

2024 ANNUAL REPORT





Artist, Oscar Lopez, shares his inspirations with Art Walk visitors. PHOTO: PAT MAZZERA

DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you for your generous support of Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture. There are many important milestones to celebrate in the past year, starting with the launch of the Gateway Pavilion in February, to welcoming Arion Press as our newest resident in October, to the spectacular debut of the Fort Mason Holiday Night Market in December.

Arion Press opened its new 10,000-square-foot space at the heart of campus in Building B—an extraordinarily heavy lift in every way. We invested time, resources, and expertise to help the Press transform a derelict space into a grand showcase for the art of bookmaking. Learn more about Arion Press in “Faces of Fort Mason.”

Presented in partnership with West Coast Craft and Off the Grid, the holiday night market closed the year on a high note, featuring over 100 artisan vendors and ten food trucks, with special offerings by numerous resident organizations. Plans are currently underway to make the Fort Mason Night Market a regular monthly event starting April 18.

Behind the scenes, the board and staff completed a year-long planning process last year in anticipation of our 50th anniversary in 2027. Approved in January 2025, the FORT MASON 50 plan defines an ambitious agenda for 2027 and beyond, including innovative programs, capital projects, and new public spaces on campus. We’ve already put the plan into action, and I look forward to sharing updates on FORT MASON 50 initiatives in the months ahead.

With gratitude,

Mike Buhler
President & CEO



PHOTO: RODRIGO VALLE



PHOTO: CHRISTOPHER MICHEL

FOUNDED IN 1977, FORT
MASON CENTER FOR ARTS &
CULTURE INSPIRES AND
FOSTERS CREATIVITY BY
PROVIDING A VIBRANT
GATHERING PLACE AND
HOME FOR THOUGHT-
PROVOKING PROGRAMS,
ART, EVENTS, AND
ORGANIZATIONS—
ON A HISTORIC,
WATERFRONT CAMPUS.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Rosanna Russell
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Alexandra Stoelzle
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Doug Tom
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The Fort Mason Art program transforms our campus into a launching site for memory, present-tense assembly, and future imagination. Over the past decade, Fort Mason Art has evolved into a robust, year-round calendar of exhibitions, public art, performances, and seasonal Art Walks, all of which are free and open to all.

In January 2024, Fort Mason Art presented *Bonnie Ora Sherk: Life Frames Since 1970*. Guest curated by Tanya Zimbaro, *Life Frames Since 1970* was the first survey of the late Bay Area artist, environmental educator, and landscape planner. In conjunction with the exhibition, we commissioned a pop-up ethnobotanical teaching garden outside Gallery 308 conceived by urbanist and artist John Bela, accompanied by Urban Campesinx/Hummingbird Farm Sunday workshops.

Last May, *Your Food, My Work, Our Land* by Oscar Lopez debuted in the mural corridor between Buildings B and C. Lopez depicts a historical sequence of agricultural labor in the San Francisco Bay Area, paired with portraits of individuals working the land today. With Haight Street Art Center, Lopez led pop-up printmaking workshops at the Fort Mason Farmers Market throughout the summer.

In August, longstanding collaborator Zaccho Dance Theatre partnered with FMCAC to present the biennial San Francisco Aerial Arts Festival—a dynamic, three-day indoor and outdoor event that brought together innovative spectacle, daring athleticism, aerial dance, and circus performances.

The popular Fort Mason Art Walks continued in collaboration with FMCAC resident organizations, including FOR-SITE Foundation, Goody Café, Haines Gallery, Long Now Foundation, Museo Italo Americano, SF Camerawork, and San Francisco Children's Art Center.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- May Art Walk
- June—Ben Kinmont: *Our Commons Are Free*
- Summer—RUPTURE: *DIASPORADICA*
- September Art Walk

The Garden to Transform Hatred into Love, where ethnobotanical workshops were held by Urban Campesinx/Hummingbird Farm in conjunction with Bonnie Ora Sherk: Life Frames Since 1970.
PHOTO: MAURICIO RAMIREZ



2024 BY THE NUMBERS

1100+

events hosted at
Fort Mason Center

44

Art Fairs and Markets where
1,000+
makers and vendors show-
cased and sold their works

\$2.1M

invested into capital projects

Steward of

13

acres of public open space

Home to

29

organizations & businesses

13

of which have been
in operation for

30+

years

Welcomed

1.5M

visitors in 2024

Fort Mason Art offered

19

free programs
in partnership with

10+

Nonprofit organizations

67

artists, thinkers, and performers
were fiscally supported by
Fort Mason Art projects
and programs

52

farmers markets which host

35+

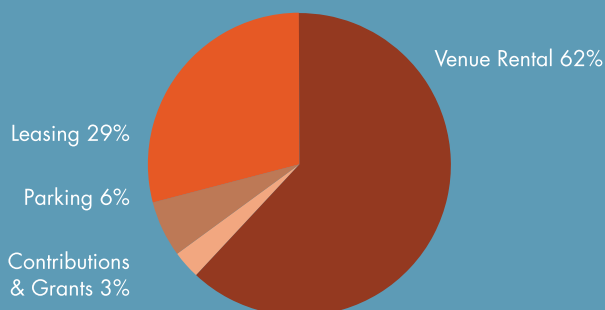
farmers and food purveyors
weekly

Hosted

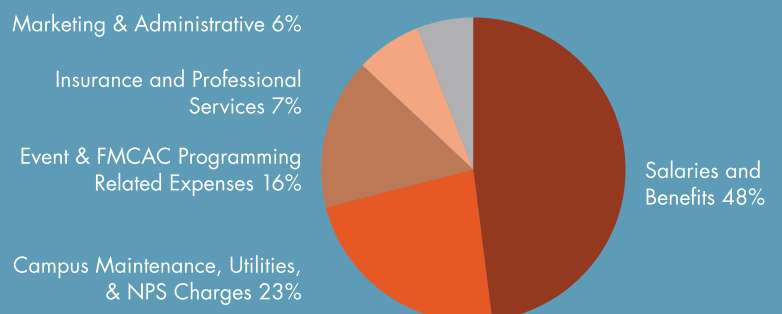
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visitors at Art Walks

2024 REVENUE BY TYPE TOTAL REVENUE: \$10,900,000



2024 EXPENSES BY TYPE TOTAL EXPENSES: \$9,400,000



FACES OF FORT MASON: ARION PRESS

Arion Press officially turned the page on its next chapter at Fort Mason in October 2024. Arion's long-awaited move from the Presidio, which coincided with its 50th anniversary, has been enthusiastically embraced by the Fort Mason Center community.

Designed by Jensen Architects, Arion's new 10,000-square-foot space in Building B—located just across from Greens—features a public gallery, retail store, and floor-to-ceiling windows that enable passersby to witness the traditional printing process. Each Arion title is crafted in the last unified hot-metal type foundry, letterpress workshop, and book bindery in America, employing the same historic machines that cast the U.N. Charter in 1945 to produce contemporary artist books.

"Fort Mason Center offers an ideal location for us to welcome the community of writers, artists, book lovers, and nonprofit organizations that will support our growth and ambitions," said Rolph Blythe, Executive Director of Arion Press. "Moving the press—and its more than fifty tons of metal type—enables us to share this time-honored craft with...the next great generation of bookmakers and enthusiasts."

Arion Press offers tours, artist and author talks, and other special events throughout the year. The gallery and retail store are open Tuesday through Saturday, 12pm to 5pm. For more information, visit arionpress.com.



Visitors receive a tour of Arion Press on its opening day. PHOTO: MORGAN ELLIS

OUR SUPPORTERS

100% of our board members contribute financially each year, in addition to donating their time and effort to strengthen FMCAC.

We are grateful to the individuals, foundations, and corporations who have contributed to the **Fort Mason Fund**.

\$25,000 AND UP

Helen Frankenthaler Foundation
National Park Foundation
San Francisco Grants for the Arts

\$10,000 AND UP

Jim Chappell
Diane Frankel
Jim & Vicki Penny

\$5,000 AND UP

Craig Allison & Susan Shipley
Michelle Branch
Jennifer Brokaw & Allen Fry
Ryan & Suneetha D'Silva
Pauline Eveillard
Steven & Bunny Fayne
Jim & Katherine Hansen
Natasha Hsieh
Jeff Joslin
Enrique & Dara Landa
Michi Catering
Mark O'Dell
Rekha Patel
Ian Snow & Stephanie Straka

Doug Tom
Robin Wright
Yerba Buena Fund

\$2,500 AND UP

Ruth Berson
William Banyai & Bonnie Bridges
Marnie Burke de Guzman
Katie Fahey
Scott & Elizabeth Haskins
Charles & Sandra Hobson
Ledy Maytum Stacy Architects
David Lichtman
Amy Lindburg
Matt Rossie
Alexandra Stoelzle

\$1,000 AND UP

Carrie Dove Catering
Carla & Paul Cooper
Robert & Joanie Daoro
Barbara & Ron Kaufman
Jennifer Levy
Marian Li
Tomas McCabe & Rae Richman

Kate McCoy & Nick Snow
Sally McNulty
Beverly Mills
Oliver and Company
Abe & Camille Pollack Family Fund
Helen Hilton Raiser
Christopher & Pamela Rupright
Rosanna Russell
Dan Springer
Diane Wilsey
Sophie Ziegler & Jonathan Schwartz

\$500 AND UP

Sally Allen
Anonymous
Tamera Avery
Kerry Blacker
Doug & Julia Boszhardt
Scott Cataffa
D.C. Lock & Security
Janice Gonsalves
Marc Kasky & Cat Carr
Jill Manton
Samia Rashed
Janette Smith
John Trauth
Varnhagen Family Trust
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Connie Wolf

\$250 AND UP

Teri Behm & John Clawson
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Andrea Concannon
Karen Diefenbach

Sarah Falender
Anne & Peter Griffes
Christopher Jaap
Mark Jensen
Peter Johnson
Amy Meyer
Terry Micheau & Robert Evans
Fred & Karen Rodriguez
Lynne Newhouse Segal & Ed Segal
Linsey Thornton
Jeff & Jo-Lee Wishner
Lonnie Zwerin & Frank Mainzer

\$100 AND UP

Tracy Biers, Boochcraft, Courtney
Damkroger & Roger Hansen, Robert
DeGoff, Stuart Eckblad, Ruth Felt,
Xie Feng, Nancy & Tom Gille, Judith
Glickman, Mimi Jensen, The Keane
Family, James & Ann Lazarus, Zoe
Luhtala, Allison & Mark McKee,
Nyla P. Moore, Linda Muir, Susan
Nasca, Peter Ostrow, Julianne
Pearson, Aloisia Stevens, Marilyn
Yolles Waldman, Charlotte Winton,
Bruce Zweig

UP TO \$100

Nicole Agostinelli, Michele Liapes,
Kathryn Saturay