



**For Immediate Release**

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U.S. State Department and ZERO1  
Announces the  
Renewal of *American Arts Incubator*

**SAN JOSE, October 27, 2014** —ZERO1 is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs has selected to renew its partnership with ZERO1 for the *American Arts Incubator* program. Refining and expanding upon the inaugural program, the second edition will further activate cross-cultural creative exchange as a tool for international diplomacy and social innovation.

Inspired by the “business incubator” model made popular by Silicon Valley’s technology and start-up companies, *American Arts Incubator* is a hybrid training lab, production workshop, and tool for public engagement. It showcases artists as engaged and innovative partners in addressing social issues, in addition to creating a cross-cultural exchange of ideas. The selected artists will team up with youth and underserved populations, through country-based partnerships, to inspire creative ideas for community engagement through art programs.

The first four participating American artists in *American Arts Incubator* (2014/2015) will begin their work abroad between February and May 2015. The artists, the countries they will work in, their in-country partner organizations, and the social issue their project will be addressing include:

**LAOS**

Artist: David Burke  
Partner: iCat Gallery  
Social Issue: Environmental protection

**MONGOLIA**

Artist: Xiaowei Wang  
Partner: 976 Gallery

Social Issue: Environmental impacts of urbanization

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Artist: Kendal Henry

Partner: University of Papua New Guinea

Social Issue: Women's Empowerment

THE PHILIPPINES

Artist: Felipe Castelblanco

Partner: Negros Museum

Social Issue: Environmental and social impacts of natural disasters

ZERO1's Executive Director, Joel Slayton, comments, "Through the continuation of this program, participating artists will continue to develop impactful community-initiated approaches to pressing social issues on the international stage."

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On Wednesday, November 5, 2014, ZERO1 and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs will present the program's four inaugural artists, plus a panel discussion exploring how the arts shape public policy.

This special evening will include a celebratory reception followed by a panel discussion featuring: Roselyne (Cissie) Swig, Bay Area cultural civic leader; Derek Slater, Policy Manager at Google Inc.; Sean Hewens, Amplify Program Director and In-House Counsel at IDEO. Org; moderated by Jaime Austin, Curator and Director of Programs at ZERO1.

Event capacity is limited. Please reserve your seat at [zero1.org/events/aai](http://zero1.org/events/aai).

**Event information:**

Can the Arts Shape Public Policy?

Wednesday, November 5, 2014, 6:30-8:30pm

Doors Open at 6:30pm, Event Begins at 7pm

ZERO1 Garage

439 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, San Jose, CA 95113

**For more information, images, or interviews contact:**

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**About ZERO1: The Art & Technology Network**

ZERO1 is where art meets technology to shape the future. As a 21<sup>st</sup> century arts nonprofit, ZERO1 works with some of the world's creative minds from the fields of art, science, design, architecture, and technology. ZERO1 presents a year-round program of exhibitions, talks, and events at the ZERO1 Garage, in downtown San Jose, and produces the ZERO1 Biennial, an international showcase of work at the nexus of art and technology. ZERO1 is also the force behind the ZERO1 Fellowship program, where principles of artistic creativity are applied to real world innovation challenges.

Visit [www.zero1.org](http://www.zero1.org)

**About U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs**

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) promotes international mutual understanding through academic, cultural, private-sector, professional, and sports exchange programs. The Bureau's exchanges engage youth, students, educators, artists, athletes, and emerging leaders from all fields to increase global understanding of U.S. policies and values and to help American citizens engage with the world. More than a million people are alumni of ECA exchanges, including more than 50 Nobel Laureates and more than 320 current or former heads of state and government. Visit [exchanges.state.gov](http://exchanges.state.gov).