



Bayview Uncut: Tools of the Trade – Performing Arts Program Guidelines

Tools of the Trade is a program of the [Bayview Opera House](#), funded by the [San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development](#) through the [Dreamkeeper Initiative](#). The money comes from the San Francisco General Fund and is part of the 120 million dollars over 2 years that was reallocated from the police department for the direct benefit of the Black community in San Francisco.

Tools of the Trade is a workforce development program intended to primarily support Black San Francisco artists in their quest to become financially successful as artists. Bayview Opera House offers **practical** skill development in many areas that are not easily accessible elsewhere, but are needed to be successful in today's arts eco-system.

There will be two tracks of Tools of the Trade:

- **Performing arts** (October 4 start)
- **Visual arts** (November start, details tba)

Tools of the Trade - Performing Arts

The Tools of the Trade performing arts program is centered around real live productions and events happening at the Bayview Opera House this year.

Tools of the Trade teaches elements of the many different creative and technical skills that are needed for any performing artist's career, as well as aspiring technical artists, who work behind the scenes to create an environment the performer can shine in. Skills taught over the course of the 3-segment program include, but are not limited to:

- Production of complex performances that include many collaborators: artists in different genres, technicians, creative leaders and managers
- The creative thought process, its implementation and manifestation
- Lighting design, lightboard programming and operation
- Live sound, indoors and outdoors
- Sound and video recording of live performances
- Video projection as part of a performance
- Costume and set design

- Event planning and management
- Budgeting for events and performances
- Fundraising for artistic productions

We are currently accepting applications for Segment I of the 3-part program. Successful students are automatically eligible for the next two segments, but are not obligated to enroll in them as well. Participation in Segment 1 or equivalent experience is a prerequisite for segments 2 and 3.

An educational stipend of \$1,000 is available to all students who complete the program.



Segment 1: Harriet's Spirit

October 4 – November 17, 2021

Educational stipend: \$1,000

Required attendance: at least 50 hours of classes, rehearsals and performances

Bayview Opera House has partnered with [Opera Parallèle](#) to present Segment I of the **Tools of the Trade** program. [Opera Parallèle](#) has commissioned and is producing a contemporary opera, [Harriet's Spirit](#), written by renowned San Francisco jazz musician and composer [Marcus Shelby](#) and librettist [Roma Olvera](#). Performers will include three soloists, a 10-piece instrumental ensemble and the [San Francisco Girls Chorus](#). The work will be performed at the Bayview Opera House.

The producers, performing artists, directors and technical artists who are collaborating to produce *Harriet's Spirit*, will be sharing their expertise in virtual lectures, hands-on classes, and during rehearsals and the actual shows, that students will assist in running.

By being a part of a major performing arts production, students will experience what goes on behind the scenes, and will gain a complete picture of and skills in the elements of success for such a project.

More Information about [Opera Parallèle](#) and [Harriet's Spirit](#)

Opera Parallèle develops and performs contemporary opera, commissions new works, and re-orchestrates contemporary grand opera, breathing new life into underperformed masterworks for the 20th & 21st centuries. Embracing rituals of old while bravely finding space for the new, this tension sparks creativity – colorful collisions that inspire new ways of experiencing opera. Born in San Francisco, a city built on both old and new, between art and technology, Opera Parallèle merges tradition with innovation to reimagine the power of opera in the modern world, highlighting stories of social relevance that explore the depth of the human condition.

[Read more about the story, the creators and performers for Harritt's Spirit](#)

Segment 2: Winter Wonderland

Nov 29 – Dec 20, 2021

Educational stipend: \$500

Required attendance: at least 25 hours of classes, event preparation and event

Our annual Winter Wonderland community festival is a large event held primarily outdoors, with ice skating and snow play as major features for community children. It includes many Bayview vendors, local performers, arts and crafts, and, of course, Santa.

Educational topics of this segment will include event planning and coordination, permitting, budgeting, live outdoor sound and lighting over a large diverse festival area, dealing with equipment and tent vendors, subcontractors providing the attractions, sponsors and volunteers, and crowd direction and management.

Schedule: Mondays 2-6PM, plus additional hours as required by event activities

Segment 3: The Motley Experiment & Black History Month

January 10 – March 14, 2022

Educational stipend: \$1,000

Required attendance: at least 50 hours of classes, rehearsals and performances

Schedule: Mondays 2-6PM, plus additional hours as required by event activities

The Motley Experiment is a dance work by Raissa Simpson, to be performed by **PUSH Dance Company** to the music of Idris Ackamoor & the Pyramids performed live. This work is the result of a residency January – March 2020, and the performance had to be postponed. Raissa will now recreate her piece in a new residency in January-February 2022.

The Motley Experiment will feature live dance, music, lighting and video projection, and classes will focus on all those elements, and be taught by professionals in the field.

February will feature various events related to Black History, and students will gain expertise in supporting a large variety of performers. Then on two weekends in March, students will support a youth performance event, and a concert of the San Francisco Girls Chorus featuring a famous special guest.

Learning it All

By the end of the 3-segment program, students will be able to work successfully in many settings that require practical experience with event management, and technical support of the performance with lights, sound, video projection and stage management.

Please visit our [website](#) for **schedule** and **curriculum**, as well as a updated information of segments 2 and 3, and the visual arts program in the future.