Bay Area Community Foundations Award Fellowship to Six Art Teachers
Recipients at Schools in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo counties

May 21, 2007 – Six San Francisco Bay Area Arts teachers – two at Alameda County schools, two in San Francisco schools and one each from Contra Costa and San Mateo County schools – are recipients of the “Fund for Artists Arts Teacher Fellowships” sponsored by the four major community foundations in the region.

The Fund for Artists is sponsored by the East Bay Community Foundation, the Marin Community Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. With financial support from the Surdna Foundation, the Fund’s fellowship program is intended to foster the artistic revitalization of outstanding arts teachers in Bay Area middle and high schools by allowing recipients to foster their own creative work and to interact with other professional artists in their field.

Recipients of the 2007-2008 fellowships are:

**Adelina Barrios (Capuchino High School, San Mateo County, $1,124)** will attend a Dance and Movement Workshop at Chapman University in Orange, California, to study with artist in residence Jenny Backhaus, attend dance concerts and perform choreography developed during the workshops.

**Katherine Beckner (Mt. Diablo High School, Contra Costa County, $5,000)** will study techniques of mold making for pottery, sculptural forms, prototype models, fabric plaster molds and one-of-a-kind tiles with Richard Notkin at the Archie Bray Foundation for Ceramics in Helena, Montana. She will also take a Salt Fire class at Walnut Creek Civic Arts Education and become a member of the Berkeley Potters Studio where she will continue developing her portfolio in sculptural ceramics.
MARY ESTES (Ida B. Wells High School, San Francisco County, $5,000) will travel to Snowmass, Colorado and attend the summer art program at Anderson Ranch Art Center to take “Contemporary Painting: Metaphor and the Current Cacophony” and “The Provocative Fragment: Oil Painting and Drawing,” from instructors Lawrence Rinder and Kathleen Poe.

DAN KRYSTON (San Francisco High School of the Arts, San Francisco County, $5,000) will attend the Malta Festival in Warsaw, Poland, as both a participant and a contributor. He will visit various parts of the city to view original site-specific performances, train with two distinguished theater masters – Fundaja Akcja and Weronika Fibisch – and attend seminars and performances by Teatr Ruchu, the State Theatre School. He will also give a one-day seminar on the “Voice of American Musical Theatre.”

MIRIAM STAHL (Berkeley High School/Arts and Humanities Academy, Alameda County, $5,000) will study the digital printmaking process in a workshop that is a part of the “6th Annual Summer Institute of Innovative Printmaking” at the Kala Art Institute in Berkeley. She will also rent studio time at Kala to develop and print a new body of work in preparation for an exhibition at the Berkeley Art Center in October 2007.

LARRY STEFL (Berkeley Technical Academy, Alameda County, $5,000) will attend a two-week Summer Institute on Innovative Printmaking at Kala Art Institute and Trillium Press, purchase a printing press and continue to develop his body of work, entitled “Brasilia Series.”

In addition to their individual fellowship funds, awardees receive a $1,500 stipend earmarked for follow-up activities with their students.

With only 22% of California schools meeting the state mandated standards for art instruction and 29% offering no arts instruction at all, these fellowships, while small in scale, are a means to inspire arts teachers and their effectiveness in the schools in which they work. These teachers, who all are artists themselves, continue to impact the lives of students in their classes by representing the movement to put the arts back into education.

The East Bay Community Foundation (www.eastbaycf.org) serves as a catalyst for change in Alameda and Contra Costa counties by connecting community needs with individuals, families and organizations interested in charitable giving -- and through leadership of initiatives designed to improve the quality of civic life. As the first public foundation in Northern California, formed in 1928, the East Bay Community Foundation is a leading resource on charitable giving and community needs, stewarding more than 400 charitable funds and endowments.

The Marin Community Foundation (www.marincf.org) is the primary center for philanthropy in Marin County, California. Dedicated to enhancing the community's quality of life, the Foundation provides support in the areas of the arts, community development, education, the environment, human needs, and religion, ethics, and conscience. The Foundation administers assets from the Leonard and Beryl H. Buck Trust and from funds entrusted by 350 Marin individuals, families, businesses, and community groups. One of the largest community foundations in the U.S., the Foundation’s assets exceed $1 billion, with annual distributions of approximately $50 million.
The San Francisco Foundation (www.sff.org) is the community foundation serving the Bay Area since 1948 with current assets of more than $970 million. Through the generosity and vision of our family of donors, TSFF awarded grants totaling $68 million in fiscal year 2006. Bringing together donors and building on community assets through grantmaking, leveraging, public policy, advocacy, and leadership development, TSFF addresses community needs in the areas of community health, education, arts and culture, community development, and the environment. The San Francisco Foundation is a community foundation serving San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, and San Mateo Counties.

The merger of Community Foundation Silicon Valley and Peninsula Community Foundation took effect on January 1, 2007, creating Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to the region’s most challenging problems. The new community foundation is among the largest community foundations in the nation, with more than $1.7 billion in assets under management and 1,400 philanthropic funds. In a region known for innovation in business and technology as well as philanthropy, the new community foundation will address local needs and support Silicon Valley’s charitable giving to causes locally, nationally and around the globe. The integration marks the first merger of equals involving two of the country’s leading community foundations and sets new precedent in the philanthropic sector. The new regional headquarters will open in Mountain View in the summer of 2007. Find out more at www.siliconvalleycf.org.

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