

Resolution of the San Francisco Democratic Party

Honoring the San Francisco Bay Guardian for its 48 Years of Printing the News and Raising Hell

WHEREAS, when Bruce B. Brugmann and Jean Dibble started the Bay Guardian in October 1966, San Francisco was already at the epicenter of social movements and technological innovation. Along with its counterparts in New York, Boston and Chicago, the Bay Guardian helped create the model for alternative newsweeklies that eventually proliferated in every major US city, expanding the political and cultural dialogue nationwide.

WHEREAS, before its parent company, San Francisco Media Company, closed the Bay Guardian's doors in October 2014, the paper served as an important progressive voice of the San Francisco political world, advocating for many of the issues and values that have animated San Francisco for almost five decades. Its political endorsements were immensely influential on the outcome of elections in the Bay Area, and helped galvanize local political movements. The Guardian's dogged pursuit of transparency in government helped lead to the passage and implementation of the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance, which the paper's editorial staff was directly involved in writing. And the newspaper's entertainment coverage and "Best of the Bay" awards helped weave the cultural fabric of San Francisco, playing a critical role in the nightlife industry and the small business community of the region.

WHEREAS, the back issues of the Bay Guardian serve as an important record of the political issues and entertainment history of San Francisco of the past 48 years, and their preservation is imperative for generations to come.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Democratic Party hereby urges San Francisco Media Company to remain true to the Bay Guardian's legacy of transparency by securing a permanent home for the paper's archives, in a medium that is accessible, searchable, and free of charge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Democratic Party hereby honors the Bay Guardian, its founders and former staff for their countless contributions to San Francisco's cultural history and political dialogue since 1966.

Sponsor: Alix Rosenthal

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