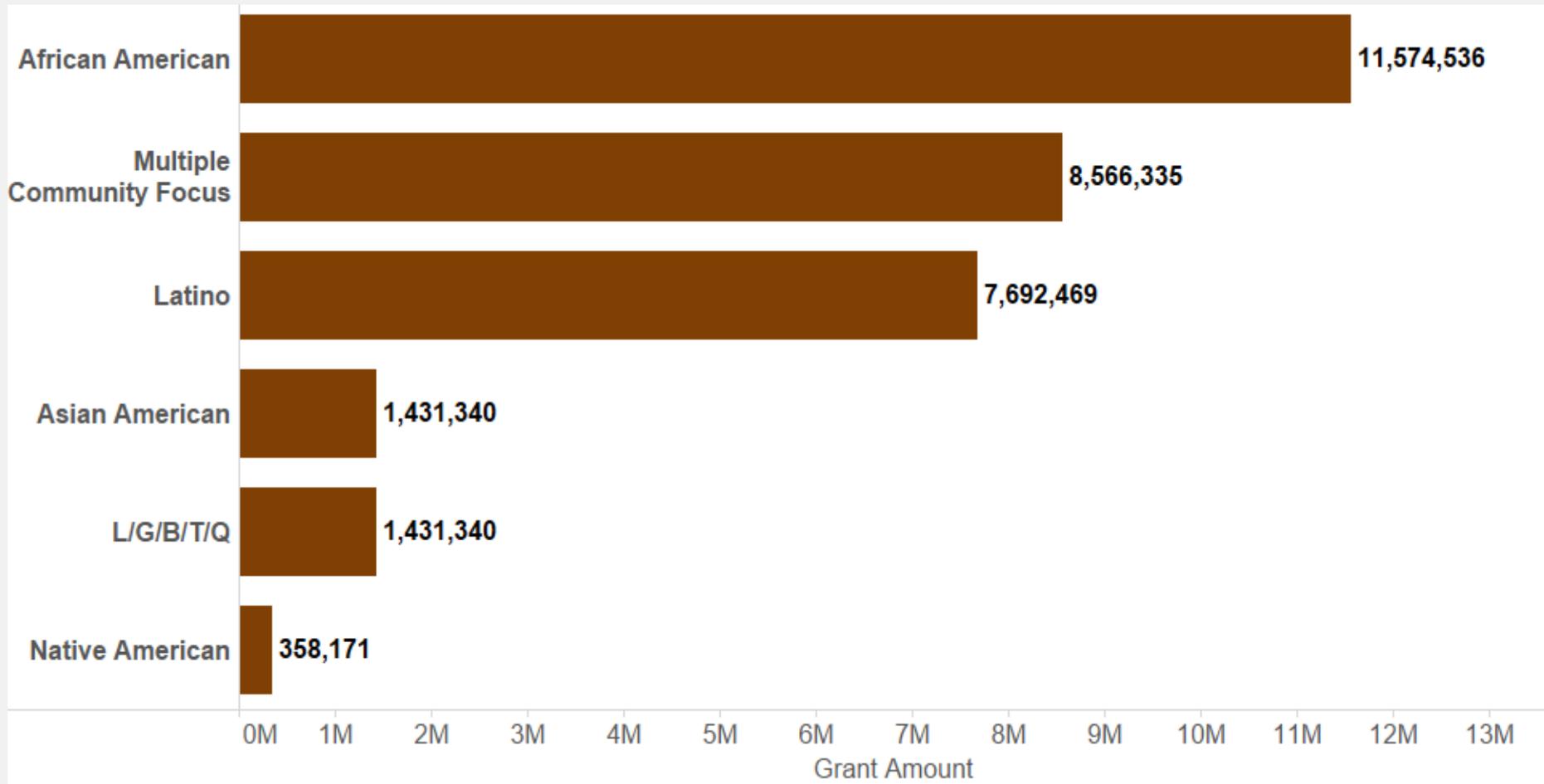


# COMMUNITY FOCUS – INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

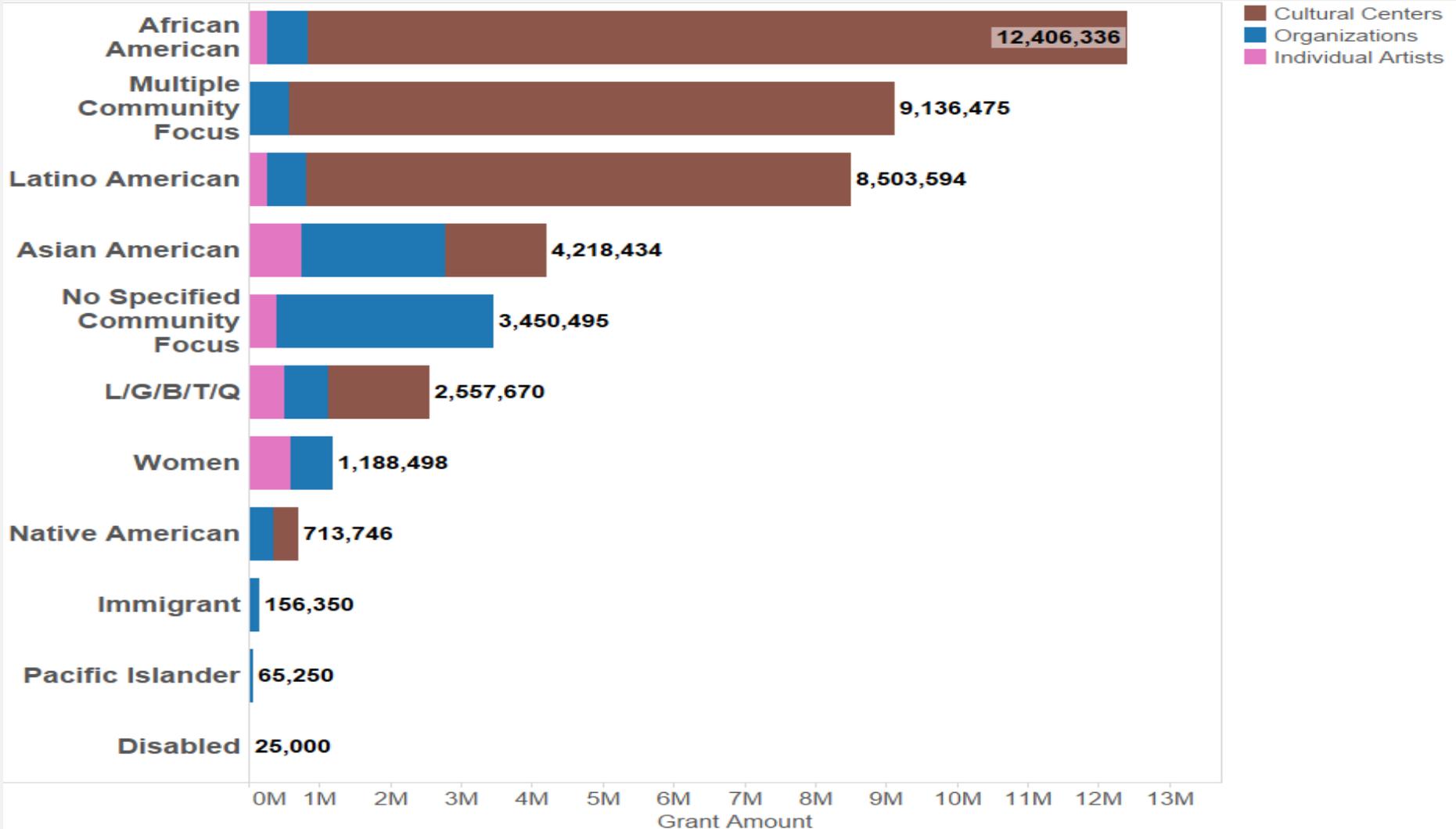
## 2004-2014



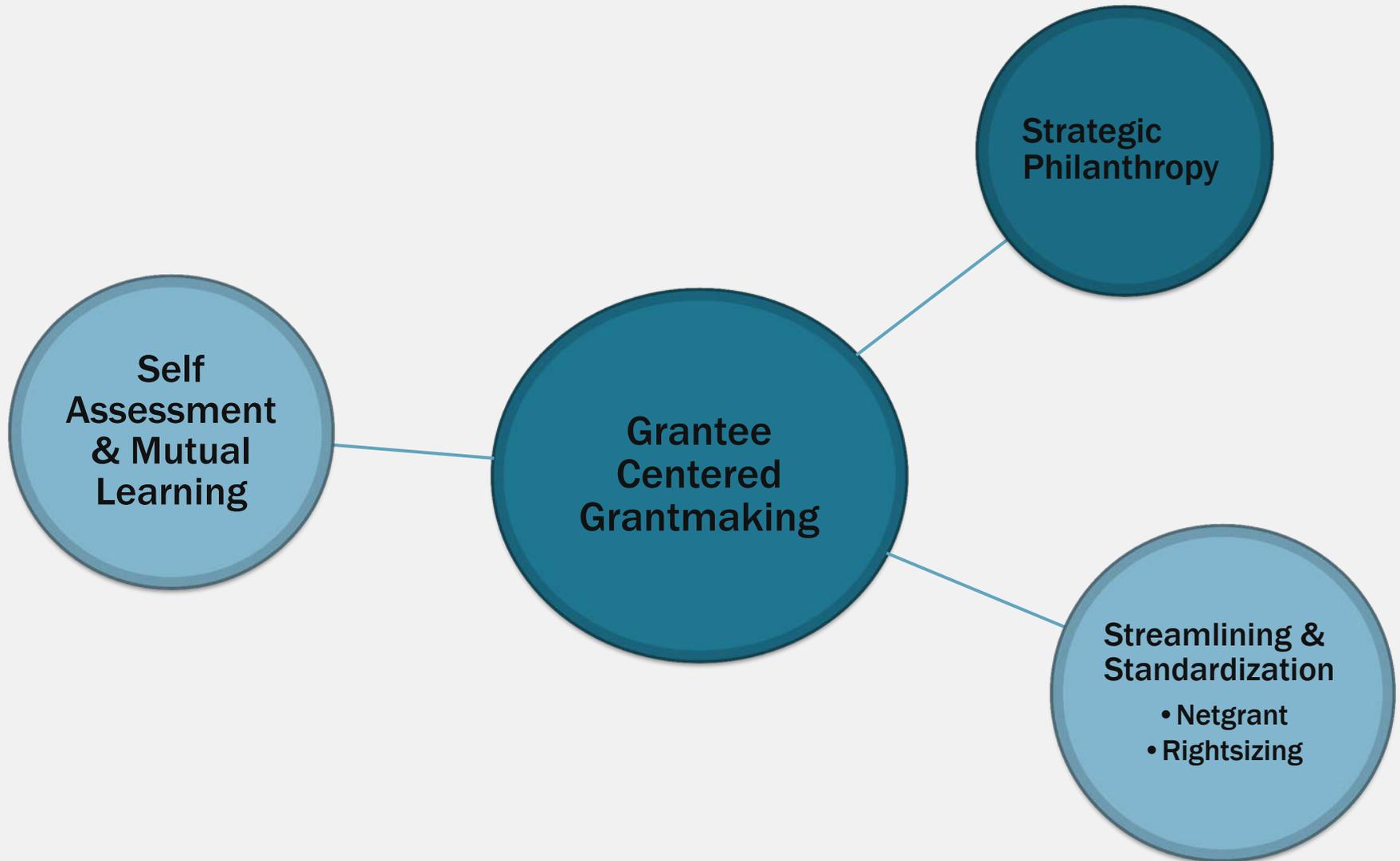
# COMMUNITY FOCUS – CULTURAL CENTER 2004-2014



# COMMUNITY FOCUS – SFAC GRANTS 2004-2014



# PROMISING PRACTICES IN GRANT MAKING



# FOCUS GROUPS FEEDBACK: STRENGTHS

## ■ **Commitment to cultural equity**

- SFAC grants perceived as equalizer in the San Francisco arts ecosystem
- Public panel fosters transparency
- Diversity of panelists

## ■ **Staff's commitment to capacity building**

- Easy access to staff for questions

# FOCUS GROUPS FEEDBACK: CHALLENGES

## ■ Challenges with SFAC grants

- Long, difficult, time consuming, costly application
- Discrepancies between scoring criteria and application questions
- Inherent subjectivity of panel process
- Lack of targeted outreach
- Individual artists: questions in application fail to reflect artists' work processes
- Native community: broad definition of Native

## ■ Ongoing critical issues

- Housing, space, and displacement
- Lack of adequate funding for the arts in the city
- SFAC not fulfilling its function as convener and networker for grantees

# FOCUS GROUPS FEEDBACK: MULTI-YEAR, UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT

## ■ Pros

- Counters underpayment in the non-profit sector
- Promotes sustainability
- Promotes stability for the field
- Promotes planning for long-term and on-going programs leading to real changes and outcomes
- Allows for flexibility in programming and responding to changes

## ■ Cons

- Possible concentration in funding
- Higher competition rate
- Less access for new and experimental programs
- Less access for small organization due to capacity

# FOCUS GROUPS FEEDBACK: ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDED

## ■ Application

- Streamlined and online application
- Increased capacity of panelists

## ■ Technical assistance

- Targeted technical support
- Equitable access to information and technical assistance
- Additional support for emerging individual artists and small organizations

## ■ Needs in the arts ecosystem

- A comprehensive arts agenda for the city
- Analysis of the arts economic impact in the city
- Access to space

# RESEARCHER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continued focus on underserved communities
- Continued open-application policy
  
- Multi-year, unrestricted operation support for anchor organizations upon further analysis of the local arts ecosystem
- Project support for organizations and individual artists
  
- Rightsizing and streamlining the application
- Online grant management system
- Annual evaluation of outcomes

# THE FUTURE OF SFAC GRANTS

“EQUITY IS THE PROCESS; EQUALITY  
IS THE OUTCOME.”



Barbara Mumby  
*Senior Program Officer*

# RE-AFFIRM INTENT OF CULTURAL EQUITY LEGISLATION

- Maintain the original grant categories
- Continue to support underserved communities
- Preserve transparency through a public process



Image courtesy of Cuba Caribe Festival.

# INCREASE EASE AND ACCESSIBILITY

- “Right-size” the application
- Clearer alignment of application questions to scoring criteria
- Standardized eligibility criteria
- Introduce an online grants management system
- Technical assistance workshops

# DEEPEN SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Grantee and community focused approach
- Cohort learning opportunities
- Peer mentoring opportunities
- Learning Institutes and
- Ongoing support and feedback from SFAC staff



Image courtesy of Nā Lei Hulu | Ka Wēkiu.

# RESULTS DRIVEN

- Stronger evaluation collection and analysis
- Annual review of outcomes and
- Ongoing community engagement



Image courtesy of Queer Rebels with Indira Allegra.

# TIMELINE

- New guidelines created May
- Guidelines presented to CAEG Committee June
- Technical assistance workshops July - Sept
- First round of applications due October
- Panel review Nov – Jan
- Funding recommendations to CAEG Committee Feb 2016
- Final funding recommendations to full Commission March 2016
- Grant window begins May 2016

# SFAC GRANTS STAFF

- Judy Nemzoff, Community Investments Director
- Barbara Mumby, Senior Program Officer
- Robynn Takayama, Program Officer
- Liz Ozol, Program Officer
- Weston Teruya, Program Associate
- Cristal Fiel, Program Associate
- Alex Tan, Program Associate

**Q & A**