San Francisco General Hospital Foundation Reveals the 2017 *Hearts in San Francisco* Series Featuring 32 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 (Dec. 6, 2016) — San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (The Foundation) announced today that it will display and auction the complete 2017 *Hearts in San Francisco* series at The Foundation’s annual *Heroes & Hearts luncheon* on Thursday, February 16, 2017 on the field of AT&T Park. The 32 new Heart Sculptures in the iconic art series include six Large Hearts, six Table Top Hearts and 20 Mini Mosaic Hearts. The hearts will be auctioned at the luncheon, with proceeds benefiting life-enhancing programs and initiatives at Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (Zuckerberg San Francisco General) (ZSFG). *Hearts in San Francisco* artworks combined with Hearts Signature Events proceeds (2004–2016) have raised for the Foundation more than $15 million for the hospital and its new trauma center, which opened in May, and ZSFG programs, including the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center, HIV/AIDS Division Positive Health Program, Wraparound Project, Orthopedic Trauma Institute, and more.

“Over the years, the unique heart sculptures found throughout the city have become symbolic to San Francisco locals and tourists alike, serving as a reminder that Zuckerberg San Francisco General offers the very best care to everyone in our community. We are honored and grateful to have so many local artists contribute their talents to help spread 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 Heroes & Hearts luncheon will significantly impact the future programs and initiatives offered at the hospital.”

The 32 artists selected for the 2017 Series represent the unique artistic landscape of the City and the diverse community that ZSFG serves. The 2017 artists are Shannon Amidon, John Bonick, Elaine Coombs, Anthony K. Hall, Jr., Alfred White, Pop Zhao, Wendy Arbeit, Tom Bolles, Naomi Duben, Charles Gadeken, Amanda Sammann, Masha Schultz, Deborah Block, Randina Casenza, Ilse Cordoni, Rachel Greenberg, Elizabeth Grindon, Dmitry Grudsky, Xuan My Ho, Kathy Law, Wenia Lee, Amy Neiman, Edith Ng, Catherine Ryan, Vaishali Sanghavi, Barbara Schlein, Robyn Spencer-Crompton & Peter Crompton, Jill
Stevenson-Ritter, Carla Trujilo, Ann Watters, Amelia Williams and Wesley R. Wong. Followers near and far can view the journey and progress of the hearts and artists by exploring the hashtag #HeartsInSF and by following the Foundation’s Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

The Heroes & Hearts luncheon brings the community together to celebrate the essential role ZSFG plays in our City and its community impact, raising funds to support The Foundation’s mission and honor local heroes whose actions improve our community. The 2017 event takes place on Thursday, February 16 at AT&T Park with doors opening at 11 a.m. Individual tickets are $300. Sponsorship levels for the Heroes & Hearts event begin at $7,500. To purchase tickets or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, call 628-206-5803 or visit http://sfghf.org/events/heroes-hearts/.

Event sponsors include Genentech, UCSF, Wells Fargo, Bon Appetit, Giants Enterprises, AT&T, PG&E, The Stanley S. Langendorf Foundation, Sutter Health CPMC, UnitedHealth Group, VISA, Macy’s, and Workday. Media sponsors include KCBS All News 740 AM and 106.9 FM, NBC Bay Area, San Francisco Chronicle, SFGate.com, San Francisco magazine, San Francisco Business Times, JCDecaux and OutFront Media.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:
Photo Credit: Irja Elisa Photography | For all images, click here.

**Large Hearts (5’ tall x 6’ wide x 40” deep)**

**SHANNON AMIDON** — Shannon is no stranger to the *Hearts in San Francisco* project as she was one of the 2014 and 2016 Heart Artists. Last year, she recalled the hope and wonder associated with dandelions and her personal family tradition of “wish hunting.” In this technology-driven age, Shannon believes we need reminders of the briefness of life and wonders of the natural world. Born and raised in San Jose, Shannon Amidon’s heart, “Tree of Life,” explores the cycles of life, connections to ancestors and hopes for the future generations, calling attention to its transitory and fragile nature. The heart is inspired by and dedicated to her family, and symbolizes growth, strength and resilience. She received the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award in 2015 and she was the 2011 Arts Council Silicon Valley Artist Laureate, receiving a Fellowship Grant in visual arts. Shannon has been an artist in residence at the Ayatana Artistic Research Program, Quebec, Canada, TechShop San Jose, Herhusid House Artist Residency in Iceland as well as the David and Julia White Artist Colony in Costa Rica. For more information on Shannon: [http://www.shannonamidon.com/](http://www.shannonamidon.com/)
JOHN BONICK — John is originally from Chicago, but has called the Bay Area home since 1980. Over the past several years, he has developed a vocabulary of imagery that centers around ropey forms often referred to as bands of channels. These channels are metaphoríc for connectivity and connectedness, channels that pulse with the continuous flow that binds and connects all things spiritual, informational, and biological. His heart, “Currents of the Heart,” is inspired by the channels and vibrations of the world. The human heart, as both a symbol and a real organ, is in constant vibration. John’s work is featured at di Rosa Preserve in Napa, in the Bloomingdale’s Collection in New York, Chicago and San Francisco, as well as with the Fairmont Hotel, Visa, Juniper Networks and many private collections. He is represented by Andrea Schwartz Gallery in San Francisco, William Turner Gallery and Fresh Paint in Los Angeles, and Art Resource Boston. For more information on John: http://johnbonick.com/

ELAINE COOMBS — In her latest artwork, Elaine is exploring the magical effects of light and fog as they relate to her ongoing fascination with the forest landscape environment. Her heart, “For the Love of Fog,” was inspired by a series of photographs taken early one morning on Land’s End Trail. Her trademark dot technique is painstakingly handmade, yet evokes a pixelated computer image when viewed up close. Elaine’s work is in the public collection at the San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center. Originally from Ontario, Canada, Elaine’s work has been exhibited across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. Her paintings can be found in over 300 private, corporate and public collections, most notably the U.S. Department of State - Art Bank Program; The City and County of San Francisco Civic Art Collection; and the Ritz Carlton Highlands Hotel in Lake Tahoe, California. For more information on Elaine: http://www.elainecoombs.com
ANTHONY K. HALL, JR. — Born and raised in the Bay Area, Anthony finds the *Hearts in San Francisco* project an unmistakable and bold statement for the San Francisco landscape. Since its inception in 2004 he has wondered if given the opportunity, what would he say visually? What could he add to the SF dialog? Once given the opportunity, we have our answer: “Winter Sunset.” During San Francisco winters there are often subsets with colors that come together intricately to evoke abstract solitude and deep contemplation. Through this theme, Anthony wanted to juxtapose a mixture of colors with the repetition of lines to represent the compounding thoughts people find themselves in when observing nature undisturbed. Anthony has exhibited with Pro Arts Gallery in Oakland and Arts Alive Ingleside in San Francisco. For more information on Anthony: [www.antkhall.com](http://www.antkhall.com)

ALFRED WHITE — Returning 2010 Heart Artist, Alfred, was born in Berkeley and raised in Oakland. He is a founding player with the African American Shakespeare Company. Alfred created his heart, “Midnight Garden,” to reignite interest in painting with the desire to create a heart in a different category. The heart was inspired by an accident which Alfred allowed to take on its own life. Beginning as a bird settled on the tree outside his window chirping at night, Alfred was unsatisfied with the outcome of the bird image so added more colors and expanded upon the floral patterns he began to see. Although gardens and chirping birds aren’t typically viewed at night, they are nonetheless present, vibrant and very much alive at the midnight hour.
**POP ZHAO** — Having exhibited widely and collected many awards and scholarships throughout his career, Pop is one of the most accomplished and controversial artists to emerge from China in recent years. He has lived in San Francisco for the past 25 years. Pop’s heart, “Dynasty Memory No 8,” was created with acrylic paints. In 2003, Pop wrapped the new Asian Art Museum with 22,000 square feet of canvas for its grand opening and was the first artist to show his work there. In 2005, he was appointed the Art Commissioner of the city and county of San Francisco by the major. In 2008, Pop was the opening artist for the Beijing Olympic Games and created “Olympic Dragon,” an eight-mile long work of earth-art unfurled on the Great Wall of China. For more information on Pop: [http://www.tibetmoon.com/interviewspop.html](http://www.tibetmoon.com/interviewspop.html)

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

**WENDY ARBEIT** — Wendy has lived, worked, and attended design school in the East Bay since 2010, and has been inspired by the colorful hearts and the “care for all” mission of The Foundation. Her mixed media artwork includes painting, sculpture, video, and photography, where she often explores themes of identity, belonging, and nature, space, and time. The idea for her heart, “Farmers Market,” was sparked by the lively movement and music of the old Oakland farmers’ market and its bright, colorful fruit and vegetables. Wendy’s artwork has been displayed nationwide, and her self-portrait photography project, “A Moment in Time,” is currently on exhibition at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC and is a finalist in the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition. For more information on Wendy: [http://www.wendyarbeit.com](http://www.wendyarbeit.com)
TOM BOLLES — Born in San Francisco and now living in Marin, Tom blends computer-generated work with his characteristic style of minimal color field painting. When viewed up close the surfaces of this new series expose a network of thousands of tiny 0’s and 1’s. Tom uses this binary vocabulary as an acknowledgement of our increasingly digital world, where technology, like all tools, has both advantages and limitations. His heart, titled “Pretty in Pink,” was inspired by Sweetheart candies with inscriptions stamped on them. This inspiration derived from hearts reminding Tom of Valentine’s Day, and Valentine’s Day making him think of candy – particularly those famous heart shaped Sweethearts. For more information on Tom: www.tombollesart.com

NAOMI DUBEN — Naomi posses an intrigue for figurative art, particularly with the female form, and taking elements of realism and intertwining them with imagination. She’s fascinated with the way the female figure can be manipulated to completely transform the tone of a painting or photography. The inspiration behind her heart, “Lotus Sutra,” is the ultimate image of serenity. The heart is to remind viewers of our roots and source. Rustic browns remind us of earth and the peaceful expression reminds us of the quiet. This piece is a daily reminder to take a break from outside chaos and share a moment with yourself to center, rest, breathe and take on the day. Naomi incorporates elements of mixed media into her work for added interaction results in an organic explosion of color, feminism, spirituality, and emotion. Naomi was born in San Francisco and grew up in San Rafael in Marin County. She works as a web content producer at PlayStation and has participated in the San Rafael Italian Street Painting Festival for more than ten years.
CHARLES GADEKEN — Charles is an industrial artist who has worked in the Bay Area for more than 20 years. His monumental interactive public artworks, which reimagine the world post-nature and include commissions by Black Rock Arts Foundation, Insomniac Events, Coachella, Absolut Vodka and the City of Palo Alto, have been exhibited internationally. Charles is skilled in the manipulation of metals, and his art depicts natural objects in fantastic ways and realizes the potential for serendipity in everyday life. Focused on engaging the imagination both in the objects he creates and the method of their creation, Charles is dedicated to increasing artistic community and public awareness of art. Many of his pieces are interactive, encouraging spectators to become participants in the artistic experience. Charles’ heart, titled “عشق,” is a symbol of his love for his Iranian wife and daughter, as well as their shared heritage. Charles created the heart as a personal, beautiful and handcrafted gift to people who he doesn’t know; it’s a small heart to replace a little bit of the hate in the world with love and respect. For more information on Charles: http://www.charlesgadeken.com/

AMANDA SAMMANN — Amanda is an Assistant Professor of general surgery at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and the Founder and Executive Director of The Better Lab – a venture that uses design to study and fix health care challenges. She practices trauma surgery, general surgery and surgical critical care at ZSFG. Amanda has now worked at UCSF and ZSFG for the past decade. Her heart, “Stem to Stern,” is a collage of handmade paper flowers created from her personal to-do-lists while undergoing her residency training at ZSFG. Her heart commemorates all of the hard work that goes into being a surgeon, and to thank and celebrate the inspiring community and amazing patients she had the privilege of caring for. She believes that her patients’ stories deserve to be told and that the blood, sweat and tears of colleagues in surgical training deserve to be memorialized. For more information on Amanda: http://www.thebetterlab.org
MASHA SCHULTZ — Born in Russia, Masha’s vibrantly colored paintings reflect life experiences as a Soviet Union refugee. Tremendous ups and downs, through struggling through health issues, adapting to American society and life’s challenges, are reflected in Masha’s art. The experiences range from the most challenging times in life, the “shadows of the underworld,” depression, and self-obsessions, through to her transformation today of rising above and experiencing personal spiritual enlightenment and self-awareness. Masha loves the contrast of light and dark, and how it makes everything much more vivid and interesting. The inspiration behind her heart, “Shining Love of San Francisco,” was the love and safety she felt in San Francisco as a new refugee. One side of the heart is the view from Twin Peaks with the warm loving sun shining on Masha’s face as it sets, and the other side is The Temple which was built to bring beauty, happiness and healing to the Hayes Valley neighborhood and San Francisco. For more information on Masha: www.mashaschultz.com

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

DEBORAH BLOCK — “Heart of My Heart”

RANDINA CASENZA — “Retreat” www.randinacasenza.com
ILSE CORDONI — “Here is My Heart” https://www.facebook.com/InstituteOfMosaicArt/

RACHEL GREENBERG — “In Full Bloom” mosaicsbyrachel.com

ELIZABETH GRINDON — “Grief is Not Gray” https://www.facebook.com/studio9mosaics/
DMITRY GRUDSKY — “Serpentine of Lombard Street”

XUAN MY HO — “Heart’s Delight” http://www.swanmosaic.com/

KATHY LAW — “Radiate” https://www.instagram.com/twosetters/

WENIA LEE — “Fall, In Love” https://www.facebook.com/mosaicdesignsbywenialee/
AMY NEIMAN — "Pathways to Love"  http://www.amyneimanmosaicart.com

EDITH NG — “A Courageous Heart”

CATHERINE RYAN — “Summer of Love”  http://lunaproductions.com/category/mosaic/

VAISHALI SANGHAVI — “Bollywood Beats” vaishalisinghavi.com
BARBARA SCHLEIN — “Tulip Bouquet”

ROBYN SPENCER-CROMPTON & PETER CROMPTON — “Greenman Heart”
http://cromptondesign.com/


ANN WATTERS — “Seat of Emotion” https://annwattersmosaics.blogspot.com/

AMELIA WILLIAMS — “Dance of the Dragonfly”

WESLEY R. WONG — “Spring Blossoms” http://www.glasstastique.com
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 Event
The Hearts in San Francisco Project and art initiative is a part of the Foundation’s Hearts Signature Event - Heroes & Hearts luncheon. At the Heroes & Hearts luncheon, held on the field at AT&T Park, the new Hearts in San Francisco sculpture series is revealed and the Foundation honors community heroes with the Heroes & Hearts Award.

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 Chan 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. Some of the programs funded wholly or in part by the Foundation include the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center, 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 SFGHF.org and Facebook (Facebook.com/SFGHF).