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San Francisco General Hospital Foundation Reveals the 2016 ‘Hearts in San Francisco’ Series Featuring 19 New Heart Sculpture Designs

Sales of the Hearts raise funds for vital initiatives at
Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg
San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center

SAN FRANCISCO (December 15, 2015) — **San Francisco General Hospital Foundation** (the Foundation) announced today that it will debut the complete 2016 [Hearts in San Francisco](#) series at the Foundation’s annual **Hearts Signature Events - Heroes & Hearts luncheon** and **Hearts After Dark** - on **Thursday February 18, 2016** on the field at **AT&T Park**. The 19 new Heart Sculptures in the iconic art series include four Large Hearts, ten Table Top Hearts and five Mini Mosaic Hearts. From February 1 through February 17 select Heart Sculptures will be displayed in store windows at Neiman Marcus and Wilkes Bashford in San Francisco and after the Hearts Signature Events, select Large Hearts may be installed in Union Square for a limited time. Hearts are auctioned to raise funds to support vital programs and initiatives at **Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center** (Zuckerberg San Francisco General). *Hearts in San Francisco* artworks combined with Hearts Signature Events proceeds (2004 - 2015) have raised more than \$13 million for the Foundation.

“The *Hearts in San Francisco* have become iconic to the San Francisco landscape and serve as a reminder that Zuckerberg San Francisco General offers the very best care to everyone in our community. We are grateful to this group of artists for lending their talent to help in spreading awareness about the Heart of Our City,” said Connie Shanahan, San Francisco General Hospital Foundation Board President. “The funds raised through the Heart Sculptures and the Foundation’s Hearts Signature Events shape the impact of future programs and initiatives offered at the hospital.”

The 19 artists selected for the 2016 Series represent the unique artistic landscape of the City and the diverse community that Zuckerberg San Francisco General serves. The 2016 artists are **Shannon Amidon, Marconi Calindas, Ilse Cardoni, Mela Delgado, Lianne Dias, Vanessa Espinoza, Tracy Fetter, Dmitry Grudsky, Queena Hernandez, Glynnis Kaye, Laura Lineback, Laura Noel, Celina Paul, Laura Paull, Carrie Anne Plank, Monika Steiner, Jill Stevenson-Ritter, Darnel Tasker** and **JW of Flora and Steel**.

The 2016 Hearts Signature Events take place on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at AT&T Park. Doors open at 11 a.m. for the Heroes & Hearts luncheon and Hearts After Dark kicks off at 8 p.m. Individual tickets

for the Heroes & Hearts luncheon are \$300. General admission tickets for Hearts After Dark are \$100 and VIP tickets are \$250. Sponsorships for both Heroes & Hearts and Hearts After Dark begin at \$5,000. To purchase tickets or learn more about Sponsorship Opportunities, call 415-206-4478 or visit sfghf.org.

Hearts Signature Event Sponsors include AT&T, Genentech, Wells Fargo, McKesson, Stanley S. Langendorf Foundation, UnitedHealth Group, VISA, the Brin Wojcicki Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Macy's, Webcor Builders and Workday. Media Sponsors include KCBS All News 740 AM and 106.9 FM, NBC Bay Area, *San Francisco Business Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle* | SFGate.com and *San Francisco* magazine.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Large Hearts (5' tall x 6' wide x 40" deep)

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Shannon Amidon — Born and raised in San Jose, Shannon Amidon's Heart "A Wish Your Heart Makes" recalls the hope and wonder associated with dandelions and her personal family tradition of "wish hunting." A returning Heart Artist from 2014, Shannon was the 2011 Arts Council Silicon Valley Artist Laureate, receiving a Fellowship Grant in visual arts. She recently received the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award and is just finished an artist residency at TechShop San Jose.



Marconi Calindas — Award winning artist Marconi Calindas dabbles on black lines and pure hues as his trademarks of distinctive rendering style as seen in his Heart "SF Sunflowers." Born and raised in Manila, Philippines, Marconi has been a resident artist in San Francisco and has been invited to display his work in public art projects in San Francisco City Hall, Children's Creative Museum, SoMARTS Gallery SF, Hotel Triton Mezzanine Gallery, Magnet SF and Menlo College. San Francisco's Office of the Supervisors honored Marconi with a Certificate of Recognition for adding pride to San Francisco's art scene and for advocating on equality and understanding for the troubled members of its community.



Li-Anne Dias — Born and raised in Mumbai, India, Li-Anne Dias was inspired by her move to San Francisco to create “City Sprawl,” an expression of her first experiences in the City by the Bay. Li-Anne’s style as a graphic designer combines her formal background in visual art with her love for illustration to create bold, engaging graphics. She currently works at Reddit as Editorial Graphic Designer and Illustrator for Upvoted.com.



Monika Steiner — Returning 2011 Heart Artist, Monika Steiner, is now a new mother and draws inspiration from this new chapter of her life. Her Heart “Gathering” draws on organic shapes and the theme of creation. Born in Bern, Switzerland, Monika graduated from Sonoma State in 2005 with an BFA. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally including MOMA San Luis Obispo, Triton Museum in Santa Clara and the Museum of Boenigen, Switzerland.

Table-Top Hearts (16" tall x 17" wide x 8" deep)



Mela Delgado — Mosaic mixed media glass artist, Mela Delgado creates an homage to her Taino ancestors with her Heart “A Boricua in San Francisco,” while also representing the Puerto Rican community in San Francisco. The design’s central figure, “La Caguana” is a familiar symbol that

represents women and fertility. Mela received her BFA from Escuela de Artes de Puerto Rico and her MA from John F. Kennedy University in Berkeley, California.



Vanessa Espinoza — Vanessa Espinoza is an aerosol artist and a digital audiovisual specialist with a background in jewelry metal arts. Her Heart “Community Growth” is reminiscent the mural art seen in the Mission neighborhood. Known as DJ AGANA, which loosely translates to ones motivation, drive, desire and ambition to hungrily accomplish any task, Vanessa has exercised her knowledge of digital media and creative arts with young Bay Area artists for over a decade, encouraging them to tell their own unique stories through mural painting, film and animation. Vanessa was born and raised in Venezuela and attended Ex’pression College for the Digital Arts.



Queena Hernandez - While working at the front desk of the Cartoon Art Museum, Queena Hernandez loved being in the presence of Phil Frank’s Heart. The whimsical sculpture greeted and delighted guests as they entered the lobby, establishing a coveted spot for tourists to seize a photo opportunity. With "Qualien Heart Quake," the Heart as a canvas evokes an emotional experience, and sets the stage for a spectacular celebration of love, compassion and interpersonal connection. She hopes viewers to experience the joy that she felt in creating this work, and to feel the powerful, explosive spirit that pulsates throughout the Heart of Our City. Queena received her MFA in Painting from California College of the Arts and her B.A. in Painting and Drawing from California State University, San Bernardino.



Tracy Fetter — Artist Tracy Fetter created her Heart “Zoë” as a tribute to her daughter of the same name. Tracy is a graduate of the University of Washington and moved from Seattle to San Francisco. Tracy is excited to contribute to *Hearts in San Francisco*, and hopes that the Heart “Zoë” will be someone else’s masterpiece, like her daughter is to her.



Laura Lineback — Laura is no stranger to the *Hearts in San Francisco* project as she was one of the 2015 Heart Artists. Last year, she turned one of the Large Hearts into a reflective chrome mirror. San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is very special to Laura, as she lost her father to a heart attack when he was just 60 years old. This year, she looks to bring awareness to LGBTQ rights, both the struggle and the celebration, through her Heart titled “Love Wins.” Born and raised in the Bay Area, Laura graduated from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with an emphasis in painting and drawing. Her works have been featured in a variety of solo and group exhibitions around the City including the 2011 New Generations Student Showcase at the de Young Fine Arts Museum.



Laura Noel — Laura Noel is originally from the Pacific Northwest, but has called the Bay Area home since 2002. She attended the Academy of Art in San Francisco with an emphasis in animation. Her Heart “The Flame of Pursued Passions” is designed to fully wrap around the three dimensional Heart

Sculpture, seamlessly flowing and intending to give a sense of movement and pulse. Laura is an active member of the art community in Vallejo and a curator of “The Hub” gallery. She also has volunteered and worked for Bay Area Girl’s Rock Camp teaching 7-17 year old girls how to play bass guitar.



Celina Paul — Originally from Santa Barbara, California, Celina’s heart titled, “Tree of Life” reflects on the interconnections of family and the heart. This piece was initially created to celebrate the physical, emotional, and environmental aspects of being human and lends a different message to everyone who views it. After developing a deep passion for Studio Art, Celina formalized her education with a Bachelor’s degree in Art and a minor in Environmental Studies from California State University, Chico. Her work as an artist revolves around building healthy community, sustainable environments as well as an interest in the art of reflection. Celina currently works at her Studio located at The Sanchez Art Center in Pacifica, CA. In addition, she teaches both formally and on a volunteer basis at local Bay Area schools, as well as summer camp workshops in painting, drawing and printmaking.



Carrie Ann Plank— Carrie Ann Plank is an artist working in the medium of printmaking. Her Heart “Pattern Recognition” features an organic pattern created during a granted residency project with the MIT Fabrication Lab. Plank’s work is included in many private and public collections including the Fine Art Archives of the Library of Congress, the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, the Guanlan Print Art Museum in China, the Iraq National Library in Baghdad and many more. Additionally, Plank is the Director of the Printmaking MFA & BFA Programs at the Academy of Art University. She is also active in the local arts community as a participant, juror, and volunteer, and is a board member of the California Society of Printmakers. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Printmaking from East Carolina University and her Masters of Fine Arts in Printmaking from the Pennsylvania State University.



Darnel Tasker — Darnel Tasker came to San Francisco for a week trip in 1997, and ended up staying 18 years. In addition to being an illustrator, Darnel has spent almost two decades working in San Francisco’s restaurant industry. Her Heart “Look Up... (There might be a rainbow waiting for you)” is a reminder to ignore the distractions that come on a mobile device and enjoy the beauty that is all around. Darnel attended the Art Institute of California, San Francisco where she studied media arts and animation. After receiving her Bachelor’s degree, she continued her education through classes at City College of San Francisco, studying figure drawing and painting.



JW of Flora and Steel— JW’s “Mended Heart” is deeply inspired by a Japanese wabi-sabi aesthetic and the art of sashiko mending and kintsugi, which reflects the belief that mending torn or broken objects, rather than discarding them, makes them more beautiful. The patterns painted on each piece of indigo and persimmon tannin patchwork are borrowed interpretations of authentic Japanese antique textiles and resemble boro kimonos that have been loved, treasured and mended by the hands of kindred souls. After growing up in Southern California, JW settled in the South Bay and has been there for over 20 years with her husband and children. Over the years, she has been involved in Junior League, Assistance League, National Charity League, various local community organizations, and has been consistently involved at the schools where her children attended elementary through high school.

Mini Hearts (7" tall x 6" wide x 2" deep)



Ilse Cordoni – After taking her mosaic class in 2007, Ilse fell in love with the art and also with the inspiring community of the Institute of Mosaic Art. A San Francisco resident since 1963, Ilse continued to take many more classes and workshops. When she learned the IMA was in danger of closing, Ilse and her daughter Sophia purchased the organization. “Heart of Gold” features paisley shapes that lend themselves to the shape of the sculpture. Ilse is passionate about keeping IMA a thriving organization as she continues to make mosaics.



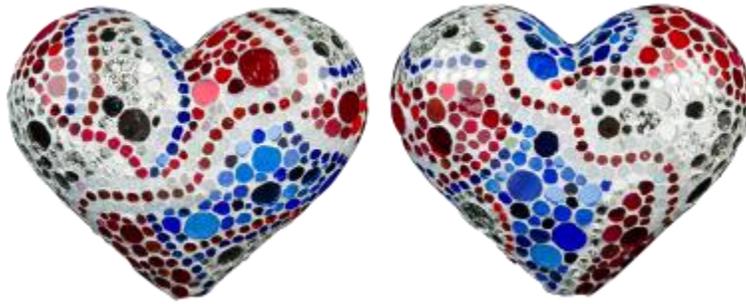
Dmitry Grudsky – is a skilled artist who is passionate about creating art for public spaces. Dmitry brings over thirty years of successful practice to his art designs. Dmitry holds a Masters Degree in Fine Arts from Tashkent Art Institute in Russia. This intensive training exposed him to a broad range of artistic styles. He uses mixed media and blends ancient Byzantine mosaic techniques with stained glass, mural painting and relief components in pieces that are visually stunning, strongly sculptural, and surprisingly practical. While living in Russia, Dmitry primarily worked on large-scale public art works. Since immigrating to the Bay Area, Dmitry has combined artwork with teaching. He has created art for community projects, commercial offices, schools and a church as well as for private collectors. He instructs adults in a variety of art forms such as mosaic, wire sculpture, ceramics, painting and collage.



Glynnis Kaye – Glynnis Kaye has a strong belief that the process of creating art can transform, heal, and bring people together. She works mostly in mosaic, appreciating that the medium offers endless directions for growth and exploration with various materials, and opportunities to reflect light and add dimension to her work. She enjoys solving the technical challenges that arise in mosaic construction, and the meditative aspects of the mosaic process. She also enjoys working in community with others, and has led and participated in the creation of multiple large-scale group projects. She received much of her training at the Institute of Mosaic Art in Berkeley, where she has also been a resident artist and teacher. She lives in Pleasanton, and shares a studio with six other artists in Oakland. Glynnis' work has been widely shown in solo and group exhibitions, and resides in both public spaces and private collections.



Laura Paull - Laura Paull is a professional journalist who ventured into the mosaic arts over a decade ago. Born and raised in New York City, Laura moved to San Francisco as an adult in the mid-1980s and was hired as a reporter for the Hearst-owned *San Francisco Examiner*. One of the stories she remembers covering required her to spend a Saturday in what was then called "the AIDS Ward" at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, during the height of the HIV epidemic. The experience left a lasting impression on her. Her mosaic Heart, "On Wings of Love" shows a cockatoo perched on a branch, in memory of a cockatoo named "Marilyn" that she used to visit in a flower shop. The color of the stained glass reminded her of the bird and inspired the design of this piece.



Jill Stevenson-Ritter - After years of painting with pastels, Jill sought an art process that would engage vision and touch. She found joy in the physical manipulation of materials that define the process that is mosaic art. Each mosaic piece requires hundreds of choices between color and shapes of glass and tile. Then there is the often intense process of cutting and forming individual pieces together to form a new whole. Jill has expressed that mosaics have been a vehicle to reflect and express the diversity of the world, with different origins coming together to form a unified whole. Jill is on staff at the Institute of Mosaic Art in Berkeley California, teaching Introduction to Glass Mosaics, Glass on Glass Mosaics, and a variety of other classes.

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About the Hearts in San Francisco Project

The City-wide public art project, [Hearts in San Francisco](#) was introduced in 2004, featuring 131 five-foot tall Heart Sculptures designed by local and national established and emerging artists. The unique works of art were featured in plazas, parks and on street corners throughout San Francisco. To conclude the public art display, Hearts were auctioned and sold with proceeds benefitting San Francisco General Hospital Foundation and its efforts to fund innovative projects and initiatives that provide high quality compassionate care at Zuckerberg San Francisco General. Since the inaugural year, more than 100 Hearts have been created to benefit programs at Zuckerberg San Francisco General.

About the Foundation's Hearts Signature Events

The Hearts in San Francisco Project and art initiative is a part of the Foundation's Hearts Signature Events - [Heroes & Hearts luncheon](#) and [Hearts After Dark](#) – that take place every February on the field at AT&T Park. At the daytime gala, Heroes & Hearts, the new Hearts in San Francisco sculpture series is revealed and the Foundation honors community heroes with the Heroes & Hearts Award. Hearts After Dark is an evening fundraiser and party, where more than 1,000 Bay Area young professionals enjoy live music and dance the night away on center field.

About San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (the Foundation) is an independent 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation that provides philanthropic support to Priscilla and Mark Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (Zuckerberg San Francisco General). The Foundation is dedicated to promoting excellence in research, education and care for all at Zuckerberg San Francisco General. Funds raised by the Foundation allow Zuckerberg San Francisco General to continue its long history of providing compassionate and high quality health care to San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. In addition to the *Heart of Our City* Capital Campaign, currently underway, some of the programs funded wholly or in part by the Foundation include the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Program, Children's Health Center, HIV/AIDS Division Positive Health Program, Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Unit, HIVE – formerly Bay Area Perinatal AIDS Center (BAPAC) and the Orthopaedic Trauma Institute. For more information, please visit www.sfghf.org or www.facebook.com/SFGHFoundation.