

We started 2024 with a look back at arts, Jewish life, and racial justice grantmaking

JEWISH LIFE

20
years of grantmaking

13
years of memos

142
grantees
and interviews with five grantee and grantmaker colleagues

ARTS

10
years of grantmaking
and interviews with three grantee and grantmaker colleagues

10
years of memos

190
grantees

RACIAL JUSTICE

5
years of grantmaking

5
years of memos

17
grantees
and interviews with all grantees



THE HEADLINES

- Across programs and timelines, Fund grantmaking has been at the vanguard: often **first**, often among a **few** with **many following our lead**
- Grants support ideas and leaders others often push to the margins: **immigrants, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ communities**
- **The arts are everywhere** in the Fund's grantmaking, regardless of program area. Culture making and keeping is a part of the work.

What we learned



JEWISH LIFE

CREATIVE AND PROGRESSIVE GRANTMAKING

Grantmaking was uniquely focused on **solidarity** within Jewish communities and among coalitions

Grants were a **significant source of support** for progressive organizations and less significant for traditional Jewish grantees

ARTS

AHEAD OF AND EXPRESSING THE CURVE

Grants deeply recognized **cultural identity and connection** allowing communities to celebrate identity and belonging

Arts education grantmaking was **integrated with policy shifts** with the Fund at the table of local decision-making to center youth



RACIAL JUSTICE

A NATURAL OVERLAP WITH ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Grantmaking that **recognized culture bearers as leaders of social change** while addressing nonprofit worker well-being and resisting silos



SEEDING A SECOND INTEGRATION FOR GRANTMAKING THAT SPEAKS TO

interdependence, intersections, and radical bridging

communities building power for racial justice and equity

youth, artists, and nonprofits creating a thriving and just Bay Area



Missed Opportunities

All three programs supported the arts, validating their core role in community well-being

FUND THE ARTS AS A STRATEGY, NOT A PROGRAM

FOCUS AND INTEGRATE FUNDING FOR IMPACT

EXCEPTION: ARTS LEARNING PODS
The Fund's pandemic response to education, arts, family, safety net, and belonging

- We have not reached Latinx communities despite their majority presence
- We spread ourselves too thin for too long, contributing to nonprofit ecosystem scarcity
- Jewish Life grantmaking was national, with less support for Bay Area leadership and priorities
- Despite being a place-based funder, we didn't design place-based concentration: aligning grants across program areas and linking grantees in collective action



HONOR GRANTEES

The Fund's racial justice grantmaking was a first effort for trust-based practice, centering grantees and seeking right relationship.

We missed the opportunity to create a cohort experience for grantees who prioritize collaboration and solidarity.

Their self-organizing and insight sharing with us is inspiring how the Fund can learn and grow in the work ahead.

2024 Road Map



JAN-MAR

- Exit grantmaking
- Beyond the grant support
- Portfolio reviews

APR-MAY

- Synthesis of portfolio reviews
- Design of community engagement
- Research that grounds understanding of the state of the Bay Area

MAY 23

- Trustee feedback on findings and direction

JUN-AUG

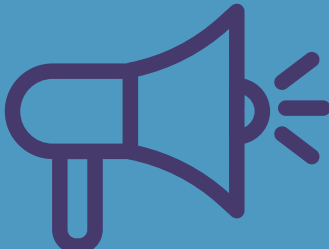
- Community engagement
- Design of integration
- Fiscal implications

SEP 26

- Trustee feedback on design

OCT-NOV

- Integration design finalized
- Learning priorities identified
- Community and trustee feedback



DEC 5

- Trustee action item

2025

- Program implementation
- Community engagement

