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CONTACT: Shirlee Tully

Phone: (916) 765-9000

Email: shirlee@sacregcf.org

Foundation Announces Recipient of Leff-Davis Fund Award

Benjamin Hunt receives the Foundation's prestigious award for visual artists

Sacramento, Calif. (9/17/2015) — Artist [Benjamin Hunt](#) was recently named the awardee of the [Sacramento Region Community Foundation's](#) highly-competitive *Leff-Davis Fund for Visual Artists*, given annually to professional visual artists in the Sacramento region who demonstrate exceptional talent.

Chosen from nearly 60 applications submitted by area artists, Hunt's sculpture work impressed the selection panel of local arts professionals who commended his artistic achievements. He will use the \$10,000 award to continue developing his art, which is fashioned using recycled materials and explores concepts such as time, memory, and nostalgia.

"We were thoroughly impressed by Ben's work and the totality of this year's Leff-Davis Fund award submissions, which altogether reflected the rich and broad artistic talent in our region," said Priscilla Enriquez, the Foundation's Chief Giving Officer.

The Leff-Davis Fund was created by avid art collector Dr. Emily Leff to support professional visual artists who devote themselves to producing art in the Sacramento region. "For many years, I wanted to create something lasting that would recognize artists for their vital contribution to our culture, and also help them financially to create art," she said. Now in its third year, the fund complements the Foundation's commitment to ensuring the Sacramento region's creative community thrives, the essential objective of [Transforming the Creative Economy](#), one of the Foundation's newly-launched [Strategic Initiatives](#) aiming to create long-term region-wide prosperity.

Past awardees of the Leff-Davis Fund include visual artists Robert Ortbal, whose work is currently exhibited at two Sacramento galleries, and Bryan Valenzuela, who was recently named one of the finalists for a public art installation at downtown Sacramento's new arena and who won Best in Show at this year's California State Fair. "Previous awardees of the Leff-Davis Fund have discovered that the benefits of receiving the award extend even beyond the financial support," remarked Enriquez on the notable success of past recipients.

To learn more, please contact Shirlee Tully at shirlee@sacregcf.org or (916) 765-9000.

About the Foundation: Sacramento Region Community Foundation has been the trusted steward of charitable assets, a community catalyst for meaningful change and the advocate for shaping vital impact through philanthropy since 1983. As the center of philanthropy in the Sacramento Region, the Foundation's mission is to transform our community through focused leadership and advocacy that inspire partnerships and expand giving. Learn more at www.sacregcf.org.



Floating Cities, by Benjamin Hunt