



PROJECT UPDATE

Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou

San Francisco Library, Main Branch

Library Commission Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Project Overview

- In October 2018, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a resolution entitled “Affirming San Francisco’s Commitment to 30% Female Representation in the Public Realm by the year 2020.”
- The Resolution urges San Francisco to meet and exceed the minimum threshold of female representation by recognizing the contribution that women have made to San Francisco and the world, and urges City departments to endeavor to achieve at least 30% non-fiction representation in the public realm through works of art on City property, names of streets and right-of-ways, parks, public buildings, and department websites and publications.



1 world. When women represent just 30 percent of the senior leadership team or board,
2 organizations start to experience a positive shift, not only in performance, but also in market
3 share that creates competitive advantages. Research further suggests that 30 percent is the
4 proportion when critical mass is reached and in a group setting, the voices of the minority
5 group become heard in their own right, rather than simply representing the minority.

6 (d) Dr. Maya Angelou's many accomplishments include breaking the color and gender
7 barrier by becoming San Francisco's first African American female streetcar conductor, an
8 award winning author and poet, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient and civil rights
9 leader.

10
11 Section 3. Artistic Depiction of Maya Angelou Statue at the Main Library.

12 (a) By no later than December 31, 2020, the Arts Commission shall erect a work of
13 art depicting statue of Dr. Maya Angelou at the Main Library. The Arts Commission shall
14 determine the design of the statue artwork and the specific location at the Main Library,
15 provided that the artwork shall include a significant figurative representation of Maya Angelou.
16 The statue artwork shall be appropriately scaled for its location, shall not create an adverse
17 impact on the use of the Library, and shall be physically accessible to members of the public
18 with mobility-related disabilities. The Arts Commission shall also select an artist to ~~build~~create
19 the statue artwork. The Library Commission shall appoint an individual, who may be a
20 member of the Library Commission, to serve on the Arts Commission's selection committee
21 for the artist. Additionally, in selecting the design and location, and in overseeing the
22 construction and placement of the statue artwork, the Commission shall solicit input from the
23 Library Commission and the City Librarian, or his or her designee. By no later than
24 December 31, 2020, the statue artwork shall be completed and placed at the approved
25 location.

Project Goals

- The artwork will honor Dr. Maya Angelou, and include a significant figurative representation of Dr. Angelou as part of its design.
- By honoring one of the most important literary artists and activists of our time, the artwork will be an ever-present role model and inspiration to girls and young women.
- Recognizing and honoring Dr. Angelou's contribution is a means of expressing the value the City places on the contributions and achievements of all women.
- While most of the sculptures in the City's collection that honor individuals recognize white men, the sculpture of Dr. Angelou will redress this gender imbalance by not only honoring a woman, but a woman of color.

Proposed Site for the Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou San Francisco Library, Main Branch





Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou

Artist Selection Process

November 1, 2018	Request for Qualifications Issued
January 27, 2019	Request for Qualifications Deadline
February 6	Artist Qualification Panel
March 13	Artist Selection Panel One
July 17	Visual Arts Committee approval of finalists
August 5	Full Commission approval of finalists

Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou

Artist Qualification Panel

ARTIST QUALIFICATION PANELISTS

1. Indira Allegra, Artist and independent curator
2. Angela Hennessy, Artist and Associate Professor of Fine Arts, CCA
3. Susan Pontious, Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program Director, San Francisco Arts Commission Arts

PROCESS

- A Request for Qualifications was issued November 1, 2018 – January 27, 2019 for visual artists residing in the United States. The Arts Commission received 111 submissions total.
- The panel reviewed the qualifications of each applicant and scored them using the following criteria
 - ✓ Artistic Excellence
 - ✓ The artist's work is judged to be appropriate to the goals of the civic art collection/project.
 - ✓ Professional Experience
- 13 applicants scored within a competitive range to be considered for the Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou at the San Francisco Main Library Wall Public Art Opportunity.

Artwork Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou

Artist Selection Panel One

VOTING ARTIST SELECTION PANELISTS

1. Indira Allegra, Artist and Independent Curator
2. JD Beltran, Commissioner, San Francisco Arts Commission
3. Angela Hennessy, Artist and Associate Professor of Fine Arts, CCA
4. Naomi Jelks, Program Manager, African American Center, San Francisco Public Library
5. Guy Johnson, Caged Bird Legacy
6. Susan Mall, Commissioner, San Francisco Library Commission
7. Ellen Oh, Director of Programs, Office of the Vice President for the Arts, Stanford University
8. Andrea Shorter, Commissioner, Commission on the Status of Women

PROCESS

- Arts Commission staff presented the qualifications of 13 artists selected from the Sculpture Honoring Dr. Maya Angelou Public Art Project Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
- The Artist Selection Panel reviewed, discussed, and scored the qualifications of the semi-finalists and scored each artist on the following criteria:
 - ✓ Artistic Excellence
 - ✓ Appropriate to Project Goals
- 3 finalists were selected for recommendation to the Arts Commission.

Jules R. Arthur

Manhattan, New York



Jules R. Arthur
James Baldwin (2018)
Bronzed patina on plaster cast



Jules R. Arthur
Obama (2018)
Conti pencil on drafting mylar

Kenyatta A. C. Hinkle

Berkeley, California



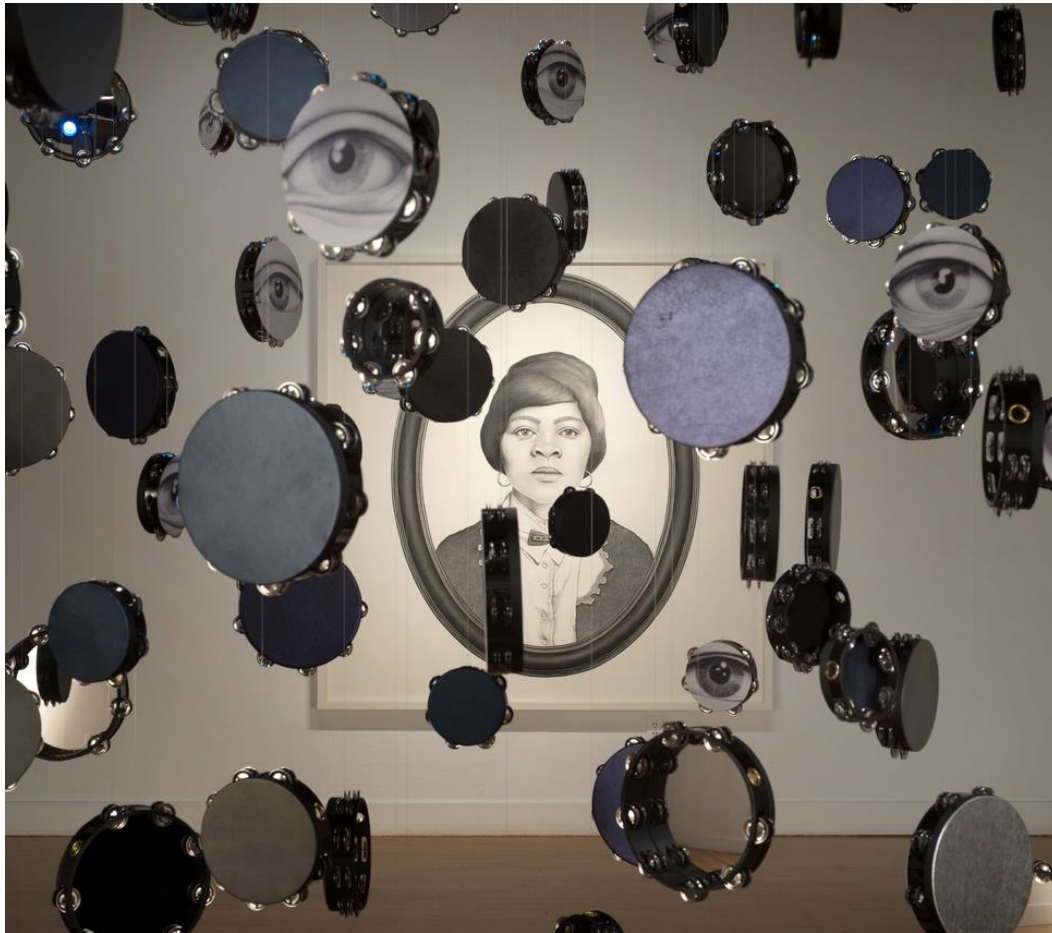
Kenyatta A. C. Hinkle
The Arrival (2016)
Yupo Paper, cotton paper, and acrylic paint, panel



Kenyatta A. C. Hinkle
The Evanesced #8 (2016)
India ink and watercolor on recycled, acid-free paper

Lava Thomas

Berkeley, California



Lava Thomas

Looking Back and Seeing Now (2015)

Tambourines, lambskin, leather, acrylic mirrors, digital prints, glue, monofilament wire, s-hooks, wood, steel.



Lava Thomas

Looking Back 2 (2015)

Graphite, conté pencil, charcoal, and watercolor

Next Steps

July 17 – July 31	Display of finalist proposals at San Francisco Public Library and on SFAC website for public comment
Week of August 5th	Final Artist Selection Panel
August 21	Visual Arts Committee approval of selected artist
September 9	Full Commission approval of selected artist

<https://www.sfartscommission.org/calendar>