



**For Immediate Release:**

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## Hidden Garden Steps Artists Receive National Award

San Francisco-based artists Aileen Barr and Colette Crutcher have received the 2014 Coverings Installation & Design (CID) Award for best community project for their design and fabrication of the 148-step ceramic-tile Hidden Garden Steps mosaic in San Francisco's Inner Sunset District. The Hidden Garden Steps mosaic is the second the artists have created in that neighborhood.

Barr was in Las Vegas Tuesday, April 29 to accept the award at the beginning of the five-day Coverings 2014 international trade fair and expo that is dedicated exclusively to showcasing the newest in ceramic tile and natural stone.

"We loved the whole idea of your project so much and how it brought a community together and brightened it up that we found the funds to award you \$1,000 for it as a special one-time addition to the community award," Coverings senior conference manager Elizabeth Arritt wrote in her notification to the artists early in April. "Hopefully that will enable you to join us for the event and accept the praise for such a beautiful project in person!"

Barr and Crutcher were part of the volunteer-driven community-based effort to create a second set of ceramic-tile steps with accompanying gardens on City/County of San Francisco property from the project's inception. Hired by Hidden Garden Steps organizing committee members, the artists participated in the group's community outreach and fundraising efforts that eventually raised more than \$467,000 in cash and in-kind services to bring the project to completion under the auspices of the San Francisco Parks Alliance and the San Francisco Department of Public Works Street Parks Program.

For more information about the Hidden Garden Steps, please visit the project website (<http://hiddengardensteps.org>) or write to [hiddengardensteps@gmail.com](mailto:hiddengardensteps@gmail.com).

