



# Cultural Arts Programs

*Cultural Arts & Marketing Department  
Community & Economic Development  
Agency*

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## **PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM VI**

**Title:** *Informational/Discussion Item:* Review and advise on pre-proposal from artist Gina Telcocci for Cultural Funding Program Individual Artist grant

**Submitted by:** Steven Huss, Cultural Arts Manager

**Committee Date:** May 2, 2011

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The City of Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing Division houses two key public funding programs for the arts: The Cultural Funding Program and the Public Art Program. The Cultural Funding Program is a grants-making program supporting artistic services for the benefit of Oakland residents and visitors. The CFP grant deadline is May 19, 2011, for projects to be implemented in fiscal year 2011-12.

Proposals for projects to be funded through the Cultural Funding Program (CFP) that will result in a temporary or permanent work of art in the public view are generally subject to review and approval by the Public Art Advisory Committee. Staff has observed that most proposals for projects resulting in public or publicly visible art are submitted through the CFP's Individual Artist Project grant category. An Individual Artists panel meets to review applications and selects artists to receive grants based on their application, excellence of past work and quality of proposal. However, it is the PAAC's role to review and approve the final iteration of design, materials, and community review of the project before the City (Cultural Arts & Marketing staff) will give the artist notice to proceed. Staff has also begun to advise artists planning to apply to the Individual Artists grant category whose proposals include projects subject to PAAC review to bring a pre-proposal to PAAC for an advisory review and discussion before submitting the final grant application.

Artist Gina Telcocci is bringing her proposal to the PAAC on May 2. Ms. Telcocci is seeking funds for a sculpture of a giant Japanese cricket cage to be sited on a privately-owned lot in West Oakland. The sculpture will be visible to the general public – pedestrians and motorists. Further detail is provided in the artist's narrative, draft agreement with the property owner, and budget outline (attached).

Gina Telcocci is an Oakland-based sculptor and a past (2004) recipient of an Open Proposals project commission from the Public Art Program.



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**Gina Telcocci Narrative**

***1. Describe the project for which funds are being requested.***

The project I am seeking funds for is a sculpture of a giant Japanese cricket cage to be sited on a privately-owned lot in West Oakland, which is currently being used as an urban chicken yard and host to bee hives.

The site is very specific to our neighborhood and inspired an idea that I have wanted to do for some time. The location is the moderately-trafficked corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Mandela Parkway, where the sculpture will be highly visible, yet unobtrusive. It will be an accurate replica of a modest little bamboo Japanese cricket cage that my mother gave me as a child. Made by hand of wood and bamboo, it will stand approximately 8 feet high, by 6' across and 5 feet deep. The scale of the sculpture is perfectly suited to the size of the dirt lot it will be displayed in. It will be both traditional and contemporary in its construction and attitude. Besides being surprising and vaguely humorous, the sculpture relates to this tattered Victorian neighborhood as a suggestion of that earlier era's penchant for exotic decorative objects or garden "follies". The casual nature of the site is a perfect complement to the tone I want to create with the piece. Thought-provoking, but ambiguous in content, as a part of the urban chicken and bee-keeping activity of the yard, it will help attract viewers to these projects as well.

I am seeking funds to pay for materials and supplies, contract labor, documentation, and my own (artists) planning, design, and labor efforts. Contract labor will include student interns, and will entail some instruction and training time as well.

***2. Describe your plans for implementing the project.***

Timeline for the project – Fall 2011 – harvest bamboo & collect wood  
Winter 2011 – prepare materials  
Spring 2012 – construct sculpture  
Summer 2012 – install sculpture  
July 10, 2012 – public presentation  
Fall 2015 – dismantle sculpture & move

I have no other funding sources at this time, and so City funds will be used for all items in the budget, with the exception of contingencies.

Gina Telcocci  
1427 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oakland, California 94607





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**Gina Telcocci Budget – City of Oakland Cultural Arts Grant** **2011/12**

Administration .....	\$ 499.00
Artist – design, labor.....	2500.00
Contract labor .....	1000.00
Equipment & Supplies.....	500.00
<u>Documentation – video, postcards.....</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total request from City of Oakland.....	\$ 4,999.00