



Senator Scott Wiener

455 Golden Gate Ave #14800
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: [Save] The Box Shop

Dear Senator Scott Wiener:

To preserve and keep art spaces, artists, and various arts communities in the San Francisco Bay area, we urge you to approve the budget request from '[Save] The Box Shop.' With the high cost of real estate, cost of living, and inflation, more and more pressures face our artists and arts communities. We need places like The Box Shop here, serving artists with low-cost art studios, maker space, equipment, and tools to provide resources and professional opportunities to these communities. There is no other place like The Box Shop in the Bay Area that offers industrial artists the space, equipment, and educational opportunities they need to survive and thrive.

The Box Shop will lose its lease in about two years (after 20 years on-site). It is moving full speed ahead with a capital campaign to secure a long-term home to ensure it can serve its community of low-income artists and makers for many more years by purchasing an industrial space. Commercial leases at the scale required are costly and do not provide the long-term security needed to continue the work and services. Therefore, we agree and support The Box Shop's goal of purchasing a building to continue their work that allows artists and makers a collaborative space to create beautiful things that the public can enjoy, like [Entwined in Golden Gate Park](#). We feel this is critical for the artists, arts community, the neighborhood, and the general public.

Their capital campaign is underway and has plans to come very close to their revenue plan to purchase a wonderful new space in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood. With a little extra help, they can meet this goal and carry on their legacy of serving the arts and maker community for many years to come.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this plea, as we understand there are many needs and requests, all of them important. Yet, we also urge you to consider this ask on behalf of a diminishing art and culture community that we feel is critical for an innovative, healthy, diverse, and resilient society.

Sincerely,

The Box Shop and supporting organizations and artists*

**Please see the next page for the organizations and community members endorsing this request, thank you.*