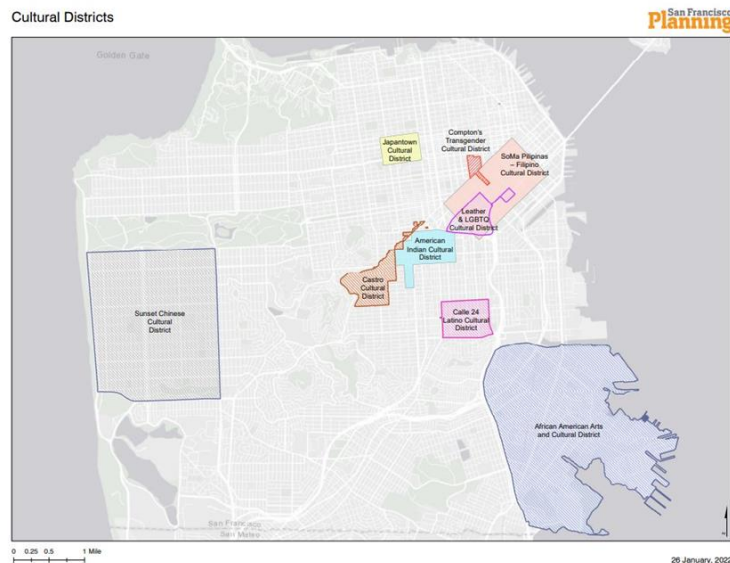


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San Francisco's Cultural Districts!



What is the Cultural District Program?

The Cultural Districts Program celebrates and strengthens the unique cultural identities of San Francisco's neighborhoods to create an enhanced sense of space, deepen local cultural capacity, and help promote economic development. The Cultural Districts Program formalizes the partnership between the City and communities, and facilitates placemaking and place-keeping in San Francisco.

History

In May of 2018, the Cultural Districts Program was created by the Board of Supervisors and Mayor. San Francisco voters then passed Proposition E by 75% providing approximately \$3 million to the Cultural Districts each year.

Overview

The Cultural Districts program is a place-keeping and placemaking program. The vision is to preserve, strengthen and promote cultural communities. The goals are to support legacy businesses, nonprofits, community arts, and traditions. The cultural values and neighborhood-based community lead each District's efforts. The program's aim is to support specific cultural communities or ethnic groups that historically have been discriminated against, displaced, and oppressed.

Community Development & Community Based Planning

The Cultural Districts legislation states that each District must write a plan. In collaboration with City departments, each Cultural District create a three-year plan aimed at fulfilling each District's vision and goals.

This Strategic Plan is called the Cultural History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) Report. The goals of the CHHESS Report are to serve as a roadmap and stabilize their cultural community.

How The Program Works!

Each Cultural District has a community-based advisory board, staffing, and ongoing community and City partnerships.

Each District works with community networks sharing resources and information and

leveraging programming.

Each District serves as a connector within the community. Each District works with the City to increase cultural competency and engagement.

Each District works to foster cultural safety, pride and improving the quality of life for its community members.

The Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) coordinates the Cultural District Program. A team of City Departments are key partners- The Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), the Planning Department, and the Arts Commission. These Departments work together to streamline City and community partnerships and coordinate resources.

The Newsletter

MOHCD is offering a quarterly newsletter to keep you connected to the Cultural Districts, including community updates, special events, job and volunteer opportunities, and more!

Cultural Districts as of Winter 2021 include:

[Japantown Cultural District](#)

[Calle 24 Latino Cultural District \(site under construction\)](#)

[SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural District](#)

[Transgender Cultural District](#)

[LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District](#)

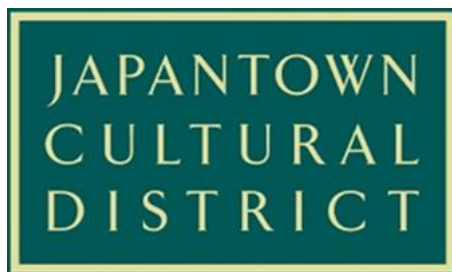
[African American Arts & Cultural District](#)

[Castro LGBTQ Cultural District](#)

American Indian Cultural District

[Read More](#)

Introducing the Districts!



“Collectively envisioning and developing strategies to sustain San Francisco Japantown for generations to come!”

Japantown Cultural District, Western Addition, est. 2013

San Francisco’s Japantown (日本町 or Nihonmachi) is one of only three remaining Japantowns in California as well as the United States. Japantown Task Force, Inc. continues to work on revitalizing and preserving Japantown, a community of culture, tradition, and history.





"El corazon de la Misi3n!"

Calle 24 (Veinticuatro) Latino

Cultural District Mission District, est. 2014

Calle 24 is the heart of the Mission District and the hub of Latino cultural expression in San Francisco, as the district has served as the center of Latino activism, arts, commerce, and culture in San Francisco since the 1940s.



*"More Than A Cultural District: SOMA Pilipinas
Is Community-In-Action And A Cultural
Movement"*

SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural District, South of Market, est. 2016

The cultural heritage district spanning 1.5 square miles honors 120+ years of history of Filipinos in San Francisco, and celebrates the community's

living legacy of making home, celebrating culture, building community and fighting for economic and racial justice in the rapidly gentrifying South of Market neighborhood.



“We aim to create an urban environment that celebrates the transgender tipping point in the United States and the world, while educating the world of the deep profundity of transgender culture and our contributions to the liberation of humankind.”

Transgender Cultural District, Tenderloin,
est. 2017

Founded by three black trans women in 2017 as Compton’s Transgender Cultural District, The Transgender District is the first legally recognized transgender district in the world.



“United, we preserve, enhance, and advocate for the continuity and vitality of the Kinky and Queer communities of San Francisco’s LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District.”

LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, *South of Market, est. 2018*

The South of Market neighborhood has served as an LGBTQ enclave since the 1950s with a long legacy of bars, restaurants, bathhouses, and other businesses associated with Leather subculture.



“The objective is to preserve, strengthen and promote our cultural assets and diverse communities.”

African American Arts and Cultural District (SFAACD)

Bayview Hunter's Point, est. 2018

The San Francisco African American Arts and Cultural District program formalized a collaborative partnership between the City and

communities with the purpose of bringing resources to stabilize the Bayview community.



“Preserving, sustaining, and promoting the queer history and culture of the Castro”

Castro LGBTQ Cultural District

Castro, est. 2019

The creation of the Castro LGBTQ Cultural District will highlight the structures and sites important to this history; fostering racial, ethnic and cultural diversity among its residents and businesses; and creating a safe, beautiful, and inclusive space for LGBTQ and allied communities, from those who call this neighborhood home to those who visit it from around the world.



“We are on unceded Ramaytush Ohlone land.”

American Indian Cultural District (AICD)

Mission District, est. 2020

Founded on March 31st, 2020, the American Indian Cultural District (AICD) is the first established Cultural District of its size in the United States dedicated to recognizing, honoring, and celebrating the American Indian legacy, culture, people, and contributions.



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