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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SF Weekly Commences Annual MasterMinds™ Grant Program for Artopia®
Winning Artists Will Receive Grants of Up to \$2500

San Francisco, January, 27, 2010 — SF Weekly's annual MasterMinds™ grant program has begun its search for the next up and coming artists of San Francisco. SF Weekly will award winners with a grant of up to \$2500. All aspiring and professional artists are encouraged to enter any of the four categories: visual arts, fashion design, performing arts or film/video/media. Finalists will be chosen from these submissions and announced in SF Weekly that will hit stands on Wednesday, February 17, 2010. That evening, their artwork will be on display at SF Weekly's Artopia® event, taking place at Project One (251 Rhode Island Street, San Francisco, CA 94103) from 6-10pm. The winners will be announced at this event and the grant money rewarded.

SF Weekly is in their third year of presenting Artopia to the San Francisco community and has given away up to \$20,000 in grants. We invite all Bay Area residents to attend and support the artists of their community. Presale for the first 100 tickets is happening now at the discounted price of \$5. The next 200 and at the door of the event, tickets will sell for \$10. All tickets are on sale now at www.sfweekly.com/artopia. We will also be accepting donations at the event to help fund the MasterMinds™ grant program of 2011.

To submit artwork, please include a cover letter, full contact info (name, address, phone number and e-mail address), slides/DVD/CD-ROM, press kit and/or website where works can be viewed. Samples of works will not be returned. These submissions must be in by and no later than Friday, January 29, 2010 to Andy Wright, Andy.Wright@sweekly.com or by mail/drop off to 185 Berry Street, Lobby 5, Suite 3800, San Francisco, CA 94107.

For more information on this event and available sponsorship opportunities, please contact Melissa Glass at Melissa.Glass@sweekly.com or call 415/536.8102.

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SF Weekly is San Francisco's smartest publication. That's because we take journalism seriously, but not so seriously that we let ourselves be guided by an agenda. In fact, we cherish our political independence: The paper has repeatedly challenged massive public subsidies for private developments by leading San Francisco business interests—but it has also blamed liberal political advocates for fostering inhumane conditions at a city jail. Add to our array of public-interest stories a comprehensive entertainment guide—led by incisive, award-winning writing on the cultural scene—and you'll see why *SF Weekly* has acquired a loyal audience of active, urban professionals, an audience as diverse as the city we cover.