



BAYVIEW
OPERA HOUSE, INC.

BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY

2009-2010



MISSION

To serve as the focal point for Art and Culture in the Bayview Hunters Point Community by providing accessible, diverse, and high - quality arts education, cultural programs and community events in a safe environment.

VALUES

At the BVOH, we are passionate about:

- Pursuing high standards of excellence in arts instruction and programming
- Encouraging youth to participate in the arts
- Fostering a sense of community and relationships that are respectful and inspirational
- Being inclusive and offering a diversity of programs

VISION

- See and serve the whole child
- Make programming even more engaging
- Increase level of professionalism in arts instruction
- Increase quality and variety of cultural programs
- Strengthen partnerships with neighboring schools and after school care providers
- Make BVOH programs even more heterogeneous and inclusive
- Continue to improve the physical facility of the BVOH
- Increase level and diversify sources of funding received by BVOH







This has been a year of exceptional progress for the Bayview Opera House (BVOH). Accomplishments include:

1. The creation of an after-school ARTS program;
2. A large increase in the quantity as well as quality in cultural programming including a summer arts camp that surpassed previous programs both in quality of instruction and quantity of children served (over 300 in 2010);
3. Cultivating of new and existing partnerships; and
4. The start of a historic preservation project of our facility that resulted in the discovery and restoration of the original floor from 1888, the preservation of the historic proscenium and the nomination of the Bayview Opera House Ruth Williams Memorial Theater to the National Register of Historic Places.

Barbara Ockel

Barbara Ockel

Statement of Operating Revenue and Expenses

REVENUE

Local Government Grants	338,166	85%
Corporate and Private Donations	14,314	4%
Other income	39,797	10%
In kind	5,458	1%
Total Revenue	397,735	

Also received this year, but classified as deferred income, because project was not completed this fiscal year:

Federal Grant for historic preservation	78,764
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EXPENSES

Program Services	335,278	86%
General & Administrative	33,818	9%
Fundraising	19,521	5%
Total Expenses	388,617	

Increase in Net Assets	9,118
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Programs for the Community

Fall 2009 started with a brand new after school arts program that included theatre arts, dance, modeling, drumming, painting and graffiti art. Classes started out small serving only a few children from the immediate area. It later grew through partnerships with other after school care providers, who brought their kids for arts enrichment after homework was completed. The most positive outcome was the connections we made with our adjacent neighbors, the Joseph Lee Recreation Center, Providence Foundation, the Bayview YMCA and the Willie Mays Boys and Girls Club for whom we were able to provide special programming throughout the year.

Another first was our participation in the city-wide ArtSpan Open Studios, celebrating the art

of our diverse artist community. The BVOH sponsored 5 artists from the community through paying their registration fees and providing free display space as well as marketing support. As a group site we were able to attract a diverse group of visitors and art buyers, many of whom had never been to the BVOH before.

In late fall 2009 we began our outreach to neighboring community-based organizations that resulted in creating the largest collaborative event ever by engaging more than a dozen organizations to help plan the 6th Annual Holiday Festival, including a toy-give-away, a holiday market, a giant Christmas tree on our outside stage and an ice-skating rink in our parking lot. Hundreds of families came



and enjoyed festivities throughout the day. The most rewarding outcome of this collaboration was the building of community with our partner organizations. Momentum continues as we develop and build upon these relationships to create other collaborative events and programs that attract the youth as well as the larger Bayview community.

In November/December 2009 we were thrilled to host muralist Joel Bergner as artist in residence. Joel had been commissioned by the Episcopal Diocese of California to complete five large panels on the work of Roman Catholic Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, who was assassinated while saying Mass and has been classified a saint by the Episcopal Church. It was inspirational for all of us

to see Joel's panels turn from white into a beautiful mural. Joel Berger is known as a "Mission Muralist". Several of his building murals can be found in the Mission district of San Francisco.

During February's Black History Month we were proud to welcome the Black Repertory Theatre Group from Berkeley, CA with their production of "Sparkle." Many folks came to see the play and entertained their dates on Valentine's Day. The month also featured a Black History Exhibit and culminated in a three-day Black History celebration that included a classical music performance by local pianist Oz, as well as other performances including jazz, dance and spoken word by Mary Booker's Infinity Productions.

Through the federal stimulus program, JOBS NOW, we were able to hire two new employees and thereby significantly increase the capacity of the BVOH to plan programming and events and support the facility. Their first contribution was helping with the opening of our newly created "Opera House Sculpture Garden." The garden inspired the use of our outside grounds for youth programs and was later transformed into a landscape/gardening/food awareness project complete with live chickens within the context of our Dare to Dream ARTS youth summer enrichment program.



A National Historic Monument

In April, we embarked on the most challenging historic restoration project for the Bayview Opera House to date. The funds had been allocated to the BVOH in 2005 through a special appropriation supported by then Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures Program and were set to sunset in May 2010. To complete the work in the required timeframe was both the biggest challenge and resulted in the biggest reward of the year: the discovery of the original Douglas Fir floor, still in restorable condi-

tion, under several layers of linoleum, asbestos and plywood. It was previously believed to have been removed and replaced with plywood. A special thank you is in order to everyone who suffered with us holding their events on various sub-floors, as this construction took four months to complete due to various delays with approvals and other legal matters beyond our control. Special thanks also to our construction crews from Bluewater Environmental Services for asbestos abatement and California Wood Floors for painstakingly uncovering, repairing and restoring our auditorium, kitchen, office floors and all the stairs and landings throughout the building. They also sanded

the stage to renewed beauty and covered all flooring with four coats of the best low VOC industrial floor coating available.

The historic proscenium arch surrounding the interior stage was restored to its original glory by a group of diligent conservators from the renowned San Francisco firm, Architectural Resources Group. They painstakingly cleaned all surfaces, careful not to disturb the underlying paint, repaired the chipped wood and plaster clacks, and in-painted the repaired areas to match the original colors and designs.

Looking forward into the beginning of the 2010/2011 fiscal year,



as part of the Save America's Treasures restoration project, the Bayview Opera House was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The important historical research necessary to write the nomination was also performed by Architectural Resources Group (ARG) and submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office on August 31st, 2010. The final acceptance into the National Register is expected to take about one year. Once this process is complete we hope to be able to access special funding only available to buildings on the Register to further the process of restoring the Bayview Opera House to its original glory. Matched with modern lighting and sound equipment, and the superb natu-

ral reverberation added by the uncovered wood floor, the Opera House is destined to be recognized as a rare gem of a medium sized performance hall.

“From the very first note of the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra’s recent Family Concert at the Bayview Opera House, it was clear to me that something very special was going on! The sound of the orchestra, reflected off the beautiful new hardwood floor and bouncing around the classic rectangular shape of the large room, was full, rich, and clear. What a wonderful acoustic, exciting and “present!” I have performed in many of the Bay Area’s best known concert halls, and I want to tell you that the Bayview Opera House takes a back seat to no one!!”

We would like to express our gratitude to the following organizations and individuals who helped with the Save America’s Treasures preservation project:

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi

Save America’s Treasures (SAT) Program (National Park Service)

Megan Brown and Jennifer Wellock of SAT

The San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC)

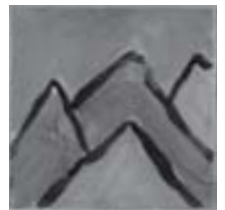
Judy Nemzoff, Luis Cancel and PJ Johnston of SFAC

Carol Wong, City Attorney

Katy Untch, Mark McMillan, Megan Berkey and Johana Krants-Moreno of ARG Conservation Services

Kevin Hussey, Ivan Vargas and Josue Rivera of California Wood Floors, Inc.

Andy Dilg and Mel Perez of Bluewater Environmental Services, Inc.



DARE TO DREAM Summer Arts Program

Remarkably, the Bayview Opera House never closed its doors throughout the historic preservation project. Construction crews accommodated our programming while the auditorium floor was being worked on to the largest degree possible. Our summer arts program became a true “camp”, complete with tents and outdoor classes. The Opera House Garden Project evolved into a major attraction for passers-by on Third Street, increasing awareness of our programs and resulting in more youth finding out about and participating in DARE TO DREAM.

When word got out about insufficient funding available for our summer arts program, the non-profit arts community came to the rescue, offering many free or reduced cost programs to the Bayview Opera House. Their generosity enabled us to offer several media-based arts classes for teens in addition to the more traditional arts programming offered to all school-age children. Our 8-week program started on June 14th with classes in movie making, digital composition, digital photography, Orff Music

Ensemble, drumming, painting, graffiti art, dance, modeling, healthy cooking, gardening and landscaping. Three baby chicks grew up rapidly under the expert care of our young farmers and landscapers, eating greens grown in our garden.

For the first time the Bayview Opera House was able to organize a summer program without the help of another organization. Our increased staffing was essential to making this possible. This gave us the freedom to be creative, save cost by hiring our teaching artists directly and gave us the flexibility to add classes on the fly as demand surpassed our wildest dreams. We served over 300 children from other Community Based Organizations, most of them for at least four hours of classes per week. Also for the first time we had our very own group of day campers who stayed with us and took a variety of classes throughout the summer. We hired eighteen teens through three different youth organizations to help us keep the program organized and assist our teaching artists, and participate in some arts classes themselves.



Thanks for donating expertise and time to DARE TO DREAM:

BAYCAT (acting class)
Nicole Brisebois (garden outreach)
Lisa Lee Benjamin (garden design)
Blue Bear School of Music (composition class)
ChickenCribs (chicken coop)
Karla Dakin (garden design)
Green Cherry (tire planters)
Northern California American Orff Schulwerk Association (Loan of musical instruments)
San Francisco Arts Institute City Studio (movie class)
SF Camerawork/FirstExposures (photography class)
Surfside Chickens (Baby chicks and advisor)
Susan Kennedy and Chinese American School (Orff Music)
Tammy Edwards (outreach)

Community Partners who Participated in DARE TO DREAM

Bayview Commons & San Francisco Housing Development Corporation
Bayview YMCA
Bret Harte Child Development Center
Burnett Child Development Center
Dr. G.W. Carver Elementary School Excel Program
Joseph Lee Recreation Center
Providence Foundation
Whitney Young Child Development Center
Willie Mays Boys & Girls Club

I totally loved coming to the Bayview Opera House over the summer! I always looked forward to another day and participating in the fun programs offered. A few of my favorites were the theatrical modeling with Mario B, Hip Hop class with Looney, the acting classes taught by BAYCAT and the garage band class by Blue Bear School of Music where I actually got to produce my own music CD! Oh! I also liked learning how to garden! It was a lot of work, but it was well worth it! The garden turned out to be beautiful, full of colorful flowers! Ms. Barbara was kind enough to have her friend bring in baby chicks that we could watch grow over the summer, which was really cool too. We lost one (RIP baby chick!) but the others grew up to be super cute and cuddly! I also liked the feeling of being dropped off in a loving environment where the staff made sure I had lunch and snacks! I think the Bayview Opera House and the Dare to Dream programs are the best and hope that more kids will want to join us next summer. I made a bunch of new friends and felt good talking about "my summer" when I started school in the fall. Thanks BVOH!

Jordyn Lucas, Dare to Dream summer camper, age 10



From the Board of Directors


As I reflect on my second year on the Board of Directors of the Bayview Opera House, and on my first 6 months as President of the Board, I can't help but feel a great sense of pride about what our organization has accomplished in such a short amount of time. Three years ago I was one of the first new board members recruited to the BVOH to rebuild the organization from its brink of collapse. Not only have we achieved stability on the Board with several outstanding new members, we have also increased our staff so that the Opera House can function effectively in serving as the cultural hub and the emerging "town center" of the Bayview Hunters Point community.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank both outgoing President Vernon Grigg, III, and outgoing Secretary Dr. Felipe Paris for their dedicated and prolonged service and leadership to bring the BVOH to its present success. Both are still active Board members. Special thanks also goes out to departed board

members V. Denise Bradley, Christine Johnson and Patrick Goggin.

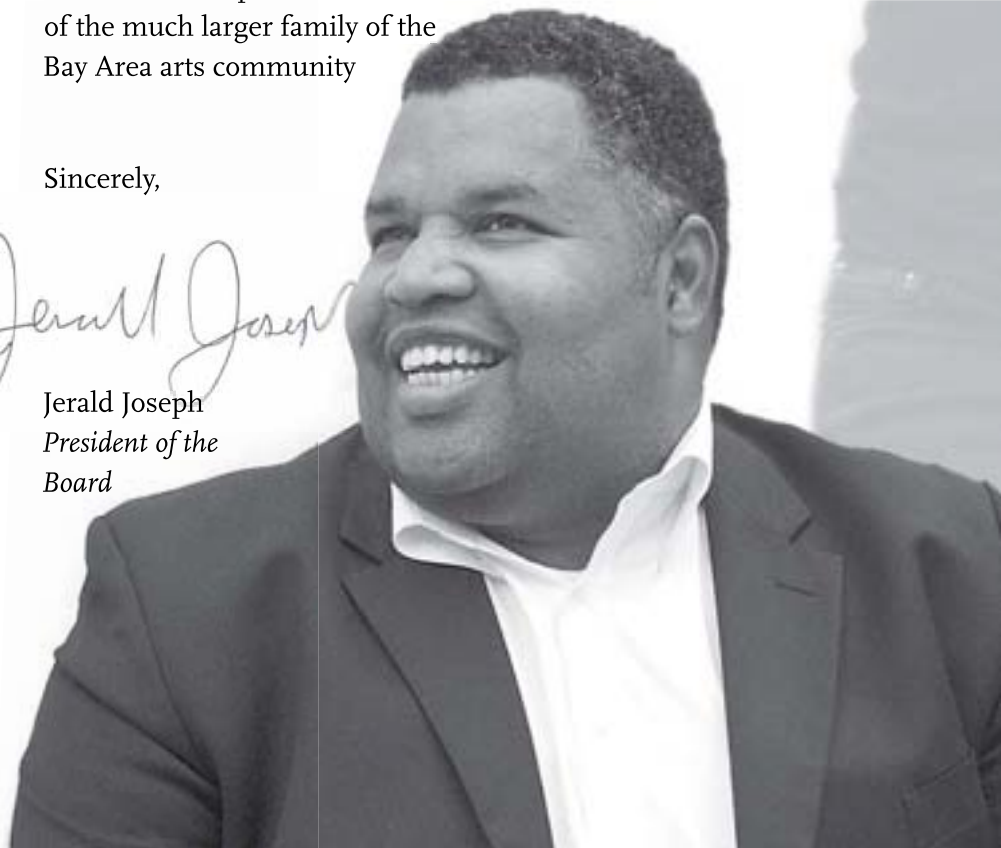
Looking ahead, I see the Bayview Opera House blossoming into a space where great dreams are realized – the dream of a wonderful historic building that is well taken care of to house great concerts, great plays, great art, great dance and opera and opportunities to actively participate in the arts, especially for our youth. If just a few children we now teach look back later and remember that their passion for the arts started at the Bayview Opera House, we have achieved our mission. But we are aiming for more – we want to be a cultural hub that brings together people from different parts of our city and beyond with the Bayview community. We want to build connections beyond the Opera House that will make us feel that we are proud members of the much larger family of the Bay Area arts community

Sincerely,



Jerald Joseph
*President of the
Board*

Current Board Members:
Jerald Joseph, *President*
Theo Ellington, *Secretary*
Hon. Willie B. Kennedy, *Treasurer*
Dr. James Calloway
Cindy Changar
Jackie Cohen
Vernon Grigg III
Barbara Ockel (on leave)
Dr. Felipe Paris
Clint Stockwell





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To former Board member Christine Johnson for her time and commitment to BVOH as treasurer and secretary and editing this report.

To current staff members Kura Cohen, Rebecca Gallegos, Lindsey Lutts, Barbara Ockel, La Shea Sanchez, Ules Tabron, Sam Watson and Errol Hall for providing administrative and facility support.

Last but not least we wish to thank the San Francisco Arts Commission for their continuing support: P.J. Johnston, Commission President, Luis R. Cancel, Director of Cultural Affairs, Judy Nemzoff, Program Director, Community Arts and Education and Robynn Takayama, Program Manager, Community Arts and Education.

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