

GLPCI 1996 REGISTRATION

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

St/Prov _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone Number _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

Do you want us to reserve a hotel room for you? Yes - Double? Single? No

Attendees: No. of Adults _____

No. of Children: (ages 1-5) _____
(ages 6-12) _____
(ages 13+) _____

Complete Conference Package

\$175.00 for each adult and \$75.00 for each child.

Banquet Only

\$50.00 for each adult and \$25.00 for each child.

Total Registration Cost \$ _____

Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Minimum Deposit of \$50.00 per person is nonrefundable.

Make Checks Payable to: **GLPCI 1996**

VISA M/C # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please mail the completed form to:
Minnesota Families, GLPCI 96
PO Box 11970
St. Paul, MN 55111-0970

"A FAMILY:

Two or more persons

who share resources, share responsibility for decisions, share values and goals and have commitments to one another over a period of time.

The **family** is

that climate that one comes home to; and it is that network of sharing and commitment that most accurately describes the **family** unit,

regardless of blood, legalities, adoption or marriage."

The American Home Economics Association

PROUD PARENTS PROVIDE KIDS

GAY & LESBIAN PARENTS COALITION INTERNATIONAL

Minnesota Families, GLPCI 96, PO Box 11970, St. Paul, MN 55111-0970 (612)924-3049



It's In The Air 1996

17th Annual GLPCI & COLAGE Conference July 4th-7th, 1996

A conference for Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Gay Parents, their Children, Friends and Family.

Hosted by Minnesota Families

Regal Hotel, Minneapolis
Minneapolis, Minnesota

THE COALITION

The coalition and conference are open to all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals involved in parenting roles. This includes partners, children, current and/or former spouses, aspiring parents, supportive and interested family and friends. The chapters and individual members of the Coalition are united in love and support for our families and our dedication to improving the lives of our families.

THE CONFERENCE

Minnesota Families will be your host for the 17th Annual Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI) and Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) Conference at the Regal Hotel Minneapolis in downtown Minneapolis, July 4th - 7th, 1996. The conference will be composed of three related sub-conferences.

The Parent's Conference: for those who are parents, co-parents, partners or who function in a parenting role and those who wish to become parents.

The Young Adult Conference: for children of G/B/L/T parents ages 13 and over.

The Children's Conference: for children of B/G/T/L parents between the ages of 6 and 12.

Child care will be available for children under the age of 6.

Each conference will feature workshops, guest speakers, special events, entertainment, and much more.

MINNESOTA,

A Well Kept Secret

Minneapolis, the City of Lakes, St. Paul and the State of Minnesota offer a variety of major family entertainment attractions: The Mall of America & Knott's Camp Snoopy, Valley Fair Amusement Park, The Minnesota Zoo, the new Minnesota Children's Museum, and The Science Museum of Minnesota. In addition, Minnesota offers wonderful access to lakes and rivers around the state and right in town that offer outdoor entertainment, canoe trips, camping and hiking.

THE REGAL HOTEL, MINNEAPOLIS

The conference will be held at the Regal Hotel located in downtown Minneapolis. It is ideal for our families and special needs.

For reservations, call
1-800-522-8856.

The hotel has many amenities, including pool, sauna, kids play area and exercise room. The hotel is located on the world famous Nicollet Mall where you can enjoy shopping at Dayton's, Nieman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue and many other fine shops. Several major theaters (both stage and screen), museums and parks are within walking distance.

CONFERENCE FEES

Adults \$175.00
Children \$ 75.00

These fees will include the following:

Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner on
Friday

Breakfast, Lunch, and Banquet on
Saturday

Brunch on
Sunday

All
Workshops

A \$50.00 nonrefundable deposit is due with registration. Half of the balance is due on February 1, 1996, with the remainder due on April 15, 1996. No refunds will be issued after June 1, 1996. Registrations received after June 1, 1996, will be accepted on the basis of space availability only.

Banquet Only	
Adults	\$50.00
Children	\$25.00

All inquiries should be addressed to:

Minnesota Families GLPCI 96
PO Box 11970

St. Paul, MN 55111-0970

For additional information, call
(612) 924-3049.

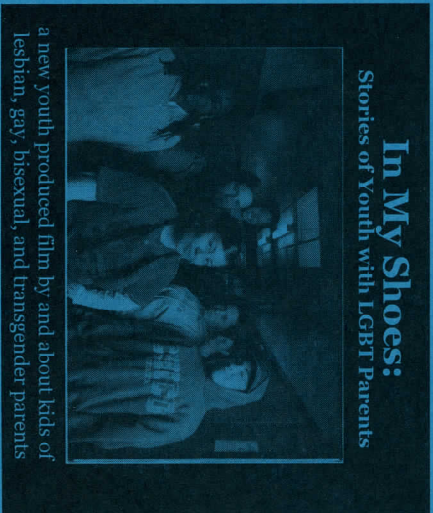
TRAVEL RESERVATIONS

For travel reservations, please contact our official travel agency,

The Travel Company at

1-800-328-9131.

Request to speak with **Dick Omann** for making arrangements to attend the 1996 Love Is In The Air GLPCI Conference and he will help you in securing air transportation and/or other services.



In My Shoes:
Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents

a new youth produced film by and about kids of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents

The COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program presents *In My Shoes*.

In a time when LGBT families are debated and attacked in the media, courts and Congress, from school houses to state houses across the country, five young people give you a chance to walk in their shoes--to hear their own views on marriage, making change, and what it means to be a family. This film was produced by the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program in collaboration with filmmaker Jan Gilomen.

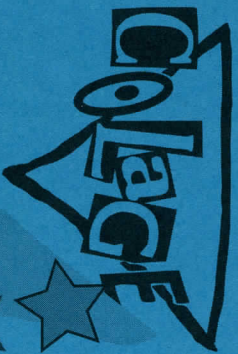
For more information:

www.colage.org 415-861-5437

3543 18th Street, #1

San Francisco, CA 94110

Film premiere co-sponsored by the New College
Department of Activism & Social Change
and the Bay Area Video Coalition



LET'S

CELEBRATE

Event Co-Hosts

Debra Chasnoff
Julie Dorf & Jenni Olson

Marta Drury
Gary Knobloch

Kari & Wendy Lee
Kerry Lobel

Kathy Levinson, Naomi Fine, Reade & Parker

Stefan Lynch & Max Strassfeld
Hope & Dion Manley

Rocky Morrison & Dan Tussey
Troy O'Leary

Oren Slozberg and Irwin Keller
Charlie Spiegel

Honorary Co-Hosts (Film Families)

Marna Gatto – Ramona & Arzu Gatto

Sarah Gogin – Kevin Gogin & Dan McPherson
Jessica Gutierrez – Prado Gomez & Mariah Sparks

Alex Morris – Paula Morris & Cory Pohley
Xavier Soto – Kirsten Foley, Zindzhi & Stephanie Montgomery

Donate to COLAGE!

Contribute to the growth and continued success of COLAGE.

Donations welcome at the event. If you can not attend, please contribute online at www.colage.org or via the reply card enclosed.



The COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program presents:
COLAGE 15th Anniversary Celebration and the world premiere of *In My Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents*

Thursday

June 16, 2005

6:30 - 8:30 pm

New College

Cultural Center

766 Valencia Street

San Francisco

Suggested donation:

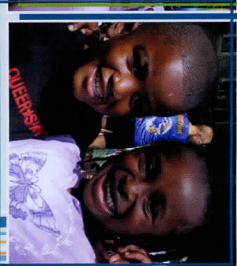
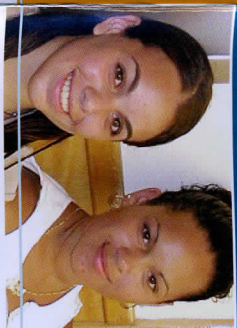
Sliding scale \$15 - \$150

Youth under 18 - FREE

No one turned away for lack of funds.

Silent Auction

Don't forget your checkbook or credit card so you can bid on unique items in our Silent Auction including handmade crafts, tickets to Bay Area entertainment, and fabulous goodies from Pixar Animation Studios.



YOU'VE GOT A
FRIEND
IN
COLAGE



COMMUNITY AND FRIENDSHIPS

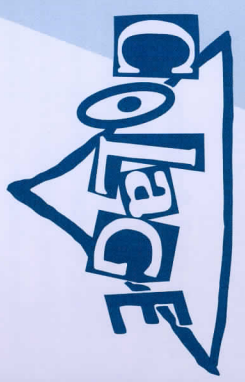
More than 10 million people in the United States, people just like you, have lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender (LGBT) parents. And that's exactly why **COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere)** was created. Whether you already know lots of other people with LGBT parents or always thought you were the only one, COLAGE is a source of friendship and understanding. This a group where you can talk about your family with complete honesty and pride and that not only accepts you and your family, but actually celebrates it.

COLAGE is a well-respected and influential youth-driven national organization that offers support and activism by and for people with LGBT parents. Our mission is to **engage, connect and empower** people to make the world a better place for all children of LGBT parents and families.

COLAGE members range in age from 1 day to 100 years old. We live in all 50 states and come from every

different racial, ethnic, economic and religious background. Some have 1 gay parent, others have 5. Some also have straight parents. Many were adopted or conceived by donor insemination. All are affected by hurtful laws and society's prejudices. But our common bond—the experience of being children of LGBT parents—connects us on a deeply personal level and makes us the ultimate experts on LGBT family life.

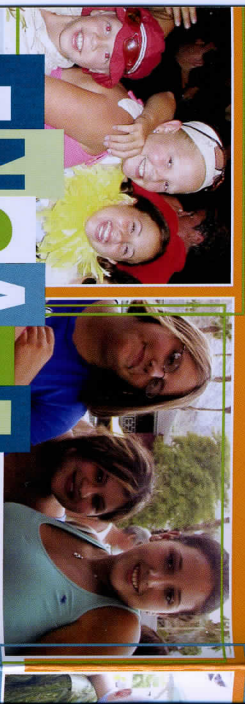
Through COLAGE, you can build confidence and community. COLAGE will give you the tools to affect change for you and your family. Maybe even make a few friends.



Support and activism by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender parents.

www.colage.org





ENGAGE YOUR MIND

Opening Dialogue to Encourage Learning

Just For Us Publication

COLAGE's outstanding publication, *Just For Us*, features articles written by people with LGBT parents and their families. Frequent topics include school, religion, coming out challenges, legal issues such as adoption laws, marriage and other relevant topics.

COLAGE Resources

COLAGE's web site (www.colage.org) is loaded with stories, resources and facts. Lists of recommended books, videos, guides for making your school safer, action and curriculum guides and other resources for both you and your parents are available through COLAGE.

Visibility Materials

COLAGE offers a variety of educational tools to raise awareness about the diverse experiences of youth with LGBT parents. These include the film, *In My Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents*, the *Respect All Families* poster series, the *That's So Gay* art show and photo text exhibit, and *Focus on MY Family: A Queerspwn Anthology*.

Academic Support

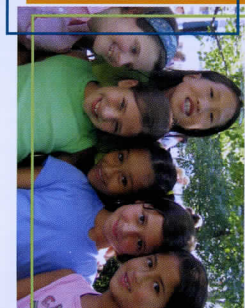
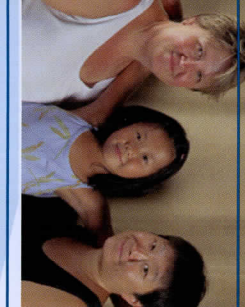
COLAGE offers several educational programs—including the Lee Dubin Memorial Scholarship Fund, which provides up to \$1000 for students who have demonstrated ability and commitment to affect change in the LGBT community. COLAGE also offers seasonal internships for students and young adults.



I WANT MORE!

SEND ME information about the following programs and activities. ✓

- National and Local Events
- Chapters
- Pen Pal Program
- Speak OUT/Advocacy opportunities
- COLAGE materials and resources
- Arranging for COLAGE speakers or trainers
- Scholarship information
- Job and internship opportunities
- Joining the COLAGE board of directors
- Volunteer opportunities
- Host a COLAGE house party or fundraiser
- Other _____



COLAGE completely changed my life. It was the first time I realized that I wasn't alone and that I wasn't a freak. COLAGE gave me hope that I could deal with any situation and actually enjoy the fact that my family is different.

- Ian, AZ

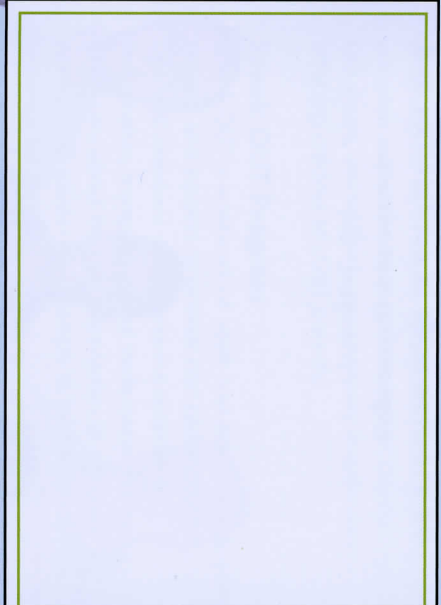
There are many things that can help change people's perceptions of LGBT families — like sitting down and talking to a friend, to being involved in the biggest demonstrations.

- Wes, GA

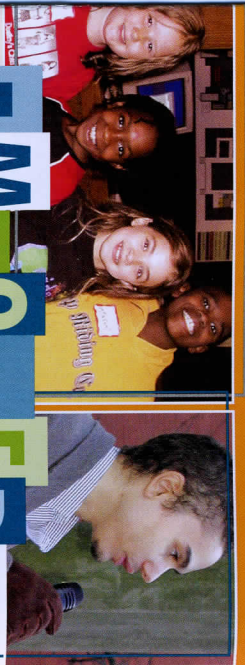
Some photos provided courtesy of Amber Davis, Dakota Fine and Jenny Ladden



I represent a business or organization that would like to support COLAGE either financially or through the donation of products or services. Please contact me for additional information.



COLAGE
1550 Bryant St., Suite 830
San Francisco, CA 94103
T: 415-861-5437 (KIDS) • F: 415-255-8345
E: colage@colage.org • www.colage.org



EMPOWER YOURSELF

Organizing Youth to Make Change

Youth Leadership and Activism

COLAGE strongly emphasizes youth voices within the LGBT and larger social justice movements. Programs such as the Bay Area Youth Leadership and Action Program, and our Youth In Action workshops at conferences and events give youth a chance to develop their skills and advocate for social change.

Advocacy

COLAGE's leadership and involvement in national, state and local coalitions working for equality and justice benefits our families. Our members take a leadership role in fighting for LGBT family recognition, marriage equality, adoption and safe schools. Additionally, COLAGE provides fact sheets, amicus briefs and testimony in court cases affecting children of LGBT parents.

Speak OUT Program

Speak OUT is a network of youth and adults who receive training and support as activists and spokespersons. COLAGE members are a powerful antidote to homophobic, transphobia and intolerance. We build awareness about the real experiences of people with LGBT parents and counter the attempts to invalidate, demean, or attack our families.

Speakers and Trainings

COLAGE members serve as LGBT family ambassadors, speaking and training at both small and large events around the country.



I'm loving COLAGE cause I don't feel nearly as isolated as I used to.

-Courtney, TX

I am an activist and like teaching other people about what it's really like to have gay dads.

- Keeth, MD

I discovered COLAGE for the first time this year and it has been a major eye opener to not only find other families with queer parents, but to find such an active and vibrant network of families.

- Pamela, NY

I consider an activist to be someone who faces an issue head on and tries to make a change in the world. In COLAGE, we are all young activists. We are showing pride in our families and expressing our views.

- Morgan, CA

YES!

I AM A FRIEND OF COLAGE

Membership Form



Name 1: Parent Child Adult Child
 Name 2: Parent Child Adult Child
 Name 3: Parent Child Adult Child
 Name 4: Parent Child Adult Child

E-mail:

Address

City

State/Prov

Zip/Postal Code

Country

Phone

Child's First Name:

Birthdate

m / d / y

Child's First Name:

Birthdate

m / d / y

Please sign me/us up to receive COLAGE NetNews (timely email updates)

To help COLAGE do more good work, I've enclosed my membership donation:

\$35 - Individual \$120 \$500
 \$60 - Family \$250 \$

Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Name on Card:

Card no.:

Exp. Date:

Signature:

My check is enclosed.
 (Please make your check/money order in US\$ payable to COLAGE)

Monthly Donation Annual Donation
 All members receive our publication, Just for Us.

Mail to: COLAGE
 1550 Bryant St., Suite 830
 San Francisco, CA 94103



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CONNECT WITH PEOPLE

Creating Community to Build Solidarity

Regional/Local Support

COLAGE provides peer support, education, youth empowerment and friendship through more than 50 local or regionally based chapters. Each chapter is run independently, so programs and activities vary depending on the interests and needs of the community.

Family Events

COLAGE, along with other family organizations, offers annual summer Family Weeks as well as one-day and weekend-long conferences and events. These events offer youth and adults of all ages and their parents educational, leadership development and community building workshops, as well as fun-filled activities and camaraderie for the whole family.

Pen Pal Program

COLAGE's pen pal program matches up pairs of kids with LGBT parents so they can write to each other about their experience. The program has fostered many lifelong friendships.

Online Community

COLAGE sponsors five e-mail discussion lists. These lists provide members the opportunity to talk to peers who share their experiences and can provide a supportive ear or helping hand. The groups are primarily age-based:

- Elementary Age
- Middle School Under Age 14
- High School and College Aged
- Adult COLAGERS ages 22 and over
- 2nd Generation



Community and activism by and for people with
lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer parents

June 3, 2009

Dear COLAGE Friends and Family,

On May 26th, our community took to the streets in protest of the California Supreme Court's failure to overturn Proposition 8, which eliminated marriage equality in our state. COLAGE Bay Area was honored to lead the march from City Hall to Yerba Buena Gardens. Joined by our families and friends and followed by thousands of LGBTQ people and allies, we marched as an intergenerational contingent. A nine year old COLAGEr started chanting "What do we want? Equality! When do we want it? Now!" We joined him shouting these words and his face lit up at the power of his own voice. This is the power of a movement of people with LGBTQ parents, this is the power of COLAGE. **If you support this power, please make a tax deductible contribution to COLAGE to help us continue this vital work today.**

On Decision Day, we were visible and vocal, proving once again that our families are beautiful, strong, and valid, regardless of the law. Throughout the year, COLAGE Bay Area has provided opportunities for youth with LGBTQ parents to find their voices and affirm that our difference is our strength.

Please join COLAGE Bay Area this June in celebration of the love, complexity, and joy of having LGBTQ parents. We have lots of great Pride-related events to attend, including our COLAGE Pride Sign-Making Party on June 21st, a special screening of *Off and Running* with the film's star and director on June 24th, and the last group meeting of the school year for COLAGErs ages 8-12. Take to the streets with us again on June 28th for the Pride Parade, then stop by the fabulous and fun Family Garden for family-friendly activities all afternoon.

In 2009-2010, we plan to offer even more to our local community, continuing our monthly workshops with 8-12 year olds and bringing back the Youth Leadership and Action Project for 13-18 year olds. **With a donation to COLAGE Bay Area, you ensure children of LGBTQ families gain the recognition, respect, and rights every family deserves.** Donate now at www.colage.org and note that your donation is for the COLAGE Bay Area Chapter.

If you are a youth interested in our programs next fall, email monica@colage.org. If you are an adult interested in volunteering this June (or beyond), please email or call me at 415-861-5437.

Thanks again for being so fabulous. Hope to see you soon!

In Pride,

Monica Canfield-Lenfest
COLAGE Bay Area Coordinator
Kids of Trans Program Coordinator

P.S. **Keep in touch online!** Sign up for our e-newsletter: www.colage.org/programs/advocacy/netnews.htm
Search for "COLAGE Bay Area" group on Facebook. Visit our website: www.colage.org/bayarea.

COLAGE Bay Area
415-861-KIDS (5437)
www.colage.org/bayarea
monica@colage.org



Join Bay Area in PRIDE this June!

Thursday June 18th, 7-9 pm. Adult Queerspawn Potluck

Join other adults (ages 18+) with LGBTQ parents for food, community, and fun!
San Francisco. RSVP for directions.

Saturday June 20, 3:45-5:45pm. We Are Family Workshop

@ LGBT Center, 1800 Market ST, SF

Learn about COLAGEr Pride and have fun with other **8-11 year olds!** Join us for the last meeting of the school year. We meet during OFC's Mamas & Papas every 3rd Saturday.

Sunday June 21, 2-4pm. COLAGE Pride Party

@ Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart ST, SF

Join us for this festive annual event for youth, adults, and families!
We'll be making signs, playing games, and gearing up for the Pride Parade.

Wednesday June 24th, 6:30-9pm

Off and Running Special Event

**@ Variety Screening Room in the
Hobart Building of San Francisco
582 Market ST at 2nd ST**

Join COLAGE and Our Family Coalition for a special evening with the director and star of Off and Running, a new documentary about a teen who was trans-racially adopted by lesbian moms.

After the film, we'll have a panel of youth, parents and community members discussing family, adoption, racial justice and more. Sliding scale \$5-\$20. No one turned away.

For more information call 415-861-5437 or email Meredith@colage.org.

Frameline33:

The 33rd San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival

June 18 - 28, 2009

Visit www.frameline.org for full schedule and tickets!

COLAGE is a proud community Sponsor of:

Free to Be...You and Me

Sunday June 21st, 11am @ Castro Theatre

Free for ages 12 and under!

Join us for this family classic!

Off and Running

Saturday June 27th, 2:15pm @ Roxie Theater
A must-see documentary film (see description).

To learn more about the film visit:

<http://www.offandrunningthefilm.com/>

Sunday June 28th. San Francisco Pride!

March with COLAGE and OFC @ 10am.

Visit our Family Garden, 12-5pm.

Come play at our annual family-friendly space at the Pride Festival.
Civic Center Playground at Larkin & Grove Streets.

SAVE the DATE: August 2009. East Bay Summer Family Event.

Co-Sponsored with Our Family Coalition.

Sign up for **Bay Area Net News**: <http://www.colage.org>

Calendar online at: www.colage.org/bayarea

Information, RSVP, or to volunteer, email monica@colage.org or call 415-861-5437

The LGBT Children, Youth and Family Collaborative

is a unique collaboration of agencies that serve LGBT youth and LGBT families and their children.

The collaborative provides workshops, social activities, counseling and support, and information and referral specifically focused on the needs of LGBT families in the San Francisco Bay Area.



CONTACT INFORMATION

**COLAGE, CHILDREN OF
LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE**

3543 18th St. #1
San Francisco, CA, 94110
415-861-5437(KIDS),
www.colage.org

LYRIC

1800 Market Street, Suite 403
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-865-5614
www.lyric.org

Mamas & Papas

1800 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
jmf2@mindspring.com
www.mamaspapas.blogspot.com/

New Leaf

Services For Our Community
1853 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
415-626-7000
www.newleafservices.org

Our Family Coalition

870 Market Street, Suite 872
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-981-1960
www.ourfamily.org

SF LGBT Community Center

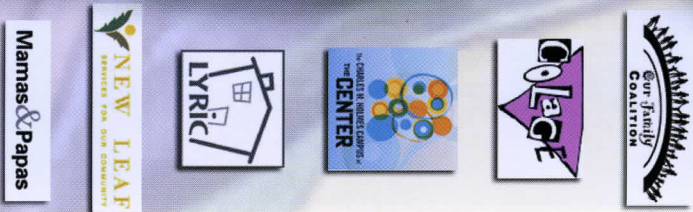
1800 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-865-5664 (Information)
415-865-5553 (Kid Space)
415-865-5560 (Youth Space)
www.sfcenter.org

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender

Children, Youth, and Family Collaborative

THIS COLLABORATIVE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY





For The Family

Each month, Our Family Coalition hosts events in the San Francisco Bay Area bringing LGBT families together. Whether it's a Pajama Pizza Party, an Ice Cream Carnival or marching in the SF Pride Parade, our LGBT family events are a great way to meet other families like yours.

For Youth

COLAGE provides a variety of ongoing groups for youth who have one or more LGBT parents, including the Youth Leadership and Action Program, COLAGE Crew, COLAGE Middle School Group and Transgeneration. Each provides youth an opportunity to connect to others who have families like theirs, develop pride in their community..and have a lot of fun!

Youth 25 and under are welcome to drop in at The Center's Youth Space and enjoy recreational, artistic and educational activities. Special structured activities are also offered to youth 17 and under. Referrals to city wide services are also given out.

Family Workshop Series

Each second Tuesday of the month, the Collaborative hosts an evening of workshops for the entire family. All workshops are free and childcare is provided in the SF LGBT Community Center's KidSpace.

At the same time and location of the adult workshop, COLAGE hosts an activity night or workshop for youth ages 9-13 with LGBT parents. Past topics include: How to find LGBT-friendly Child Care, Creating a Family, and Positive Discipline.

Kid Space

The San Francisco LGBT Community Center's KidSpace is free, on-site, drop-in childcare available for children and youths ages 0-13. The goal is to create a safe, trusting and challenging environment where children are encouraged to pursue new and familiar interests, develop friendships, grow in confidence and independence and continue to develop respect for themselves and others.

Counseling for Youth, Couples, and Families

New Leaf Services for Our Community provides professional mental health, support and substance abuse services. Counseling is sliding-scale, affordable, accessible, clinically excellent and culturally competent.

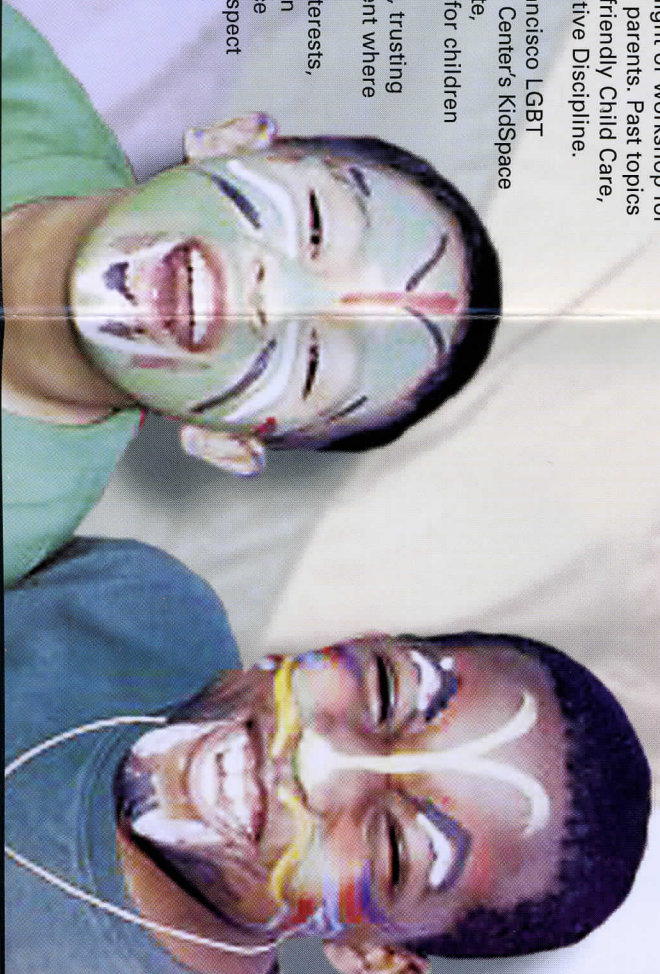
Mamas&Papas is a group for LGBT parents and their children ages 5 and under. You will get to expand your circle of LGBT parents, swap parenting tips, and hear from

Mamas & Papas

community resource people on schools, legal issues, and other topics of interest to LGBT families. Your kids will get to build lasting friendships with other children growing in LGBT families. *Free childcare is provided.*

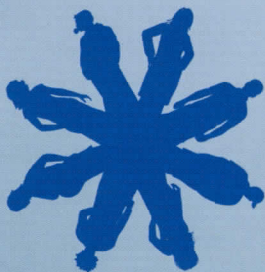
Whether you need a referral to family counseling, an LGBT-friendly doctor or a support group, our agencies are here to help you with referrals in any way we can.

Information and Referral





COLAGE
PEOPLE WITH LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL
TRANSGENDER OR QUEER PARENT
UNITE!



COLAGE
20th Anniversary



Early Sponsors

Barefoot Wine & Bubbly

Al Baum

Susan Berston

California Teachers Association

Masen Davis

James Franklin

Gay-Straight Alliance Network

Hiball Energy

James C. Hormel & Michael P. Nguyen

Gary Knoblock

Senator Mark Leno

Marriage Equality USA

Nikki Mannes Consulting

Mom's the Word

Kate O'Hanlan, MD & Léonie Walker

Out & Equal Workplace Advocates

PFLAG San Francisco

James, Warren, & Christopher Redman-Gress

Maureen Sedonaen

Oren Slozberg and Irwin Keller

The Sperm Bank of California

The Vibrant Group - Kevin Wakelin

Andrea Wachter

Community Partners

Castro Dads * BAYCAT * CUAV

Equality California * Frameline * GroundSpark

LYRIC * National Center for Lesbian Rights

Our Family Coalition * San Francisco LGBT Community Center

Transgender Law Center

Hosts

Rabbi Camille Angel * Clare Albanese & Amy J. Errett

Assemblymember Tom Ammiano * Supervisor Bevan Dufty

Jamison & Heidi Green * Staci Haines * Senator Christine Kehoe

Shannon Minter, Esq * Leslea Newman

Charlie Spiegel * Susan Stryker * Kevin Wakelin

COLAGE *20th Anniversary*

For 20 years COLAGE has been the only national, youth-driven network of people with a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer parent. Come join the celebration!

San Francisco

The Hamm's Building
1550 Bryant Street

Thursday, June 10, 2010

6:15 - 7:00PM Honorees Reception (Penthouse)

7:00 - 10:00PM Party (Foyer)

Honoring

Kate Kendall

Executive Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)

The Honorable James C. Hormel

Philanthropist and first openly gay U.S. Ambassador

Marina Gatto

COLAGE Youth Activist

Featuring

Emcee, Comedienne Diane Amos

The debut of our new short film *Family Time*

Chronicling 20 historic years of the LGBTQ family movement

Silent Auction. Entertainment. Cocktails. Buffet. Delicious Treats.

Tickets & Sponsorship

To purchase tickets, sponsor or donate please return the enclosed card, visit www.colage.org or call 415.861.5437. Sponsorship deadline June 1, 2010.

For 15% off Kimpton Hotel's best rate and a \$25 per night dining credit visit kimptonhotels.com/lgbt reservation rate code: PRIDE

COLAGE 20th Anniversary Tickets & Sponsorship

Contact Name: _____

Sponsor Name to be listed in print as: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Event Sponsorship:
To be acknowledged at the event please sponsor by Tuesday, June 1, 2010. See www.colage.org for detailed sponsorship levels and benefits.

- \$10,000 – (10) tickets \$5,000 – (10) tickets \$2,500 – (10) tickets
 \$1,000 – (8) tickets \$500 – (4) tickets \$250 – (2) tickets



Individual Tickets:

- \$150 Honorees Reception & Party** QTY: _____ @ \$150 = \$ _____
\$50 Party Only – ADULT QTY: _____ @ \$50 = \$ _____

\$20 Party Only – YOUTH QTY: _____ @ \$20 = \$ _____
(under 18, must be accompanied by an adult)

Donation: \$ _____
Your donation will be used to help buy tickets for those who would not otherwise be able to attend our anniversary party — as well as to fund COLAGE's ongoing community leadership and advocacy for people with a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer parent.

Total Amount: \$ _____ Check Enclosed Credit Card*

 
Please note that the Honorees Reception is not wheelchair accessible. Please contact us if you require interpretation, or have any other needs.

*Enter credit card information on reverse >

Credit Card Information:

Credit Card Type: (check one) Visa MasterCard American Express

Credit Card #: _____

Sec Code: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Thank You!





**VOICES RAISED
IN CELEBRATION!
OAKLAND CA MAY 29 2011**



COLAGE

VOICES RAISED IN CELEBRATION!

You're invited!

Celebrate COLAGE's Voices Raised! Leadership Summit and create a world that treats *all* families with dignity and respect.

Sunday, May 29th, 7:00 - 9:00pm
Oakland Marriott City Center
1001 Broadway St.
Oakland, CA

Visit our new website for details about **sponsorship** and events to be held **May 27-30th**, including **book signings** with **Tina Fakhridd-Deen**, author of *Let's Get This Straight!*

www.colage.org/voicesraised

COLAGE
1550 Bryant Street Ste. 830
San Francisco CA 94103

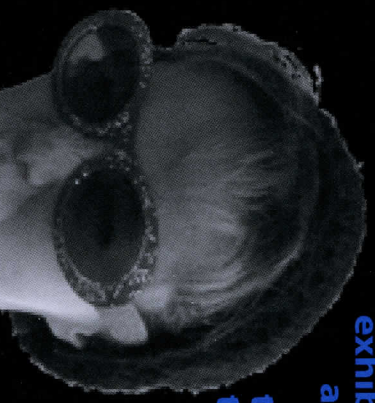
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That's So Gay

art by youth with LGBT parents



That's So Gay is an educational poster series and art exhibit by young people with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender parents and families. It is a unique look into the challenges, hopes, and triumphs of our daily lives. This event will be the debut of two educational posters created by members of the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Activism Program (YLAP). The show features art, photographs, poetry, and more by YLAP and the COLAGE Middle School Program participants.

Monday, June 23rd
6:30 - 8:30 PM
@ the Cellspace Gallery
2050 Bryant Street at 18th, San Francisco
Donations of \$1-\$100 welcome.
Silent Auction. Bring your check book.



"That's So Gay' is a wonderful opportunity for youth of LGBT families in our community, like myself, to show our pride and our expression of the special bond, the unconditional love, and the uniqueness that makes up our families. I am excited to display our project that celebrates the love, strength, and commitment of my family. This is a chance for me to honor my two moms who have raised me to be strong, unafraid, and to make a difference."
-Marina Gatto, COLAGE youth artist and a Grand Marshal of the 2003 San Francisco Pride Parade

Art Opening and Celebration

Celebrate Pride Month with COLAGE

Saturday, June 7th * **LGBT Family Expo**

10:00am - 3:00pm
The San Francisco LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street @ Octavia

A public education and resource event for LGBT families co-sponsored by COLAGE with many other LGBT organizations and businesses.

For more info call Rachel at 510-410-8530

Sunday, June 8th * **East Bay Sign and Mask Making Party**

1-3 PM

Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley
Join the East Bay group to make signs, masks, and other art for the Pride Parade. Even if you can't march, you can help make signs and banners for other COLAGE marchers. Enjoy fun company and free snacks as well! Open to kids of all ages with LGBT parents and their families. Please RSVP to Meredith by June 4th, 2003

Tuesday June 10th * **Second Tuesday Family Series**

7-8:30 PM

The San Francisco LGBT Center
1800 Market Street @ Octavia
Workshop for youth ages 9-13 with LGBT Parents: Dealing with Divorce and Separation Workshop for Parents: Effective Co-parenting after a divorce or break-up.
Free childcare for kids under 9. Call 415-865-5553

Saturday, June 21st * **Gay Dads, A Celebration of Fatherhood**

4-6 PM

364 Hayes Street, San Francisco
Meet the author of this new book that is hot off the presses. Photo exhibit and book signing. Plus refreshments and fun for the whole family (including activities for children) RSVPs requested: (415) 336-7585

Monday, June 23rd * **That's So Gay: Art by Youth with LGBT Parents**

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cellspace Gallery, 2050 Bryant Street

Sunday, June 29th * **San Francisco LGBT Pride March with COLAGE!**

Join our contingent and really show off your pride. Fun for the whole family and kids of all ages. Also, volunteers are needed for the COLAGE booth to face paint, play games, and share resources.

For more information contact
Meredith (unless otherwise noted) at meredith@colage.org or call 415-861-5437.

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That's So Gay: Art by Youth with LGBT Parents is made possible by a grant from the SF Department of Children, Youth and their Families. Ongoing support for COLAGE Bay Area Youth Leadership and Action Program provided by SF DCYF, SF Children and Families Commission, Haas Jr. Foundation, SF Foundation, Kicking Asses Fund of the Tides Foundation, and all our donors and allies. Special thanks to Jill Shenker, collaborating artist.





Support and activism by and for people with
lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender parents

January 22, 2009

Hello friend!

Last November, a few days after the election, COLAGE and Our Family Coalition hosted a Post-Election De-Brief in the East Bay. With three other COLAGE leaders, I facilitated a workshop session focused on their experience of this historic 2008 election. Once we settled in and closed the door, every single person in the room had one or more LGBTQ parent(s). We were able to share our joy over President Obama's election and our anger over the passage of Proposition 8. The space we created that night – COLAGEr-only space – was necessary and profound.

In over six years of organizing with COLAGE in various roles, this work has never felt more vital for all of our families. I am honored with the opportunity to meet Bay Area families – youth, adults, and LGBTQ parents – in this effort to create programming that empowers us to *speak for ourselves*.

This spring, we are offering two monthly workshop series:

Stand UP, Speak OUT – A leadership series for **youth ages 12-18** focused on public speaking and media. Every 3rd Sunday, 2-4pm at the Embarcadero YMCA. See enclosed flyer for details.

We Are Family – Community building series for **youth ages 8-11**. Held during OFC's Mamas & Papas (5-10) Group, this is a great opportunity to meet other LGBTQ families and have fun! Every 3rd Saturday, 4:30-6:30pm at the SF LGBT Center. See flyer.

Also, be sure to join us on **March 24th** for our annual **COLAGE Panel** in the Rainbow Room at the LGBT Center, 6-7:30pm. Come hear from the experts – teens and young adults with LGBTQ parents – about what it's really like to have LGBTQ parents.

Check out the calendar for more events through May. We will send another mailing in a few months with more information about Pride month activities.

Please RSVP for monthly workshops by email: monica@colage.org or phone: 415-861-5437. Feel free to contact me with any questions or feedback!

In Pride,

Monica Canfield-Lenfest
COLAGE Bay Area Coordinator

p.s. – Check our blog: www.colage.org/bayarea for upcoming event details. Sign up for Bay Area Net News at www.colage.org.

p.p.s. – Are you an ADULT with LGBTQ parents? Are you interested in hosting and/or attending a potluck with other adult queerspawn in the Bay Area? Would you volunteer a few hours each month to work with youth? There are lots of ways to get involved! Email monica@colage.org.

Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere
415-861-KIDS (5437) fax: 415-255-8345
www.colage.org colage@colage.org



December 16, 2004

VIA U.S. MAIL

Dear Friend of COLAGE:

We write on behalf of COLAGE and the ACLU's Lesbian & Gay Rights Project in Northern California. We thought you might be interested in the many free resources that COLAGE and the ACLU offer to LGBT parents and to children of LGBT parents. As explained more below, COLAGE and the ACLU provide a variety of services that specifically address the interests of LGBT parents and their children.

First, as the only national organization specifically working to engage, connect and empower children, youth and adults with lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender parents, COLAGE has developed numerous programs designed to raise awareness about youth with LGBT parents and our families while fighting homophobia and oppression. COLAGE's educational program includes trainings and workshops that are great for schools, churches, community centers or the workplace. These workshops are led by young adults who themselves have one or more LGBT parent and share their personal experiences providing a powerful antidote to ignorance.

COLAGE also provides resource materials such as our "Tips for Making Schools Safer for Students with LGBT Parents" to initiate dialogue within schools about making their school safe for all students. Additionally, COLAGE has several visibility resources that are great tools for highlighting the voices of youth with LGBT parents and countering homophobia and harassment including a poster series, art show, and a literary anthology all of which were created by youth with LGBT parents.

COLAGE also has a variety of programs specifically for youth with LGBT parents- ways for them to connect to one another, share their experiences and challenges, gain leadership skills and more. To learn more about all of COLAGE's many programs for children, youth and adults with LGBT parents, visit our website at www.colage.org.

Second, as the nation's foremost advocate of civil liberties, the ACLU may be able to provide you and your child with legal help and advice. Each year, the Lesbian & Gay Rights Project brings lawsuits in state and federal courts throughout the country. The Project's legal "docket" is incredibly diverse and includes cases involving:

QUINN DELANEY, CHAIRPERSON | DONNA BRORBY, LUZ BUITRAGO, BOB CAPISTRANO, MICHELLE WELSH, VICE CHAIRPERSONS | NANCY PEMBERTON, TREASURER
DOROTHY M. EHRLICH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | BOB KEARNEY, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR | ALAN SCHLOSSER, LEGAL DIRECTOR | JAYASHRI SRIKANTIAH, ASSOCIATE LEGAL DIRECTOR
ANN BRICK, MARGARET C. CROSBY, TAMARA LANGE, JULIA HARUMI MASS, STAFF ATTORNEYS | MAYA HARRIS, RACIAL JUSTICE PROJECT DIRECTOR
CHERI BRYANT, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR | RACHEL SWAIN, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR | MARK SCHLOSBERG, POLICE PRACTICES POLICY DIRECTOR
STEPHEN V. BOMSE, GENERAL COUNSEL

- **School harassment against students who have LGBT parents.** In 2003, a 7 year old boy was scolded in front of his classmates and sent to a school behavioral clinic for explaining to another child that he had two mothers and that, "Gay is when a girl likes another girl." The ACLU immediately stepped in and demanded that the school expunge the boy's disciplinary records and to stop restricting him from talking about his family with other students.
- **School harassment against students who are LGBT or perceived to be LGBT.** Last year, the ACLU in partnership with other civil rights lawyers settled a five year lawsuit against the Morgan Hill Unified School District on behalf of six former students who suffered severe harassment by their classmates because they were suspected of being gay. As part of the settlement, the school district agreed to make extensive policy changes, provide training for all district staff on how to appropriately respond to harassment, and to pay a total of over \$1.1 million to settle the suit. The ACLU is also involved in dozens of informal efforts each year to resolve reports of school harassment and discrimination. Many times, a letter from the ACLU reminding the school district of its legal responsibilities will result in positive and voluntary change.
- **Parenting and adoption rights.** The ACLU is on the forefront of litigation seeking parenting and adoption rights for same sex couples. Currently, the ACLU is participating as a "friend of the court" in three cases before the California Supreme Court concerning the rights of LGBT persons under the Uniform Parentage Act. In addition, in September of this year, the ACLU filed a petition requesting that the United States Supreme Court strike down Florida law that bans gay people from adopting in that state.
- **Transgender rights.** The ACLU was involved in two recent lawsuits, and is currently investigating multiple other potential lawsuits, concerning the equal protection and privacy rights of transgender persons. In one of the lawsuits, the ACLU is representing an organization that was evicted from its building after complaints that its clients were using the "wrong" bathroom. In the other suit, the ACLU participated as a "friend of the court," urging the court to find that sex discrimination includes discrimination against a person for not identifying as the "right" gender.

If you think that COLAGE or the ACLU could be of help to your or your child, please do not hesitate to contact one of us in confidence. The contact information for COLAGE is: Meredith Fenton, 415-861-5437, meredith@colage.org. For the ACLU, the contact information is: Christine Sun, 415-621-2493, x. 366, csun@aclunc.org.

Thanks for your time. We look forward to hearing from you. In the meantime, more information about our organizations and the work we do can be found at: www.colage.org, and at www.aclunc.org and www.aclu.org/getequal.

Sincerely,



Meredith Fenton
Program Director
COLAGE



Christine P. Sun
Staff Attorney
Lesbian & Gay Rights Project
ACLU of Northern California



Community and activism by and for people with
lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer parents

June 3, 2009

Dear COLAGE Friends and Family,

On May 26th, our community took to the streets in protest of the California Supreme Court's failure to overturn Proposition 8, which eliminated marriage equality in our state. COLAGE Bay Area was honored to lead the march from City Hall to Yerba Buena Gardens. Joined by our families and friends and followed by thousands of LGBTQ people and allies, we marched as an intergenerational contingent. A nine year old COLAGEr started chanting "What do we want? Equality! When do we want it? Now!" We joined him shouting these words and his face lit up at the power of his own voice. This is the power of a movement of people with LGBTQ parents, this is the power of COLAGE. **If you support this power, please make a tax deductible contribution to COLAGE to help us continue this vital work today.**

On Decision Day, we were visible and vocal, proving once again that our families are beautiful, strong, and valid, regardless of the law. Throughout the year, COLAGE Bay Area has provided opportunities for youth with LGBTQ parents to find their voices and affirm that our difference is our strength.

Please join COLAGE Bay Area this June in celebration of the love, complexity, and joy of having LGBTQ parents. We have lots of great Pride-related events to attend, including our COLAGE Pride Sign-Making Party on June 21st, a special screening of *Off and Running* with the film's star and director on June 24th, and the last group meeting of the school year for COLAGErs ages 8-12. Take to the streets with us again on June 28th for the Pride Parade, then stop by the fabulous and fun Family Garden for family-friendly activities all afternoon.

In 2009-2010, we plan to offer even more to our local community, continuing our monthly workshops with 8-12 year olds and bringing back the Youth Leadership and Action Project for 13-18 year olds. **With a donation to COLAGE Bay Area, you ensure children of LGBTQ families gain the recognition, respect, and rights every family deserves.** Donate now at www.colage.org and note that your donation is for the COLAGE Bay Area Chapter.

If you are a youth interested in our programs next fall, email monica@colage.org. If you are an adult interested in volunteering this June (or beyond), please email or call me at 415-861-5437.

Thanks again for being so fabulous. Hope to see you soon!

In Pride,

Monica Canfield-Lenfest
COLAGE Bay Area Coordinator
Kids of Trans Program Coordinator

P.S. **Keep in touch online!** Sign up for our e-newsletter: www.colage.org/programs/advocacy/netnews.html
Search for "COLAGE Bay Area" group on Facebook. Visit our website: www.colage.org/bayarea.

COLAGE Bay Area
415-861-KIDS (5437)
www.colage.org/bayarea
monica@colage.org

1550 Bryant St. Suite 830 San Francisco, CA 94103



Join Bay Area in PRIDE this June!

Thursday June 18th, 7-9 pm. Adult Queerspawn Potluck

Join other adults (ages 18+) with LGBTQ parents for food, community, and fun!
San Francisco. RSVP for directions.

Saturday June 20, 3:45-5:45pm. We Are Family Workshop

@ LGBT Center, 1800 Market ST, SF

Learn about COLAGEr Pride and have fun with other **8-11 year olds!** Join us for the last meeting of the school year. We meet during OFC's Mamas & Papas every 3rd Saturday.

Sunday June 21, 2-4pm. COLAGE Pride Party

@ Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart ST, SF

Join us for this festive annual event for youth, adults, and families!
We'll be making signs, playing games, and gearing up for the Pride Parade.

Wednesday June 24th, 6:30-9pm

Off and Running

Special Event

**@ Variety Screening Room in the
Hobart Building of San Francisco
582 Market ST at 2nd ST**

Join COLAGE and Our Family Coalition for a special evening with the director and star of Off and Running, a new documentary about a teen who was trans-racially adopted by lesbian moms.

After the film, we'll have a panel of youth, parents and community members discussing family, adoption, racial justice and more. Sliding scale \$5-\$20. No one turned away.

For more information call 415-861-5437 or email Meredith@colage.org.

Frameline33:

The 33rd San Francisco

International LGBT Film Festival

June 18 - 28, 2009

Visit www.frameline.org for full schedule and tickets!

COLAGE is a proud community Sponsor of:
Free to Be...You and Me

Sunday June 21st, 11am @ Castro Theatre
Free for ages 12 and under!
Join us for this family classic!

Off and Running

Saturday June 27th, 2:15pm @ Roxie Theater
A must-see documentary film (see description).

To learn more about the film visit:

<http://www.offandrunningthefilm.com/>

Sunday June 28th. San Francisco Pride!

March with COLAGE and OFC @ 10am.

Visit our Family Garden, 12-5pm.

Come play at our annual family-friendly space at the Pride Festival.
Civic Center Playground at Larkin & Grove Streets.

SAVE the DATE: August 2009. East Bay Summer Family Event.

Co-Sponsored with Our Family Coalition.

Sign up for **Bay Area Net News**: <http://www.colage.org>

Calendar online at: www.colage.org/bayarea

Information, RSVP, or to volunteer, email monica@colage.org or call 415-861-5437



9410324113 0009

John Hale
Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California
657 Mission St #300
San Francisco, CA 94105

1550 Bryant Street Ste 830
San Francisco CA 94103



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BAY AREA

2005-2006 PROGRAMS

San Francisco

COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program (YLAP)- YLAP is a 10 month program for all bay area youth ages 14-20 with LGBT parents and offers participants a chance to gain skills in activism, media, public speaking, program development, and more. YLAP participants select a group action project to focus on for the year. YLAP includes monthly meetings, special events and trainings, volunteer activities, and lots of fun! Youth who participate in YLAP are eligible to earn a stipend. Past Projects have included the creation of the *That's So Gay* art exhibit and *In My Shoes* documentary.

COLAGE Middle School Group - Our monthly group for 6th-8th graders continues to provide a safe and fun environment for youth with LGBT parents. Activities include field trips, sports clinics, art projects, workshops, movie days, discussions, and more.

COLAGE Crew - Our monthly group for youth in 3rd-5th grades. Activities include game days, movie night, art projects, mountain biking, ice-skating and more!

COLAGE Transgenerations - This is a peer support group for kids with transgender parents, ages 10 and up. It meets every other month in San Francisco but is open to youth from the entire bay area.



East Bay

COLAGE Crew

Our monthly group for youth in 3rd-5th grades. Activities include game days, movie night, art projects, mountain biking, ice-skating and more!



COLAGE Middle School Group

BRAND NEW!!! A monthly group for 6th-8th graders is a fun environment for youth with LGBT parents. Activities include field trips, art projects, workshops, movie days, discussions, and more.

South Bay

COLAGE South Bay- Monthly events and activities for youth with LGBT Parents ages 10-14 at the Billy De Frank Center in San Jose.

Entire Bay Area

COLAGE Speak OUT Program

This program is for youth and adults with LGBT parents who are interested in speaking with the media, on panels, at press conferences and in their local communities in order to increase the visibility and understanding of LGBT families and advocate for our rights. Participants are trained on media, public speaking and legislative advocacy.



Trainings and Panels

Want to raise awareness in your school, workplace or community center? Bring COLAGE to do a workshop or presentation. Trainings can be tailored to any audience and help make communities more welcoming to LGBT Families.

Special Events

Throughout the year COLAGE sponsors and co-sponsors many special events throughout the Bay Area including the Bowl-a-Thon, Pride activities, workshops, Family Events, and more!

Bay Area Net News and Bay Area Website

BANN is a bi-monthly email newsletter that has all the information you need to stay up to date on Bay Area events and news. To sign up visit www.colage.org. To find even more information on what's going on in the bay area visit www.colage.org/bayarea/

For a schedule of events- get in touch!

COLAGE

3543 18th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94110

For more information about COLAGE Bay Area, please

contact Ember at 415-861-5437 x103

or ember@colage.org

or check out www.colage.org or

www.colage.org/bayarea/

JOIN COLAGE!

Your membership and participation means COLAGE can continue to work with you and your family to create a safe, just, and celebratory world for all our families! Join and Support COLAGE at <http://www.colage.org/join.htm>



COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere)

3543 18th St., #17 San Francisco, CA 94110 phone: 415.861.5437 fax: 415.255.8345
Director@COLAGE.org www.COLAGE.org

December 9, 1999

W.P Dill
C.W Kammercr Jr
1684 San Miguel Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Dear W.P,

I am writing you to ask you to join a special family. Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) is run by and for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents. We are a group of people working at the intersections of sexual orientations fighting to make the world safer for ourselves, our families, and the generations to come after us. We have grown tremendously in recent years, but the need for our work continues to outpace our resources to provide support, education, and advocacy. Our families currently face extreme pressure and attack. The Knight Initiative in California will be on the March ballot, essentially denying our very existence, and as many as ten states nationwide are expected to launch anti-same-gender adoption and foster laws and regulations early next year.

A special year-end gift from you now will help COLAGE organize authentic youth voices to respond to these wrongs as well as to provide additional necessary support for children, youth, and young adults across the country. Please give today.

There is nobody in the world, literally no one else, doing the work COLAGE does. For example, let's take a look at what COLAGE did today.

Today COLAGE:

- Gave the finishing-touch statistics to a TV journalist in Argentina who is running a five day series for their major news show on lesbian and gay families. Six months ago we worked with their crew in San Francisco to help them interview 3 families for this groundbreaking report;
- Worked with a writer for YM magazine to help shape a friendly piece about growing up with a lesbian mom, called 10 people around the country who might be good for the story;
- Sent a 200 person mailing to do outreach for a series of focus groups to solicit input from our members about what program and advocacy needs they have;
- Replied to 15 requests via email and phone for help and information from isolated people;

- Made over 100 phone calls recruiting participants for our No on Knight campaign;
- Convened an events committee meeting consisting primarily of youth to plan our upcoming fourth annual Bowl-A-Thon;
- Began planning for a Bay Area group facilitator training happening in two weeks.

This is just a tiny snap-shot of the important work COLAGE does on a daily basis. Very little glamour, lots of content. We are on the front lines of helping lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families become stronger and helping to educate society about who our families really are.

Here are some exciting initiatives we have planned for 2000:

- A COLAGE conference for teens and young adults focused on skills building and advocacy as part of the international PFLAG conference in Washington, DC April 28-30;
- The Family Garden, a safe and fun space for lgbt parents on the mall, co-sponsored with the Family Pride Coalition and PFLAG as part of the Millenium March on Washington (MMOW), April 30;
- A featured speaker at the MMOW will be COLAGE Board member and lgbt family youth activist extraordinaire Sol Kelley-Jones (age 12);
- A new COLAGE Bill of Rights, a declaration of rights for daughters and sons of lgbt parents for use by local COLAGERS, families, and organizers as a tool to demand safe and supportive environments for COLAGERS;
- A summit for chapter leaders from around the country, mostly in their teens and twenties, to do skills building and support for our local chapter leaders;
- Participation in a national coalition of groups working to respond to attacks against same-gender adoption and foster parenting at a state level;
- An organized and visible youth response to the anti-gay and anti-family Knight Initiative in California which calls for marriage to be only between a man and a woman.

All of this comes in addition to our on-going programs such as our newsletter "Just For Us," Family Week in Provincetown, pen pal program, web site, chapter organizing, extensive information and referral support, letter writing campaigns, email activism, education of professionals such as doctors and family counselors, event and activity planning, and much, much more. These programs currently serve thousands of youth and families nation-wide. *Today we have 25 chapters in areas as diverse as Houston, TX and Madison, WI, a mailing list of 4,800, over 150 volunteers, and active participation by members of all ages, from elementary school to old age.*

COLAGE is at an exciting stage of growth. In the last year we have grown from just one staff person to two full-time staff, one temporary ¾ staff, and one half-time social work intern. Additionally we have a core of ten local volunteers who put in many

hours on top of their school and work commitments. With this growth we are able to accomplish more than ever before. But there is much more to be done, and the demand for our work and support continues to grow faster than we do. **We cannot do this work without your support.**

Please consider giving COLAGE a generous gift this year. We rely on your support to make change happen. I am asking you to make a stretch at this time because lgbt families need your help like never before. Parents are coming out in record numbers. There is an unprecedented baby boom happening in our community and the children are quickly growing up.

There is only one organization working specifically on behalf of and hand in hand with the children of these families: COLAGE. **We are committed to the support, development, and involvement of our members at every level of our work.**

I know you are inundated with requests for help, especially at this time of year. I hope you can see the unique qualities of our work and the potential we have to make the future brighter for all of us. There are few things more powerful than young people who have grown up or are currently growing up in lgbt families speaking out and working for justice.

Best wishes to you and your family,



Felicia Park-Rogers
Director

If you have any questions I'd love to talk with you further.
-F

P.S. Here is the text of a recent letter to COLAGE affirming the importance of our work:

Dear COLAGE,

WOW, it is great to know that this organization is out there. In six years, this is the only one I have been able to find. Of course, I didn't realize how many people like me with gay or lesbian parents were really out there also. This is a wonderful organization. I am currently a senior in high school and I have chosen to do a project in my American Problems class on homosexuality.

I live in Utah, out of all places, and so this should be interesting. I unfortunately can't use my self as a guest speaker and I don't know ANYONE else who I can speak with. Utah doesn't give that big of a number of gays and lesbians, and especially kids of gays and lesbians. Do you know someone? If you know someone who is a gay/lesbian

youth, or a child of a gay or lesbian parent around this area then that would be great. If not, any other information that I can use would be greatly appreciated.

I am not allowed to base my whole project on MY opinion, sadly enough, I have to include both sides to present a more even conversation. Any help would be great appreciated. Thank you so much for your time and understanding. I am ever so thankful to know that I am not the only one, that there are millions and now I have the connection to it.

*Thank you again,
Sincerely,
Jessica Blanco*

At COLAGE we rarely get to stop and marvel at all that COLAGE is accomplishing, but our growing list of accomplishments is made possible by an exciting time of growth and by stretching every dollar and every person beyond its limit.

The demand continues to far exceed our capacity. COLAGE receives 50 new requests for information and help each week. We have 25 chapters around the US and Canada and 10 ten new ones in the making. We lack program and travel funds to work directly with chapters and the young people leading them. *Your gift will help make our work in local communities with young people become a reality.* Please give today.

feel different from almost everybody. For a while I didn't like that, but now I love it. I love being open-minded. I always try to hear others' opinions and not judge them. I think that with two females heading the household, I'm a lot better at expressing my emotions than other males."

But life for children of lesbians and gays is not all warm feelings and Bette Davis movies. Sometimes they face ostracism, harassment, even violence. Sometimes they are treated as objects of intense curiosity.

"It's been at hard at times," Kelley-Jones admits. "I've had kids call me 'faggot' or refuse to eat lunch with me. My second week in kindergarten, a kid hit another kid and called him a 'fag.' It's funny—at 5 they don't know about sexual orientation, but they sure know that word."

Adolescent pressure to be just like everyone else creates its own problems as kids grow older. Kelley-Jones says middle school "has been really hard. I'm completely overwhelmed by all the homophobic name-calling. It's every other word, and it wears me down. But I always try to hold my head high."

Daniel Cooper, a 13-year-old who lives on Long Island, N.Y., with his brother, three sisters, and their gay fathers, says he has "never, ever" been harassed personally. But those words are still there. "People joke about it at school, but they joke about everybody's parents," he says. "I hear 'faggot' used to describe other people, but it's never directed at my parents. Otherwise, I'd get very mad."

Fine says middle school was difficult for him too. "I was constantly confronted with words like 'homo,' 'fag,' and 'dyke,' and it was really hurtful," he says. "I felt they were attacking my parents. Still, I'm pretty lucky. Nobody ever held it against me. They never said I couldn't play kickball because my parents were gay."

Sometimes children of gay and lesbian parents have to deal with far greater problems than teasing. For Park-Rogers, having a gay dad meant dealing with HIV and AIDS at a tender age. Today, her father is HIV-positive but healthy. But most of his friends—her "uncles" growing up—are dead. "The Castro was a very hard place to be the '80s," she recalls.

COURTESY LUCY FINE



"I think that with two females heading the household, I'm a lot better at expressing my emotions than other males."

—CODY FINE, 17, raised in San Francisco by two lesbians

The youngest activist: Twelve-year-old Sol Kelley-Jones has testified before government hearings on gay issues and worked to promote greater understanding of gays and lesbians among her classmates.



COURTESY JOANN KELLEY

Most children now are fortunately spared such losses. What they are receiving instead is what they most crave: a normal life. Cooper says his father is a soccer coach and his "poppa" is the soccer mom. "Poppa cooks, cleans, and hangs out with the other moms at the games," he says. "My friends love them. When they see them they go, 'Hey, there's your dads!'"

And Kelley-Jones, possibly the nation's youngest gay rights activist, spends time educating others, trying to make life for normal for everyone. She conducted a survey of homophobia

among fourth and fifth graders at school and followed up with a multimedia presentation. She also testifies at government hearings. "I see people with political power standing against the door of injustice and trying to keep that door shut because they're afraid," she says. "And who's on the other side? Nobody scary. Just kids and families like us." ■

Kirby is a regular contributor to The New York Times.

Find more about children with gay parents and links to related Internet sites at www.advocate.com



Felicia Park-Rogers (left) heads a group for children of gay parents; Daniel Cooper (above, right) and his brother, Christopher, live with their gay dads in New York.

The next Generation

PARK-ROGERS: WALTER PARK, COOPER BROTHERS: COURTESY JONATHAN COOPER

OPEN-MINDED AND WELL-ADJUSTED, CHILDREN WITH GAY PARENTS SAY THEIR FAMILIES ARE A GIFT BY DAVID KIRBY

When members of the post-Stonewall generation grew up, they began having children. Whether through adoption, divorce, surrogate motherhood, or turkey-baster baby making, lesbians and gay men became parents in record numbers. Lesbians began earlier, with gay fathers becoming more common about a decade ago. That's why older kids, like the famous fictional Heather, tend to have two mommies. But among the toddler set, there are now many two-daddy homes.

Whatever their age, these children are the first generation of Americans raised in households with openly gay parents, and despite some narrow-mindedness they see in their peers, they describe their experience as, for the most part, enjoyable and enriching.

For example, how many children can say they spent their formative years wandering the gay-male redoubts of San

Francisco? Felicia Park-Rogers can. She was born to unmarried parents in counterculture California. "I was their love child," she says. When she was 3 her father came out and her mom started seeing women. "I had shared custody," she recalls. "Dad moved to the Castro. It was totally fun. I was this cute little girl walking around with my cute little dad, and we'd go to the Castro Theater and watch Bette Davis movies while Mom was at consciousness-raising groups and feminist conferences."

Because their experiences are so different from those of their peers with heterosexual parents, many kids of gay parents find each other through Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere, the San Francisco-based group that grew from the gay parenting movement in the early 1990s. There they can find friendship, camaraderie, and support from people who know what their lives are like from firsthand experience.

Park-Rogers, 28, is COLAGE's director. As a lesbian herself, she also belongs to Second Generation, a COLAGE program for gay children of gay parents. Connecting with others like herself "was a really powerful experience," she says. "It was great to meet people who grew up the way I did."

Many children with gay or lesbian parents say living in these households has helped them develop open minds about politics, sexuality, gender, and other issues. Sol Kelley-Jones, a 12-year-old in Madison, Wis., with two lesbian mothers, says her upbringing has been nothing short of wonderful for that reason.

"I love the gay and lesbian community!" Kelley-Jones says. "The people are who they are. They don't have to be a certain way or a certain gender, just themselves. And that's truly wonderful because I feel like I can be me too."

Cody Fine, 17, who was raised in San Francisco by two lesbians, says, "I ►

COLAGE
Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
End-of-Year Pledge Form

YES! I/We will join you as a donor to COLAGE. Please check the donation level:

- 2,000 Super Hero
- 1,000 Hero
- 750 Benefactor
- 500 Friend
- 200 Sponsor
- \$ _____ Other

-
- I prefer to pledge \$ _____ payable Monthly Quarterly
 - Double my gift. My employer's matching gift form is enclosed.
 - I would like to make a contribution of marketable securities. Please contact me.
 - I am making a United Way donation to COLAGE (Use COLAGE's name and address to designate)

Enclosed is a check made payable to COLAGE for: \$ _____

Charge my Visa/Mastercard/American Express/Discover

Card number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Contact Information: (please note any changes)

Name/s: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Preferred Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to COLAGE 3543 18th St #17 SF CA 94110 or by fax: 415-255-8345.

Thank you for your generous donation to COLAGE. It matters. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. COLAGE's tax id # is 94-3316616.

Bowl-A-Thon

Fun, Family, and Fundraising for COLAGE

More than your typical fundraising event, COLAGE's 10th Annual Bowl-A-Thon is an event where families and friends come together to have fun and support COLAGE's important work. Now in its 10th year, the Bowl-A-Thon is becoming a family tradition and community celebration. In this event bowlers solicit donations from their family, friends, colleagues and local businesses. On the day of the Bowl-A-Thon donations are turned in to COLAGE and then it's bowl time!

The Bowl-A-Thon is COLAGE's largest fundraising event of the year, raising more money and gathering more people each year. Taking place at the Yerba Buena Bowling Center, this promises to be a time for celebration and fun for all.

Date:	December 4 th 2005
Estimated Number of Participants:	300-400
Location:	Yerba Buena Bowling Center

Promotional Opportunities for your Business:

Advertising:

- ❖ Recognition in national newsletter *Just For Us* Circulation 18,000
- ❖ COLAGE Bay Area Website 1,000 hits per week
- ❖ Inclusion in Program Book for event attendees 300-400

Mailings:

- ❖ Press Release 500
- ❖ 4000 households Bay Area wide
- ❖ Email Bay Area NetNews Circulation 4000

Benefits of sponsorship on reverse!

Bowl-A-Thon Benefits of Sponsorship

PERFECT GAME! Sponsor:	\$2,500
Full Page Advertisement in Program (Back cover, inside cover, inside front)	
Introduction at "Awards @ the Alley"	
Name listed on all press releases	
Name included in all advertising for event	
Name included in all mailings for event	
Recognition in <i>Just For Us</i> Newsletter	
Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area Website	
Recognition at event	
Recognition in thank you letters to all Bowl-A-Thon Donors	
STRIKE! Sponsor:	\$1,500
Half-Page Advertisement in Program	
Name Listed on all press releases	
Name included in all advertising for event	
Name included in all mailings for event	
Recognition in <i>Just For Us</i> Newsletter	
Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website	
Recognition at event	
SPARE! Sponsor:	\$1000
Quarter-Page Advertisement in Program	
Recognition in <i>Just For Us</i> Newsletter	
Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website	
Recognition at event	
ALLEY! Sponsor:	\$500
Business Card size Advertisement in Program	
Recognition at event	
Recognition in <i>Just For Us</i> Newsletter	
Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website	
TEAM! Sponsor:	\$250
Business name in Program	
Recognition at the event	
Recognition in <i>Just For Us</i> Newsletter	
Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website	

COLAGE extends our corporate giving program to include in-kind gifts.
Please contact Ember Cook at 415-861-5437 or at ember@colage.org with any
questions about how to contribute.

Bowl-A-Thon

Fun, Family, and Fundraising for COLAGE

Response Form

Please return by Aug. 31st to ensure that your generosity will be appropriately recognized in our print and electronic materials.

YES! We welcome the opportunity to support COLAGE at the 10th Annual Bowl-A-Thon, as indicated below:

<input type="checkbox"/> PERFECT GAME!	\$2,500
<input type="checkbox"/> STRIKE! Sponsor	\$1,500
<input type="checkbox"/> SPARE! Sponsor	\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> ALLEY! Sponsor	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> TEAM! Sponsor	\$250

Enclosed is a check made out to COLAGE for the appropriate amount.

I would like to pay by credit card. (COLAGE accepts VISA and MasterCard)

Card Type:

Number:

Exp. Date:

I am faxing this form and a check will follow by mail.

COLAGE is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and all gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Who in your business/organization should be contacted regarding logos, advertisements, and banners for event materials?

Contact Name: _____

Name to Appear on Event Materials: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____

Please mail this form to: Bowl-A-Thon, COLAGE, 3543 18th Street, #1, San Francisco, CA 94110
You can also fax it to us at 415-255-8345. Questions? Call 415-861-5437. Email bowl@colage.org

THANK YOU!

COLAGE 11th Annual BOWL-A-THON



Raise money for COLAGE: equality and justice by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender parents

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH, 2005 *1-3PM

Join us for fun, family & friends

YERBA BUENA BOWLING CENTER *750 FOLSOM STREET

Fun, Games, Food & Prizes for kids of all ages!

FREE WHEN YOU RAISE \$25 OR MORE OR PAY \$25 AT DOOR



Our Bay Area Community Funders
 Alameda County Leather Corps
 Bears of San Francisco
 Castro Lions
 Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund
 Horizons Foundation
 Reva and David Logan Foundation
 San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Families
 San Francisco First Five Commission
 San Francisco Foundation

COLAGE APPRECIATES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:



Event Sponsors:

Providian Financial
 Mom's the Word Maternity Wear
 Horizons Foundation
 Rainbow Grocery
 Gay Parent Magazine
 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

For pledge forms and further information contact COLAGE (415) 861-KIDS or email ember@colage.org or visit www.colage.org/bayarea

"I RAISED OVER \$500 FOR MY COMMUNITY"

COLAGE BOWL-A-THON

"THE MOST FUN I HAVE HAD IN YEARS!!"

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John Hale
Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California
657 Mission St Ste 300
San Francisco CA 94105-4113





Support and activism by and for people with
lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender parents

October 26th, 2005

Dear COLAGE Friends and Family:

We invite you to participate in our 11th Annual COLAGE Bowl-a-Thon. Each year this event gathers youth with LGBT parents, our families and supporters for food, prizes, fundraising, and of course lots of fun!

Participation in the Bowl-a-Thon is easy and anyone can take part! Use the enclosed Pledge Form to find friends, co-workers, family members, neighbors and teachers who will pledge \$5, \$25, \$50 or even \$100 for you to bowl. No pledge amount is too large or small. Every donation helps support crucial programming for youth with LGBT parents across the Bay Area. Plus we'll have fabulous prizes for the bowler who raises the most money, gets the most pledges as well as for Team Spirit, Best Bowling Outfit, and many more. **Please note that this year, you can gather your pledges online!** Using the Friends Asking Friends program, you can collect support from all your friends and family easily through secure online donations. To get started visit: www.colage.org/bayarea.

This year COLAGE is offering more ongoing events and activities for youth with LGBT parents in the Bay Area than ever before. **We hope that you will join one or many of these programs during the 2005-6 academic year!**

- Youth Leadership and Action Program
- Transgeneration
- San Francisco COLAGE Crew
- East Bay COLAGE Crew
- San Francisco Middle School Group
- East Bay Middle School Group (New!!)
- South Bay Group
- Education, Trainings, Panels
- Political Advocacy

In addition to the Bowl-A-Thon, we hope you'll join us at these upcoming events. On Saturday, December 10, from 11 - 1pm the LGBT Family Collaborative brings you Multi-Faith Super Duper Holiday Extravaganza, at the Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church at 500 De Haro Street.

This year COLAGE is thrilled to be a community recipient of the San Francisco Holiday Run. The run will take place on Sunday December 18th, 2005 at 12pm. It will start and end at the Pier 23 Cafe. For more information visit www.sfholidayrun.com.

Thank you! If you have any questions that the enclosed bowler info sheet and flyer don't answer please contact me at 415-861-5437 or ember@colage.org.

Best wishes to you and yours!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ember Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Ember Cook
Bay Area Program Coordinator

Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere
415-861-KIDS (5437) fax: 415-255-8345
www.colage.org colage@colage.org

3543 18th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94110



October 16, 2002

Dear Friends:

Greetings from COLAGE! So many exciting things are happening on both the national and local levels at COLAGE as we continue to engage, connect, and empower people with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT) parents and families. The past year has been a challenging time for both our community and the world at large. The current global climate demands that COLAGE continue to be part of the struggle for a safe, just, and celebratory world for our families and for ALL families.

A very exciting announcement is the birth of Benjamin Jonah Park-Rogers Timoner, the son of our Executive Director Felicia Park-Rogers and her partner Rachel Timoner, on July 31st, 2002. **We offer congratulations to Felicia and her entire family and can't wait to see Benjamin at future COLAGE events.** While Felicia has been out of the office on maternity leave, our staff team has been led by Interim Co-Executive Directors Beth Teper and Cory Pohley and Interim Program Coordinator, Meredith Fenton. Each brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to COLAGE. Additionally, we have been joined by a skilled group of interns. In the summer, Kelly Densmore, Katy Chatel, and Sarah Austin helped fulfill COLAGE's programs and this fall, Danielle Turner and Nikki Cruz have been integral to the day-to-day administrative and communications activities of COLAGE.

This fall also brings some terrific news for Bay Area children, youth and families. Through two significant first-time grants from the city of San Francisco, COLAGE is collaborating with the SF LGBT Community Center, Our Family Coalition (OFC), LYRIC, and New Leaf to develop a variety of programs for COLAGERS and LGBT families. As part of this groundbreaking collaborative, COLAGE and OFC will present monthly complementary workshops for parents and children. In November, the topic is schools with COLAGE presenting "**Tools for School: A workshop about Tackling Homophobia in Schools for Kids with LGBT parents,**" for 5th-8th graders. Concurrently, OFC presents "What Every LGBT Parent Needs to Know About School Selection." Both events will take place on Tuesday, November 12th from 7-8:30 pm at the SF LGBT Center. Childcare will be available in the Center's Kidspace.

Entering its fifth year, the **COLAGE Bay Area Middle School group** is a fun way for COLAGE youth to connect with others for support, recreation, education, empowerment and fun! Now meeting the third Sunday of each month, this group creates a unique, safe space for kids with LGBT parents. To sign up, please contact Meredith in our office.

The 7th Annual COLAGE Bowl-a-Thon is quickly approaching! Our largest Bay Area event, a day of fun, games, prizes, support, and fundraising will be on Sunday, December 7th from 1-3 pm at Yerba Buena Bowling Center. Please see the enclosed flyer and pledge forms to learn more about this Bay Area favorite event.

Outside of our local program work, COLAGE continues our ongoing national projects such as the Pen Pal program, email news and chat lists, summer Family Weeks, production of *Just For Us*, and more. We are also creating a new Youth Leadership Development program that will engage teenage COLAGERS in leadership, media advocacy, and activism on both local and national levels.

As you can see the work ahead of us is immense and visionary. Your support of COLAGE is critical through your active participation in our local and national programs and generous financial support. As always, we love hearing how we might better serve you and your family and welcome your contributions of time, money, and resources.

We look forward to seeing you at the Bowl-a-Thon and our Center programs, and hope your family is enjoying a joyous and safe fall season. Thank you for being an important part of the COLAGE Bay Area family.

With pride,

Beth Teper, Interim Co-Executive Director
Meredith Fenton, Interim Program Coordinator

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
415-861-KIDS(5437) fax: 415-255-8345
www.colage.org colage@colage.org

3543 18th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94110



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 7th ANNUAL
Bowl-a-thon!



7th Annual BOWL-a-thon

PLEDGE FORM

COLAGE engages, connects and empowers people to make the world a better place for children of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents and families.

Saturday, December 7th, 2002 * 1-3 pm * Yerba Buena Bowling Center * 750 Folsom Street, SF

Bowler's Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone(____) _____ Email _____

Bowler's Instructions on Q&A page (see reverse)

Sponsor's Name	Address/City/State	Zip	Telephone	Method of Payment	Pledge	Paid
X Janet Sample	99 Sample St. San Francisco, CA	94949	(415) 123-4567	Cash/Check	\$30	✓
1.						
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18.						

I release COLAGE and its organizers from any claims or liability resulting from my participation in the Bowl-a-thon.

signature of bowler _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____

I give COLAGE permission to use my photo in COLAGE and Bay Area publications.

signature of bowler _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____

Total Pledges:
please bring full amount to event

Total Pald

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Amt. received _____ Cash _____ Check _____ Amt Due _____ Outstanding Amt received _____ Date _____ Form completed _____

BOWLER INFORMATION

Q. ARE YOU NUTS? I CAN'T BOWL!

A. Of course you can! Let out your inner-bowler and come for a fun time no matter your bowling skills or lack thereof! There will also be fun games, yummy food, silly prizes, and most importantly great people. So there are no excuses!



Q. SO WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

A. Yerba Buena Bowling Center
750 Folsom St. (b/t 3rd & 4th), San Francisco
Need more directions?
Call Yerba Buena Bowling Center at
(415) 777-3727 or visit www.skatebowl.com

Q. HOW DO I GET PLEDGES?

A. Take this pledge sheet wherever you go - Sign up friends, family, teachers, co-workers, neighbors... you get the idea! Ask people to support you, and more often than not they will!

NOTE: Let us know if you need another pledge form or you can download one from www.colage.org



Q. HOW ELSE CAN I GET INVOLVED?

A. Any way that you want to lend a hand to COLAGE is a huge help to our work. **VOLUNTEERS** are always welcome and needed. You can also invite your company/employer to **SPONSOR** a team of bowlers by matching their pledges.

We are also looking for **TEAMS** from companies, bowling leagues, schools, etc to raise money and participate. And, of course, we are always looking for **DONATIONS** of both supplies and funds to support our work.

Call Meredith at 415-861-5437, ext. 102 to get involved!

Q. HOW MUCH DO I HAVE TO RAISE?

A. Any amount that you can raise and/or donate helps COLAGE do its important work. **There are PRIZES for the top pledge-getter, the biggest fundraiser, and to anyone who raises more than \$100 in pledges.** Also note that everyone who raises least \$20 bowls for FREE! (We ask bowlers who don't collect pledges to pay \$20 to participate in the event!)

Q. WHAT DO I DO WITH ALL THE MONEY?

A. Collect **ALL** the pledges BEFORE the Bowl-a-thon with checks made payable to COLAGE. It will be easiest if you collect the money as you sign people up to pledge you! Bring this sheet and all your money to the Bowl-a-thon.

If you don't come, please mail everything to COLAGE * 3543 18th St. #1 * SF, CA 94110

Your hard earned pledges will go towards exciting & important Bay Area COLAGE programs and projects including: After School Youth Programs
★ Leadership & Media Trainings ★ Middle School Weekend Group ★ Educational Workshops ★ Annual Family Events and Picnics & Much More!
★ Help COLAGE grow to better serve YOU! ★

QUESTIONS? WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Call COLAGE at (415) 861-KIDS (5437) Email Meredith@colage.org www.colage.org

CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH WITH COLAGE

Tuesday, June 14th, 6:30 - 8 PM

Second Tuesday Family Series

COLAGE Activity Night

A Pride party for youth 7 and up with LGBT parents. FREE! Make signs, arts and crafts and more for Pride. SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, San Francisco. RSVP mandatory to 415-861-5438 x102 or meredith@colage.org.

Sunday, June 12th, 3:30 - 5:30

COLAGE Crew East Bay

A pool party and arts and crafts meeting for youth in the 3rd- 5th grades with LGBT parents. Make new friends, swim and play games, enjoy snacks and get ready for Pride! FREE!

Berkeley YMCA, 2001 Allston Way, Berkeley. More information and RSVP to Ember Cook, 415-861-5437 x103, or ember@colage.org.

Saturday and Sunday, June 11th - 12th

San Jose Pride

For the first time, COLAGE will be represented at the San Jose Pride Celebration. March with the COLAGE South Bay group and then stop by the COLAGE Booth for arts and crafts, games and prizes. For more information contact Erika Taylor, 408-218-2391 or erikataylorpr@yahoo.com

Saturday, June 18th and Tuesday, June 21

Screenings of *In Our Shoes* at Frameline

Two opportunities to see the brand new COLAGE Film, *In Our Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents*. Part of the 28th Annual LGBT Film Festival.

\$6 Frameline members, \$7 general.

Saturday, 2 pm at the Roxie and Tuesday, 12 noon at the Castro.

For more info: 415-703-8650 or www.frameline.org



In My Shoes:

Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents



a new youth produced film by and about kids of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents

Thursday, June 16th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

COLAGE 15th Anniversary Celebration and the world premiere of *In My Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents*

Created by the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program in collaboration with Jen Gilomen, this brand new documentary film profiles five youth with LGBT parents sharing their views on marriage, making change and the true meaning of family. Join us for a celebration of COLAGE's anniversary, the premiere of this exciting new film, a silent auction and much more.

New College Cultural Center, 766 Valencia Street, SF.

For more information: 415-861-5437 or meredith@colage.org.

Saturday, June 18th, 4pm

COLAGE Presents with Frameline

Creating a Place at the Table

Part of the 28th Annual LGBT Film Festival.

\$6 Frameline members, \$7 general.

COLAGE is pleased to co-present this light-hearted documentary about multicultural lesbian couples and their families.

Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street, San Francisco

For more info: 415-703-8650 or www.frameline.org

Saturday, June 25th, 11:30 AM

COLAGE Presents with Frameline:

KIDS Matinee- *Charlotte's Web*

Part of the 28th Annual LGBT Film Festival.

\$6 members, \$7 general. Free for ages 12 and under. A delightful film for kids of all ages. Featuring free snacks and give-a-ways to kids and their parents.

Castro Theater, 129 Castro Street, San Francisco.

For more info: 415-703-8650 or www.frameline.org

Friday, June 24th, 4:30 PM

COLAGE Transgenerations

LGBT Family Contingent at the Tranny March Meet at 4:30 at the Playground in Dolores Park. Look for the COLAGE Banner. Join us for sign making and t-shirt decorating, then take part in the historic first-ever Transgenerations family contingent of the Trans March. For more information contact Jesse Carr, 415-861-5437 x104 or jcarr@colage.org

Sunday, June 26th

San Francisco LGBT Pride

March with COLAGE! Play with us in the Family Garden. Join our contingent and really show off your pride. Fun for the whole family and kids of all ages. After the march come to the Family Garden for more fun, game beautification, art, and resources. Our contingent and the Family Garden are presented in collaboration with Our Family Coalition. Call 415-861-5437 or email ember@colage.org for meeting times and places.



CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE

March 22, 1996

Dear Friends,

Spring is here, and COLAGE has lots of exciting things happening for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents and their families.

First off, check out the enclosed brochure about **our annual conference** with the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. This summer, consider making the trip to Minneapolis to join hundreds of individuals and families like yours.

Rankled about the Republican candidates mouthing off about our families? Even Hillary Clinton was quoted in the Chronicle recently saying children should be raised by a man and a woman. **Join our contingent in the Fight the Right March** in San Francisco, **Sunday, April 14th**. See the enclosed flyer for more info.

When we're done with the March, what do we do with all that energy? COLAGE is planning to bring a photo-text exhibit about our families to schools, libraries and community centers near you! **Help us bring the exhibit to your child's school or community** this summer and fall. Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire about the "Living in Lesbian and Gays Families" exhibit and return it to us.

Are you a teenager or do you have a teenager? **Our group for teenagers with l/g/b/t parents is now open for new members.** The groups are \$5 per monthly meeting and are led by adults with l/g/b/t parents. For more information, call Mike Haskell (415) 564-3447. Our groups for other ages will open to new members in a couple months, except our adult social group, which is always open.

Are you internet-inclined? Check out our new website, **www.colage.org**. Lot's of hard-to-find information, links, international updates, parenting resources, and more. If you're the daughter or son of the family, join KidsOfGays, our **great new internet chat list**. To join, email majordomo@vector.casti.com. In the body of the message write: subscribe kidsofgays yourfirstname yourlastname <your@emailaddress.here>

I look forward to seeing you in person or cyberspace,


Stefan Lynch
Director

(202) 583-8029

2300 Market St. Box 165
San Francisco, CA 94114
USA

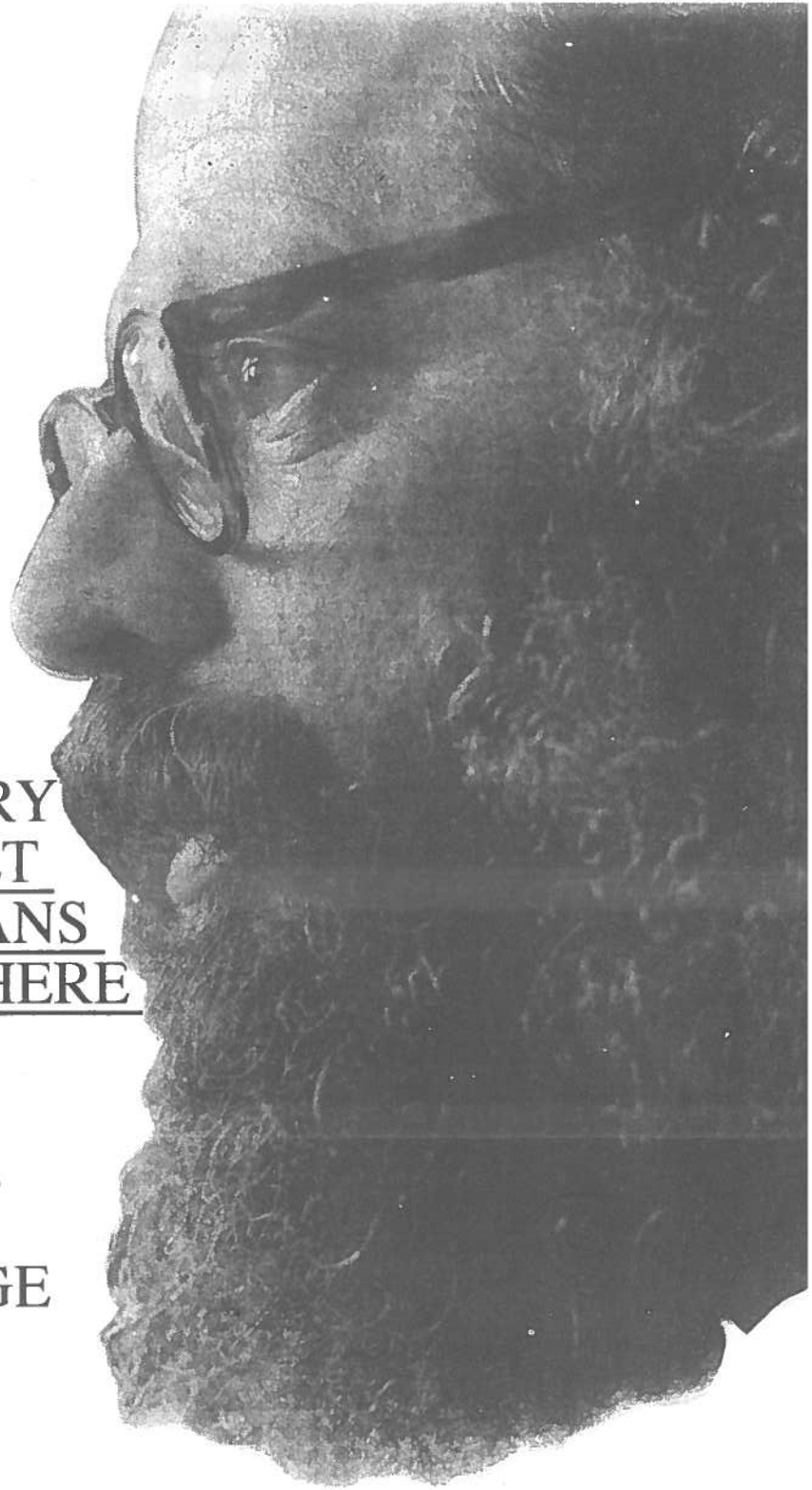
Box 187, Station F
Toronto, ON M4Y 2L5
CANADA

e-mail: KidsOfGays@aol.com

to GET 

WORDS

OUT!



A READING OF POETRY
AND PROSE BY ADULT
CHILDREN OF LESBIANS
AND GAYS EVERYWHERE
(COLAGE).

THURSDAY, MAY 8th,
AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE NEW COLLEGE
THEATER, AT
777 VALENCIA ST.

A \$5 DONATION IS REQUESTED, AND WILL
BENEFIT COLAGE. NO ONE WILL BE
TURNED AWAY.

BECAUSE GAY FAMILIES AND THEIR
CHILDREN SHOULD NOT HAVE TO LIVE IN
SILENCE!



7th Annual BOWL-a-thon

PLEDGE FORM

COLAGE engages, connects and empowers people to make the world a better place for children of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents and families.

Saturday, December 7th, 2002 * 1-3 pm * Yerba Buena Bowling Center * 750 Folsom Street, SF

Bowler's Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone(____) _____ Email _____

Bowler's Instructions on Q&A page (see reverse)

Sponsor's Name	Address/City/State	Zip	Telephone	Method of Payment	Pledge	Paid
X Janet Sample	99 Sample St. San Francisco, CA	94949	(415) 123-4567	Cash/Check	\$30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.						
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17.						
18.						

I release COLAGE and its organizers from any claims or liability resulting from my participation in the Bowl-a-thon.

signature of bowler _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____

I give COLAGE permission to use my photo in COLAGE and Bay Area publications.

signature of bowler _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____

Total Pledges:
please bring full amount to event

Total Pald

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Amt. received _____ Cash _____ Check _____ Amt Due _____ Outstanding Amt received _____ Date _____ Form completed _____

BOWLER INFORMATION

Q. ARE YOU NUTS? I CAN'T BOWL!

A. Of course you can! Let out your inner-bowler and come for a fun time no matter your bowling skills or lack thereof! There will also be fun games, yummy food, silly prizes, and most importantly great people. So there are no excuses!



Q. SO WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

A. Yerba Buena Bowling Center
750 Folsom St. (b/t 3rd & 4th), San Francisco
Need more directions?
Call Yerba Buena Bowling Center at
(415) 777-3727 or visit www.skatebowl.com

Q. HOW DO I GET PLEDGES?

A. Take this pledge sheet wherever you go - Sign up friends, family, teachers, co-workers, neighbors... you get the idea! Ask people to support you, and more often than not they will!

NOTE: Let us know if you need another pledge form or you can download one from www.colage.org



Q. HOW ELSE CAN I GET INVOLVED?

A. Any way that you want to lend a hand to COLAGE is a huge help to our work. **VOLUNTEERS** are always welcome and needed. You can also invite your company/employer to **SPONSOR** a team of bowlers by matching their pledges.

We are also looking for **TEAMS** from companies, bowling leagues, schools, etc to raise money and participate. And, of course, we are always looking for **DONATIONS** of both supplies and funds to support our work.

Call Meredith at 415-861-5437, ext. 102 to get involved!

Q. HOW MUCH DO I HAVE TO RAISE?

A. Any amount that you can raise and/or donate helps COLAGE do its important work. **There are PRIZES for the top pledge-getter, the biggest fundraiser, and to anyone who raises more than \$100 in pledges.** Also note that everyone who raises least \$20 bowls for FREE! (We ask bowlers who don't collect pledges to pay \$20 to participate in the event.)

Q. WHAT DO I DO WITH ALL THE MONEY?

A. Collect **ALL** the pledges BEFORE the Bowl-a-thon with checks made payable to COLAGE. It will be easiest if you collect the money as you sign people up to pledge you! Bring this sheet and all your money to the Bowl-a-thon.

If you don't come, please mail everything to COLAGE * 3543 18th St. #1 * SF, CA 94110

Your hard earned pledges will go towards exciting & important Bay Area COLAGE programs and projects including: After School Youth Programs
★ Leadership & Media Trainings ★ Middle School Weekend Group ★ Educational Workshops ★ Annual Family Events and Picnics & Much More!
★ Help COLAGE grow to better serve YOU! ★

QUESTIONS? WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Call COLAGE at (415) 861-KIDS (5437) Email Meredith@colage.org www.colage.org

COLAGE 7th Annual Bowl-a-thon

Raise money for COLAGE: support and activism by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender parents

Saturday, December 7th, 2002 • 1-3pm

Join us for fun, family & friends

Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom Street • San Francisco

Fun, Games, Food & Prizes for kids of all ages!

COLAGE APPRECIATES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:

Event Sponsors as of press time:



Our Community Funders



evelyn & walter HAAS, JR. fund

The San Francisco Foundation

For pledge forms and further information contact **COLAGE**
(415) 861-KIDS or email meredith@colage.org



*Children Of Lesbians
And Gays Everywhere*

OUR MISSION

COLAGE engages, develops and activates people with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents and families. We do this by using our experiences as people of all races and ethnicities, from all spiritual and economic backgrounds, to foster connections, advocate for our rights and educate society to respect all families. Our work is part of a larger movement to create a safe, just and celebratory world.

Programs & Activities

Regional Chapters for Youth and Adults
Support Groups
Annual Family Weeks
After School Programs
Quarterly International Newsletter- *Just For Us*
Email Discussion Groups
Award Winning Website
Information and Resource Referral
Summer Internships
Scholarship for Undergraduate Students
Pen Pal Program
Net News Email Updates

OUR VISION

We envision a world in which all families are valued, protected, reflected, and embraced by society and all of its institutions; in which all children grow up loved and nurtured by kinship networks and communities that teach them about, connect them to, and honor their unique heritage; and in which every human being has the freedom to express sexual orientation, gender identity, and self.

We envision being part of large movements to heal and transform all forms of oppression, discrimination, bigotry and hatred in the hearts and minds of the members of our societies, as well as in school systems, mental and physical health systems, media, legislatures, legal systems, and all religious institutions.

We envision a world in which those of us with lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender parents or families are connected to a broad community of peers and mentors, are recognized as the authority of our experiences, belong to respected and valued family structures, and have the tools and support to create a just society.

COLAGE Program Information

Website

We have many resources, reading materials, kids' personal stories, and more on our website: www.colage.org. We have a page with personal accounts from kids with LGBT parents about their experiences at www.colage.org/online-interview

Just For Us

COLAGE publishes a quarterly publication called *Just For Us*. This resource contains articles written by and for people with LGBT parents and their families. Topics include school, religion, coming out issues, and lots more. This is also a great source of up to date information about the organization. When you sign up as a member of COLAGE, you automatically receive *Just For Us*. You can sign up for membership at <http://www.colage.org/join.html>

Resource Lists

COLAGE offers lists of books and videos for younger kids, older kids, and parents at www.colage.org/resources.html. Some of these books and videos can be ordered directly from us, or can be found at your favorite local or online bookstore.

Net News Lists

COLAGE maintains two email newsletters which contain information about COLAGE events, action alerts, important news, and more. You can choose between our National, or Bay Area lists, or sign up for both! These lists receive no more than one email weekly. To subscribe go to www.colage.org/online-resources.html.

Pen Pals

In the COLAGE Pen Pal program, we match up pairs of kids with LGBT parents so they can write and/or email about their experiences and make a new friend. Find the application online at www.colage.org/kids/penpals.html, send an email to penpal@colage.org, or send a letter to COLAGE Pen Pal Program, 3543 18th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Email Discussion Lists

COLAGE sponsors three main email discussion lists. Each one is for a specific age group- elementary school, middle school, and 14 years old and up. These lists are moderated by adult COLAGrs. You can sign up for either list at www.colage.org/online-resources.html

Family Weeks

COLAGE organizes two annual Family Weeks in July and August with the Family Pride Coalition in Saugatuck, MI and Provincetown, MA. Family week is a special gathering for LGBT parents, youth, and adults of all ages. Individuals and families join us from all over the US and some come from as far as China and Sweden. Stay tuned to our website for information about this years' events.

Scholarship

Each year COLAGE, in collaboration with Family Pride Coalition offers the Lee Dubin memorial scholarship for kids of LGBT parents. Applications are due the third Friday in April. For more information visit <http://www.colage.org/scholarship.html>

COLAGE SIXTH ANNUAL BOWL-A-THON

Saturday • December 8th, 2001 • 1pm-3pm
 Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

JOIN US TO HAVE FUN AND TO RAISE MONEY FOR **COLAGE**
 BAY AREA PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

★ BOWL FOR PLEDGES, BAY AREA PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES ★
 SPONSOR A BOWLER ★ ULTRA COOL PRIZES

Pledge Form Inside! • For More info Contact **COLAGE**
 415-861-KIDS (5437) or email beth@colage.org • www.colage.org

★ FUN!!! ★
 ★ FAMILY ★
 ★ ★ ★

URGENT
 DATED
 MATERIAL!!!



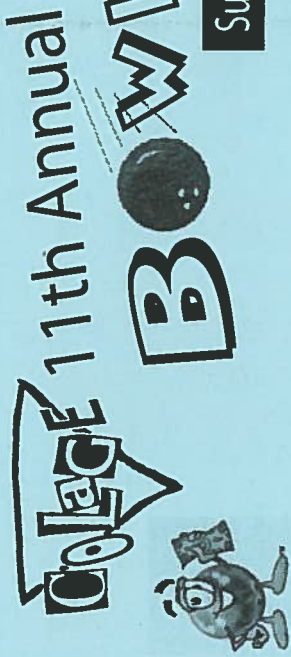
San Francisco CA 94103-1710
 973 Market St Fl 4
 GLHS

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3543 18TH ST. #1
 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110



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 ORGANIZATION
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 PAID
 SAN FRANCISCO,
 CA
 PERMIT NO. 925



COLAGE engages, connects and empowers people to make the world a better place for children of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender parents and families.

PLEDGE FORM

Sunday, December 4th, 2005 *1-3 pm *Yerba Buena Bowling Center *750 Folsom Street, SF

Bowler's Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(____) _____ Email _____ Birthdate: _____ I have an LGBT parent _____ I am an LGBT parent _____ I am an ally/COLAGE fan _____
 Bowler's Instructions on Q&A page (see reverse)

Pledger's Name	Address/City/State	Zip	Telephone	Do you have an LGBT parent? Are you an LGBT parent?	Birthdate	Volunteer?	Mail List?	Method of Payment	Pledge Paid
X Janet Sample	99 Sample St. San Francisco, CA	94949	(415) 123-4567	Yes- I have a bi dad	1/1/86	YES!	YES!	Cash/Check	\$35 ✓
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14.									

I release COLAGE and its organizers from any claims or liability resulting from my participation in the Bowl-a-Thon.

signature of bowler _____ date _____

I give COLAGE permission to use my photo in COLAGE and Bay Area publications.

Charge Amount: _____ Evn. Date: _____

Amt Paid: _____ Amt Due _____

Cash _____ Check _____

Credit Card #: _____

Total Pledges: _____
 please bring full amount to event

Total Paid _____

**COLAGE and the Family Pride Coalition are pleased to announce the
Twelfth Annual Lee Dubin Scholarship Fund
for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents.**

For the twelfth year, COLAGE and Family Pride Coalition will be offering four-five \$1000 scholarships to support the undergraduate studies of students with LGBT parents. The application deadline is April 15th, 2004.

COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere) and the Family Pride Coalition will be awarding at least four scholarships to children of LGBT parents through their collaborative Lee Dubin Scholarship Fund. Each scholarship will provide up to \$1000 of funding for undergraduate college students with one or more LGBT parent/guardian who have demonstrated ability and commitment to affecting change in the LGBT community and the community at large.

Some of the most powerful members of the LGBT community are the children of LGBT parents who have grown up being nurtured and supported by this community and are now part of a whole generation of people who have the power to create dramatic change in the world. Through college scholarships we aim to honor this power and celebrate the unique experiences and achievements of our families.

The Lee Dubin Scholarship which is named in honor of a gay father and founder of the Family Pride Coalition. To date over \$24,000 in funds have been distributed. We are especially seeking to honor students who are actively working to combat homophobia and increase positive awareness of LGBT families to apply. We also strongly encourage applications from individuals with demonstrated financial need.

Guidelines

- * 4-5 grants of \$1000 each will be awarded.
- * Awards will be granted by the Scholarship Committee which is made up of volunteers who are LGBT parents and children of LGBT parents.
- * The sponsoring organizations would like to encourage applicants of all backgrounds to apply. COLAGE and the Family Pride Coalition do not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, physical ability, class, sexual orientation, age, gender, or type of LGBT family.
- * People who are active community participants are encouraged to apply.
- * Board or staff members, and their family members are not eligible.
- * Applicants are encouraged to be willing to be named publicly in association with the Family Pride Coalition, COLAGE and the Lee Dubin Scholarship.
- * Applicants with demonstrated economic need are encouraged to apply.

Requirements

Applicants must:

- * Have one or more lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender parent(s).
- * Be enrolled in an accredited postsecondary institution. No graduate level or higher applicants please.
- * Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0.

**The application is available online at
<http://www.colage.org/scholarship.html>**

Questions?

Contact COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) via phone: 415-861-KIDS (5437) or email: colage@colage.org. This application is also available at www.colage.org

How to Apply for Summer Internships

Deadline: Friday, April 8th 2005

Postmark by April 8th, email or fax by midnight on April 8th

Please mail, email, or fax us the following information:

1. Your resume;
2. A cover letter sharing your interest in working for COLAGE and qualifications;
3. Contact information for two people who will serve as references and can attest to your experience and skills.

Select applicants will be invited to participate in an interview during April. Internships will be offered during May.

COLAGE also has Fall/Spring work-study internships. If you are interested, contact COLAGE for more information.

Need more info? Want to apply?

COLAGE, 3543 18th St, #1

SF CA 94110

phone: 415-861-5437 fax (415) 255-8345,

meredith@colage.org www.colage.org

The Felicia Park-Rogers Summer Internship Program at COLAGE

Come work in the national headquarters of COLAGE this summer! COLAGE engages, connects and empowers people to make the world a better place for children of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT) parents and families.

The Felicia Park-Rogers Internship Program

The COLAGE Summer Internship Program is named after our visionary former director Felicia Park-Rogers who started the summer intern program during her leadership of COLAGE. We honor her commitment to people with LGBT parents, creativity, energy and years of leadership through 10-week internships that promote development of young leadership, allow participants a hands-on look at the non-profit field, teach interns about LGBT families issues, and promise to be a lot of fun!

COLAGE is the only national organization serving people with LGBT parents, therefore presenting a unique perspective on LGBT issues, and providing a once in a lifetime opportunity for interns. This is a hands-on job: you won't just be filing, you'll get to use your creativity and initiative. We are looking for team players who are motivated to learn, share, play, and work hard in support of COLAGE's mission. Interns will assist the staff on current or new projects that fit their interests and skills. At the same time, interns will provide crucial administrative support to staff. COLAGE is in a small office staffed by a combination of full-time staff, part-time staff, interns, and volunteers where energy, enthusiasm and competence are abundant.

Preferred qualifications

- Computer literate (especially on PC's), knowledge of data bases, HTML, and desktop publishing programs a plus.
- Experience and comfort with email and phone-based organizing and networking.
- Experience and comfort working with youth and families
- Knowledge and/or interest in LGBT Family issues
- Self-motivated, flexible, and full of initiative
- People with LGBT parent/s

Requirements

Summer interns receive a \$2,000 stipend for a ten-week, full time internship including some evenings and weekends. We will do our best to help you find housing if you need it.

- Must make at least a ten-week, full-time commitment during the summer.
- Must be 18 or over if not from the Bay Area, 15 or over from the Bay Area.
- Must be LGBT, youth -positive and committed to social justice.

COLAGE is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer

- People of color, people with disabilities, and people with LGBT parents especially encouraged to apply.



Creating connections, empowering voices

October 16, 2002

Dear Friends:

Greetings from COLAGE! So many exciting things are happening on both the national and local levels at COLAGE as we continue to engage, connect, and empower people with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT) parents and families. The past year has been a challenging time for both our community and the world at large. The current global climate demands that COLAGE continue to be part of the struggle for a safe, just, and celebratory world for our families and for ALL families.

A very exciting announcement is the birth of Benjamin Jonah Park-Rogers Timoner, the son of our Executive Director Felicia Park-Rogers and her partner Rachel Timoner, on July 31st, 2002. We offer congratulations to Felicia and her entire family and can't wait to see Benjamin at future COLAGE events. While Felicia has been out of the office on maternity leave, our staff team has been led by Interim Co-Executive Directors Beth Teper and Cory Pohley and Interim Program Coordinator, Meredith Fenton. Each brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to COLAGE. Additionally, we have been joined by a skilled group of interns. In the summer, Kelly Densmore, Katy Chate, and Sarah Austin helped fulfill COLAGE's programs and this fall, Danielle Turner and Nikki Cruz have been integral to the day-to-day administrative and communications activities of COLAGE.

This fall also brings some terrific news for Bay Area children, youth and families. Through two significant first-time grants from the city of San Francisco, COLAGE is collaborating with the SF LGBT Community Center, Our Family Coalition (OFC), LYRIC, and New Leaf to develop a variety of programs for COLAGE's and LGBT families. As part of this groundbreaking collaboration, COLAGE and OFC will present monthly complementary workshops for parents and children. In November, the topic is schools with COLAGE presenting "Tools for School: A workshop about Tackling Homophobia in Schools for Kids with LGBT parents," for 5th-8th graders. Concurrently, OFC presents "What Every LGBT Parent Needs to Know About School Selection." Both events will take place on Tuesday, November 12th from 7-8:30 pm at the SF LGBT Center. Childcare will be available in the Center's Kidspace.

Entering its fifth year, the COLAGE Bay Area Middle School group is a fun way for COLAGE youth to connect with others for support, recreation, education, empowerment and fun! Now meeting the third Sunday of each month, this group creates a unique, safe space for kids with LGBT parents. To sign up, please contact Meredith in our office.

The 7th Annual COLAGE Bowl-a-Thon is quickly approaching! Our largest Bay Area event, a day of fun, games, prizes, support, and fundraising will be on Sunday, December 7th from 1-3 pm at Yerba Buena Bowling Center. Please see the enclosed flyer and pledge forms to learn more about this Bay Area favorite event. Outside of our local program work, COLAGE continues our ongoing national projects such as the Pen Pal program, email news and chat lists, summer Family Weeks, production of *Just For Us*, and more. We are also creating a new Youth Leadership Development program that will engage teenage COLAGE's in leadership, media advocacy, and activism on both local and national levels.

As you can see the work ahead of us is immense and visionary. Your support of COLAGE is critical through your active participation in our local and national programs and generous financial support. As always, we love hearing how we might better serve you and your family and welcome your contributions of time, money, and resources.

We look forward to seeing you at the Bowl-a-Thon and our Center programs, and hope your family is enjoying a joyous and safe fall season. Thank you for being an important part of the COLAGE Bay Area family. With pride,

Beth Teper, Interim Co-Executive Director
Meredith Fenton, Interim Program Coordinator

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
415-861-KIDS(5437) fax: 415-255-8345
www.colage.org colage@colage.org
3543 18th Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94110

College Bowl-A-Thon!
7th Annual



4827
Ray Koskovich
PO Box 14301
San Francisco CA 94114-0301

1 4

3543 18th St. #1
San Francisco, CA 94110



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Support and activism by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender parents

Ray Koskovich
P.O. Box 14301
San Francisco, CA 94114

Dear Ray,

We are honored to introduce ourselves to you and share some of the powerful work your support has enabled COLAGE to do over the past year. We are the new Co-Chairs of the Board of Directors of COLAGE. I, Kate Ranson-Walsh, have a gay dad and have been actively involved with COLAGE for the last 10 years, since I was 12 years old, including serving on the Board of Directors for the last six years. And I, Kate Kuvalanaka, have a lesbian mom and have been a volunteer leading COLAGE groups for youth in Boston and the Metro DC area throughout the last five years.

We are both a part of COLAGE because it has enriched our lives, providing us with community and leadership opportunities we couldn't find anywhere else. We've seen it do the same for hundreds of others. And we know COLAGE's accomplishments in advocacy and public education have improved society for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (lgbt) families and *all* families.

You previously helped COLAGE do its crucial work. We thank you and ask for your continued support. *Would you consider a special, end-of-the-year contribution of \$25.00 to engage, connect, and empower people with lgbt parents?*

Here are just a few of the many ways your generosity has made it possible for us to work together to create a world that is safe, just and celebratory for *all* families:

<p>ADVOCACY</p> <p>Every year, COLAGE mobilizes young people to influence policy-makers at local, state, and federal levels regarding legal decisions and legislation that affect LGBT families.</p> <p>This year, we partnered with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and others in regards to the <i>Sharon S. v. Superior Court</i> second-parent adoption dispute, and served as an information resource to media and concerned families about the implications of the court ruling.</p>	<p>PUBLIC EDUCATION</p> <p>Every year, COLAGE trains and connects young people with venues for public education in the media, schools, and other institutions.</p> <p>This year, we advised Nickelodeon News for their first ever program addressing gay kids with LGBT parents, was hosted by Linda Ellerbee and Rosie O'Donnell, and featured three COLAGE youth members, including 14 year old Marina Gatto, who includes a message to you with this letter.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY BUILDING</p> <p>Every year, COLAGE connects thousands of young people to important resources and to each other providing validation, celebration, and safe nurturing opportunities to exchange information, feelings, and ideas with peers.</p> <p>This year, we sent our outstanding newsletter, <i>Just For Us</i> to over 2000 households, and matched more than 200 COLAGE youth (ages 6 to 20) with Pen Pal partners in 36 states and 4 countries.</p>
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As a result of these activities, COLAGE participants overwhelmingly report:

(over, please)

- ❖ Increased personal self-esteem and confidence,
- ❖ Increased awareness of LGBT civil rights issues, and
- ❖ Increased involvement and leadership in activism.

Such successes inspire our continued commitment to COLAGE because our progress is encouraging, yet often our families are ignored, disrespected, and scapegoated by public officials and public policy. A recent ABC News poll indicated that 42% of Americans still disapprove of adoption by gay and lesbian parents. With this kind of news, it is easy to feel like nobody cares about the very real problems and discrimination faced by COLAGERS.

Who cares about bringing youth with LGBT parents together to bond and develop leadership skills? WE DO.

Who cares about creating forums for people with LGBT parents to counter attacks on LGBT family rights? WE DO.

Who cares about creating a future in which kids born today grow up free from the shadow of homophobia? WE DO.

WE CARE AND WE TAKE ACTION.

No other organization in the world exists specifically for people with LGBT parents. No other group of people have the necessary knowledge, experience, and passion to create and run programs like the COLAGE Pen Pal Partners, Online Chatists for kids of all ages, national Speaker's Bureau, workshops for children and youth at our annual Family Weeks, or our outstanding publication, "Just For Us". It is your financial support that makes all of this possible.

If COLAGE is going to continue to offer our innovative and unique services it will be because of the support of people like you. Though it's always been a challenge to meet the vast needs of our families, COLAGE has never experienced a financial challenge as serious as the one we now face. The national economic downturn and continuing repercussions of September 11 have had a devastating impact on the non-profit and foundation sectors. We are asking you to ensure your organization is sustained and grows.

Neither of us have much money to spare. Yet we know that if we didn't help, COLAGE could not exist. And we know that the world is a better place because COLAGE does exist. So, we each give a monthly pledge, on top of our many volunteer hours. We invite you to join our commitment and help sustain COLAGE's important work year-round. A monthly pledge of \$10 - \$100 goes a long way toward making a world we can all live in safely and happily.

Thank you for investing in COLAGE today. Together we make a difference!

In solidarity and gratitude,

*Kate Ranson-Walsh
Kate Kovalanka*

Kate Ranson-Walsh and Kate Kovalanka
Co-Chairs, Board of Directors

P.S. There is still time to participate in the challenge grant from the Gill Foundation. Your gift is eligible for a dollar for dollar match! That means a gift today of \$100 becomes \$200! There is no better time to make your contribution count twice as much.

P.P.S. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. COLAGE's Tax ID# is 94-3316616. Please mail or fax your donation to improve the lives of kids, youth, and adults with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families today. Thank you!

COLAGE Family Highlight

Message from Marina Gatto and her lesbian mom, Ramona Gatto

My mom first took me to COLAGE when I was little, and I met lots of other fun kids who had two moms, or two dads. I used to participate with the COLAGE Middle School Group where we talked, made things, and went on trips and outings. Now I belong to a COLAGE group for teens where we do trainings and projects to raise awareness and fight discrimination. I know that other kids, schools, camps, teachers don't always understand about me having two moms, but I'm never ashamed about my family. I just think there's more work to be done teaching people. I'm proud of my moms, and I know they are proud of me. The more you feel good about who you are, about your family, about making the world a better place, the better you will feel about your place in the world too. I want to make a difference for other kids in this world, and for other families like mine.

--Marina Gatto, 14



Marina with her moms, Ramona and Azu

When I first came out and Marina was very young, we were fortunate enough to be referred to COLAGE by someone. Like most other alternative families, our family has gone through more than our share of life's hardships imposed by a world who views this family as a threat, an abomination, or just plain wrong. Admittedly at times it's tough, and true pain is watching your child be hurt or treated badly because of who you are, and knowing you can do nothing to stop it. While at first I was a bit apprehensive about taking her to COLAGE, what I ended up finding was an organization that helped my daughter find friends from families like hers, find her voice, and find the confidence and passion it takes in taking a stand for something you believe in.

With older COLAGE kids as role models, Marina was able to hear the experiences they had been through good and bad, how they handled things she was currently experiencing, and what kinds of things to expect. For both Marina and myself, this has made such a difference in our lives, and it helped us to feel not so alone, to feel like we weren't the only other ones in the world. For Marina, who has gone to school being the only child from an alternative family her whole life, and being raised in a community with few gay people and no other alternative families, this was important and helpful beyond words. It gave her an understanding of the world that I could never have replaced in some other way, because it came from kids who had been through it.

--Ramona Gatto



YES! I/we want COLAGE to continue to engage, connect, and empower people to make the world a better place for children of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

- \$500 \$250 \$100
 \$75 \$50 \$35
 Other: \$ _____

This is a:

- Monthly Pledge Quarterly Pledge
 I have enclosed a check made out to COLAGE
 I prefer to charge my: VISA Mastercard

Card # _____ / _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Name/s _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Home Phone Number _____

Email address _____

-----Cut-----form-----here----- Please complete this form and return in the enclosed envelope

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. This includes not only sales and purchases but also any other financial activities that may occur. It is essential to ensure that all entries are properly documented and supported by appropriate evidence.

In addition, it is important to regularly review and reconcile the accounts to ensure that they are up-to-date and accurate. This process helps to identify any discrepancies or errors early on, allowing them to be corrected before they become more significant.

Finally, it is crucial to maintain a clear and organized system for storing and retrieving financial records. This can be achieved through the use of proper filing techniques and the implementation of a robust accounting system.

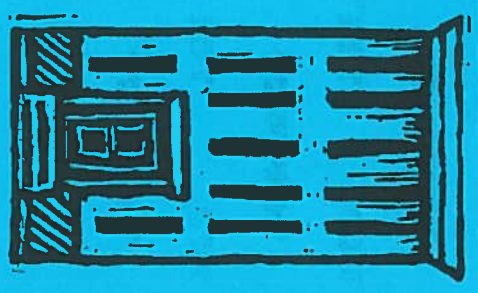
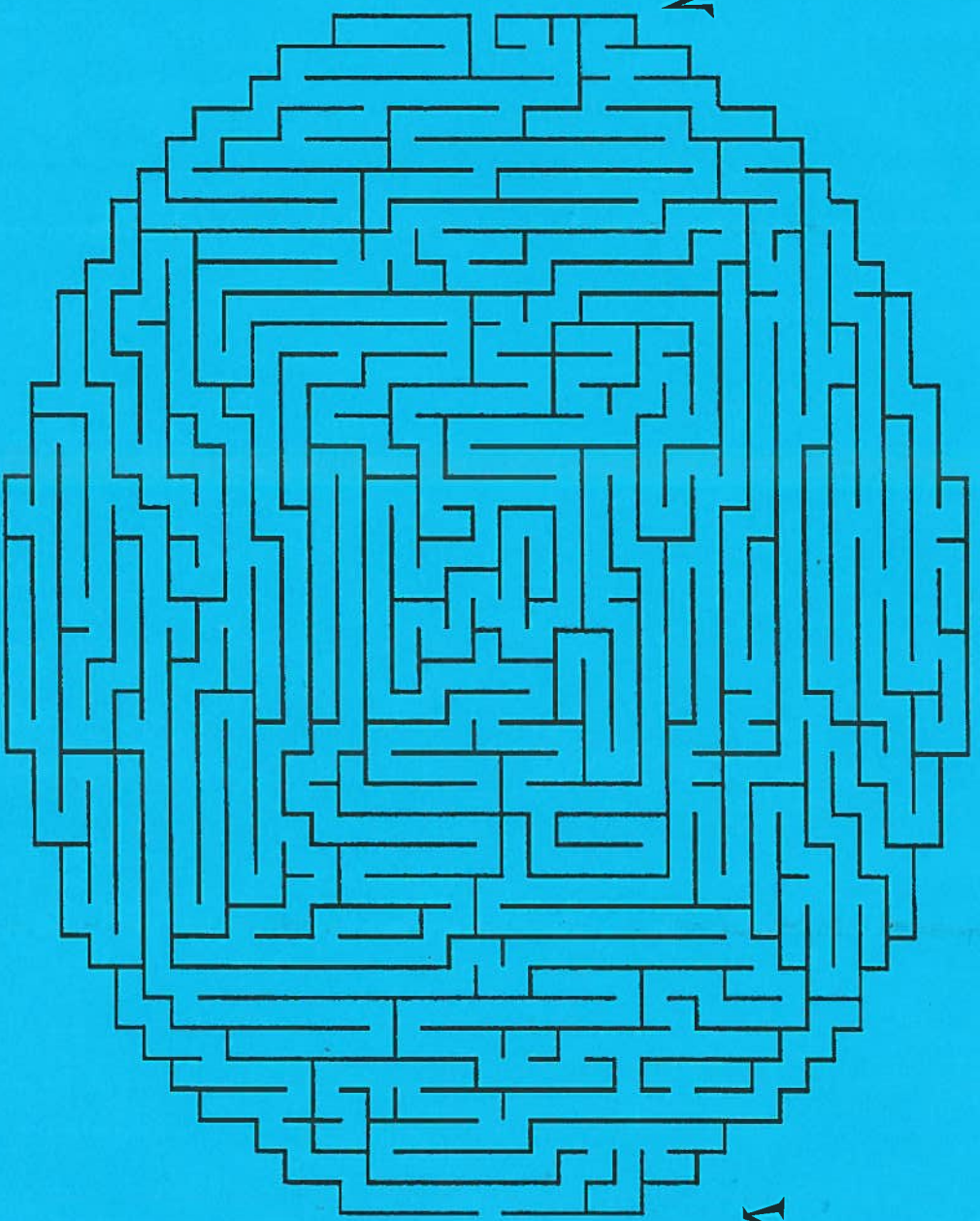
By following these guidelines, you can ensure that your financial records are accurate, complete, and easy to access. This will help you to make informed decisions and maintain the financial health of your business.

The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the various accounting methods and techniques used in the industry. This includes a discussion of the different types of accounts, the rules governing their use, and the various methods for calculating and reporting financial results.

Overall, this document serves as a comprehensive guide to the principles and practices of accounting. It is designed to help you understand the underlying concepts and to apply them effectively in your own work.

HELP THE QUEERSPAWN GET TO THE COLAGE MEETING ON TIME

QUEERSPAWN



COLAGE!

WELCOME TO

COMPLETE THIS MAZE AND SEND IT IN TO COLAGE TO BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE. WINNING ENTRIES WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE!!
COLAGE, 1550 BRYANT ST SUITE 830, SAN FRANCISCO CA, 94103



I want to become a COLAGE Member!



Enclosed is my check for:

\$35 (Individuals) \$60 (Families) \$120

\$240 \$600 other

Please charge my credit card:

VISA MASTERCARD

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

I want more information about COLAGE Bay Area groups and activities:

Youth Leadership and Action Program (teens)

SF Middle School (6 - 8 graders)

SF COLAGE Crew (3 - 5 graders)

COLAGE Special Events (for the whole family)

I want to volunteer for COLAGE!

East Bay Middle School (6 - 8 graders)

East Bay COLAGE Crew (3 - 5 graders)

COLAGE Diversity Workshops (for every audience)

Sign me up for Bay Area Net News

Family Contact Information:

Name(s) of youth(s): _____

Name(s) of parent(s): _____

Phone(s): H/() W/() C/()

Email: _____

Birthdate (youth): _____

Wanna win a prize? Complete the maze on the back and send it into COLAGE by September 30th. All entries will be entered into a raffle.

Celebrate LGBT Family Pride

with Our Family Coalition
& COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians
And Gays Everywhere)!



PRIDE EVENTS
JUNE 2006



94102+4113-75 0003

Terence Kissack
657 Mission St #300
San Francisco, CA 94107

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
BERKELEY, CA
PERMIT NO. 1450

Our Family Coalition
870 Market Street, Suite 872
San Francisco, CA 94102



Our Family Coalition & COLAGE Celebrate LGBT Family Pride!



SUNDAY JUNE 4, 1:00-4:00PM

SF COLAGE PRIDE PARTY



Party for all SF youth 7 and up who have one or more LGBT parents. Come for food and fun. We will be getting ready for PRIDE and celebrating a year of awesome COLAGE groups and activities. *Location: LYRIC, 127 Collingwood St.*

SUNDAY JUNE 11, 3:30-5:30PM

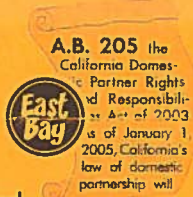
EAST BAY COLAGE PRIDE & POOL PARTY



A pool party and arts and crafts for youth in grades 3-12 with LGBT parents. Swim and play games, enjoy snacks and get ready for Pride! Don't forget a swimsuit and towel, and dry clothes for after we swim! Parents must come into the building to drop off their kids and fill our paper work. *Location: Berkeley YMCA at 2001 Allston Way in Berkeley.*

WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 7:00-8:30PM

2006 LEGAL UPDATE FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES & FAMILIES IN CALIFORNIA: Adoption, Parentage, Property & Estate Planning



Join BANANAS, Our Family Coalition, and attorneys Deborah Wald (www.waldlaw.net) and Alma Soon-gi Beck (www.becklawgroup.com) for a workshop that will cover the latest information on LGBT adoption, donor insemination, surrogacy and co-parenting issues; plus property and estate planning for LGBT families. Discussion will include the impact of AB 205 and the recent California Supreme Court decisions on our families. *Location: BANANAS at 5232 Claremont Ave. in Oakland; enter from back of building at second floor. Limited, free, on-site child care. Please RSVP to aimee@ourfamily.org or 415-981-1960.*

THURSDAY JUNE 15, 7:00-9:00PM

COLAGE WORLD PREMIERE OF MYTHSMASHERS & PRIDE PARTY



The members of the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program (YLAP) are thrilled to invite you to a special event celebrating the premiere of a new play MYTHSMASHERS.



Created by YLAP and Fringe Benefits, this play will be used in middle schools to bust some common myths and stereotypes about youth with LGB and/or T parents. There will be a silent auction, food, and plenty of fun for the entire family. *Donations requested at the door. Location: Brava Theater, 2781 24th St at Bryant.*

FRIDAY JUNE 23, TIME TBA

TRANNNY MARCH



Come hang out and march with COLAGE and Our Family Coalition at the Tranny March. We will have fun activities in the park and march with our friends and family. *Location: Dolores Park, 18th & Dolores Streets.*

Our Family Coalition & COLAGE Co-Sponsor FAMILY FILMS AT FRAMELINE 30



The San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival

For descriptions and updated information, please visit: <http://www.frameline.org/festival/30th>

SUNDAY JUNE 18, 10:30AM: THE MANY ADVENTURES OF WINNIE THE POOH. *Free for ages 12 and under. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St. at Market.*

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21, 1:15PM: MOM'S APPLE PIE / QUEER SPAWN. *Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St.*

JUNE 24, 11AM: BEYOND CONCEPTION *Roxie Film Center, 3117 16th St. at Valencia.*



SUNDAY, JUNE 25 10:30AM

PRIDE PARADE & FAMILY GARDEN



Join Our Family Coalition & COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere) to march in the San Francisco Pride Parade! Come hang out with us, because once the parade starts it will all be over too quickly. Bring snacks, water and other goodies to keep the kiddies occupied. Visit www.ourfamily.org for updates.

Our Family Coalition & COLAGE are especially proud to announce the **3rd Annual Family Garden**, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, which will be located at the south playground on the corner of Larkin & Grove Streets. The Family Garden will feature art activities, face painting and a playground. Parents can meet other LGBT parents, rest while the children play, and receive information about OFC and COLAGE at our booth.

Volunteers Needed! Contact aimee@ourfamily.org. Let's make this the best Pride ever!



KAISER PERMANENTE



11th Annual

BOWL-A-THON

Response Form

YES! We want to support COLAGE at the 11th Annual Bowl-A-Thon, as indicated below:

- PERFECT GAME Sponsor** **\$2,500**
- STRIKE Sponsor** **\$1,500**
- SPARE Sponsor** **\$1,000**
- ALLEY Sponsor** **\$500**
- TEAM Sponsor** **\$250**

- Enclosed is a check made out to COLAGE.**
- I would like to pay by credit card.**
 VISA MASTERCARD #: _____ Exp. Date: _____
- I am faxing this form and a check will follow by mail.**

Contact Person for logos and other advertising needs:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Business Name: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



11th Annual

BOWL-A-THON

A FUN FAMILY EVENT BENEFITING COLAGE

More than your typical fundraiser, COLAGE's 11th Annual Bowl-A-Thon is an event where families and friends come together to have fun and support COLAGE's important work. Now in its 11th year, the Bowl-A-Thon is a family tradition and community celebration. In this event bowlers solicit donations from their family, friends, colleagues and local businesses. On the day of the Bowl-A-Thon donations are turned in to COLAGE and then it's bowl time!

The Bowl-A-Thon is COLAGE's largest fundraising event of the year, raising more money and gathering more people each year. Taking place at the Yerba Buena Bowling Center, this promises to be a time for celebration and fun for all.

Date:	December 3rd, 2006
Number of Participants:	300-400
Location:	Yerba Buena Bowling Center

Promotional Opportunities for your Business:



National newsletter *Just For Us*: circulation 3,000 households



COLAGE Bay Area Website: 1,000 hits per week



Bowl-A-Thon Program Book: 300-400 copies



Press Release: major media outlets across the bay area



Event Mailing: 4000 businesses & homes across the bay area



Bay Area NetNews: circulation 4000

Benefits of sponsorship on reverse!



11th Annual

BOWL-A-THON

Benefits of Sponsorship

PERFECT GAME Sponsor: \$2,500

Full Page Advertisement in Program
 (Back cover, inside cover, inside front)
 Name listed on all press releases
 Name included in all mailings for event
 "Spotlight" in *Just For Us* Newsletter
 Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area Website
 Recognition at event
 Recognition in thank you letters to all
 Bowl-A-Thon Donors



STRIKE Sponsor: \$1,500

Half-Page Advertisement in Program
 Name listed on all press releases
 Name included in all mailings for event
 Recognition in *Just For Us* Newsletter
 Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website
 Recognition at event

SPARE Sponsor: \$1000

Half-Page Advertisement in Program
 Recognition in *Just For Us* Newsletter
 Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website
 Recognition at event



ALLEY Sponsor: \$500

Business Card Advertisement in Program
 Recognition in *Just For Us* Newsletter
 Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website
 Recognition at event

TEAM Sponsor: \$250

Business name in Program
 Recognition in *Just For Us* Newsletter
 Recognition on COLAGE Bay Area website
 Recognition at the event



**In-kind gifts welcome. Contact
 Ember Cook at 415-861-5437 or
 ember@colage.org with any
 questions about how to contribute.**

COLAGE

CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE

END-OF-YEAR PLEDGE FORM

YES! I will join you as a donor to COLAGE. Please check the donation level.

- \$ 1 0 , 0 0 0 F O U N D E R
- \$ 5 , 0 0 0 B E N E F A C T O R
- \$ 2 , 5 0 0 P A T R O N
- \$ 1 , 0 0 0 S P O N S O R
- \$ 5 0 0 F R I E N D
- \$ 2 5 0 P A T R O N
- \$ _____ O T H E R

-
- I prefer to pledge \$ _____ payable monthly quarterly semi-annually
- Double my gift. My employer's matching gift form is enclosed.
- I would like to make a contribution of marketable securities. Please contact me.
- I am making a United Way donation to COLAGE (*use COLAGE's name and address to designate*).

Enclosed is a check made payable to COLAGE for: \$ _____.

Charge my VISA Mastercard Discover American Express for \$ _____.

Signature _____ Name on card _____

Card # _____ Expiration date _____

Name(s)

Organization Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone - *day*

evening

email

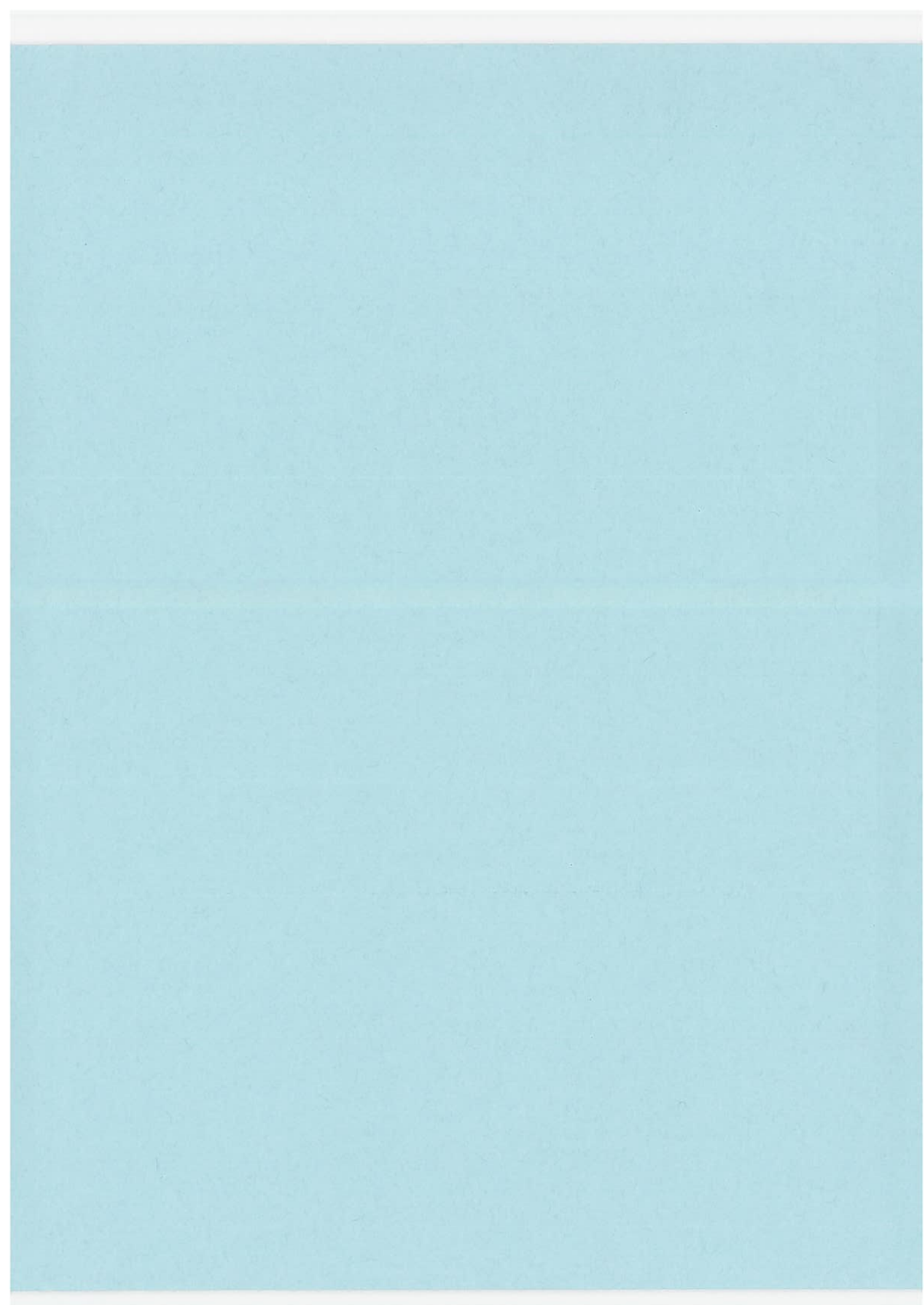
Please mail this form to:

COLAGE
3543 18th Street, #17
San Francisco, CA 94110

Or fax back to:

Fax 415/255-8345

Your contribution to COLAGE is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Thank you!





Title: National Program Coordinator

Organization: COLAGE

Full time, exempt position.

Position Overview

The COLAGE Program Coordinator supports and oversees programs with and for diverse populations of children, youth, and adults who have one or more LGBTQ parents nationally. Primary responsibilities are planning and executing local and regional events often in partnership with other organizations, coordination of pen pal, scholarship and online community programs for constituents, and overall support of the Program Director and COLAGE national programs. The Coordinator is also responsible for related outreach, organizing, volunteer recruitment and management, program evaluation, administration, reporting, media relations and fundraising.

The range of tasks is varied and must be completed in a fast-paced, supportive and fun environment. This is a position for an energetic, motivated and highly organized candidate and is an outstanding opportunity to help grow a leading youth, LGBT, family organization working for social justice.

Organization

COLAGE is a national movement of children, youth and adults who have one or more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer parents. We build community and work toward social justice through youth empowerment, leadership development, education and advocacy. Based in San Francisco, COLAGE offers an integrated array of local, regional and national programs. To learn more, visit www.colage.org.

Responsibilities Include

- Coordinate COLAGE's programming during one-day and weekend events across the country including recruitment, training and support of volunteers, program planning, outreach, curricula development, and collaborative efforts with host and co-sponsoring organizations;
- Coordination of national pen pal program and maintenance of online communities for children, youth and adults with LGBTQ parents;
- Coordinate the outreach and administration of the COLAGE undergraduate scholarship program;
- Provide support to all of COLAGE's national programs, conferences, community forums and outreach functions in coordination with the Program Director through training of trainers, volunteer development, relationship building, information and referral, new program development, research and evaluation;
- Help grow COLAGE's membership, particularly in communities of color and among other historically oppressed groups and underrepresented constituents;
- Engage COLAGErs of color and COLAGErs in communities of color to develop programs and ensure COLAGE's work and plans are informed by, reflective of, and responsive to their needs and aspirations;
- Maintain and build close collaborations with local and regional LGBT family groups, vendors and other organizations in mutual community building, education, and advocacy efforts;
- Develop and conduct educational presentations for diverse audiences within the LGBT community as well as for professional development workshops;

- Strategically track and manage program data, fulfill evaluation activities and provide reports for staff, board, and funding sources;
- Assist with development and production of on-line programs and educational materials/publications;
- Provide general administrative and office support.

Skills & Qualifications

- Experience facilitating groups and leading trainings;
- Confidence working with and presenting to youth as well as adults;
- Significant knowledge and/or experience with youth who have LGBTQ parents and/or other populations of youth -- 2-3 years previous experience in areas of grassroots organizing, program development, and/or youth leadership preferred;
- Outstanding interpersonal skills, ability to cultivate relationships with a variety of people: must have demonstrated cultural competence in working with diverse populations, including communities of color, immigrants, boys/men, girls/women, and transgender persons, lesbians, gays, and bisexuals, persons of varying ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, health status and abilities, as well as commitment to diversifying organizations and building anti-racist and multicultural alliances;
- Excellent oral, writing, research, listening, and organizational skills, including demonstrated ability to plan events, juggle numerous details and multiple tasks;
- Experience in developing and presenting workshops, educational seminars or other public speaking;
- Experience with recruitment and support of volunteers and leading a team;
- Excellent computer literacy in word processing, data entry & manipulation, mail merges and desktop publishing;
- Dependable, self-motivated with ability to work independently and as part of a team; maintains punctual project management and meets deadlines;
- Willing and able to travel;
- Willing to work a schedule that includes weekend and week-long events;
- Bi-lingual (Español/Ingles) a plus (please note in cover letter or resume);
- Internet savvy.

Compensation: Annual Salary \$35,000+ (commensurate with experience), plus excellent benefits (including three weeks paid vacation and full range of health care insurance)

To Apply

PLEASE SEND YOUR APPLICATION BY POSTAL MAIL... NOT EMAIL

Include a cover letter, resume, and 2-3 references (contact info only) to:

*Program Coordinator Hiring Committee
COLAGE
1550 Bryant Street, Suite 830
San Francisco, CA 94103*

Interviews will begin in early February, 2008. This position will remain open until filled.

COLAGE is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer who strives to reflect our diverse constituents.

People of color and people with LGBT parents are strongly encouraged to apply.



Support and activism by and for people with
lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender parents

January 22, 2009

Hello friend!

Last November, a few days after the election, COLAGE and Our Family Coalition hosted a Post-Election De-Brief in the East Bay. With three other COLAGE leaders, I facilitated a workshop session focused on their experience of this historic 2008 election. Once we settled in and closed the door, every single person in the room had one or more LGBTQ parent(s). We were able to share our joy over President Obama's election and our anger over the passage of Proposition 8. The space we created that night – COLAGEr-only space – was necessary and profound.

In over six years of organizing with COLAGE in various roles, this work has never felt more vital for all of our families. I am honored with the opportunity to meet Bay Area families – youth, adults, and LGBTQ parents – in this effort to create programming that empowers us to *speaK for ourselves*.

This spring, we are offering two monthly workshop series:

Stand UP, SpeaK OUT – A leadership series for **youth ages 12-18** focused on public speaking and media. Every 3rd Sunday, 2-4pm at the Embarcadero YMCA. See enclosed flyer for details.

We Are Family – Community building series for **youth ages 8-11**. Held during OFC's Mamas & Papas (5-10) Group, this is a great opportunity to meet other LGBTQ families and have fun! Every 3rd Saturday, 4:30-6:30pm at the SF LGBT Center. See flyer.

Also, be sure to join us on **March 24th** for our annual **COLAGE Panel** in the Rainbow Room at the LGBT Center, 6-7:30pm. Come hear from the experts – teens and young adults with LGBTQ parents – about what it's really like to have LGBTQ parents.

Check out the calendar for more events through May. We will send another mailing in a few months with more information about Pride month activities.

Please **RSVP for monthly workshops** by email: monica@colage.org or phone: 415-861-5437. Feel free to contact me with any questions or feedback!

In Pride,

Monica Canfield-Lenfest
COLAGE Bay Area Coordinator

p.s. – Check our blog: www.colage.org/bayarea for upcoming event details. Sign up for Bay Area Net News at www.colage.org.

p.p.s. – Are you an ADULT with LGBTQ parents? Are you interested in hosting and/or attending a potluck with other adult queerspawn in the Bay Area? Would you volunteer a few hours each month to work with youth? There are lots of ways to get involved! Email monica@colage.org.

Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere
415-861-KIDS (5437) fax: 415-255-834!
www.colage.org colage@colage.org

COLAGE Bay Area Events
Winter/Spring 2009



Mark your calendars for these fantastic Bay Area events:

February 8-14th

12th Annual Freedom to Marry Week.

Take a pledge to have 7 Conversations in 7 Days. Email paullie@colage.org or visit www.colage.org for more information.

Tuesday, February 10th, 6:30-8:30pm

Volunteer Corps Meeting. Join other adults (18+) with LGBTQ parents in gaining facilitation skills and building community. Dinner provided. Where: COLAGE, 1550 Bryant St, San Francisco.

Saturday, February 21st, 4:30-6:30pm

We Are Family Activity (ages 8-11) Come make friends, have fun, and talk about having LGBTQ parents. Event occurs during OFC's Mamas & Papas group, every third Saturday through May. Each activity session will feature different games, art projects, movies and more!
Where: SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, SF

Sunday, February 22nd, 2-4pm

Stand Up, Speak Out (ages 12-18) Kick-off event for our spring Youth Leadership series! Build skills and make change with COLAGE Bay Area. Pizza will be served.
Where: Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart St, San Francisco

Sunday March 15th, 1pm-4pm

Oakland Museum Family Day. Join COLAGE and other Bay Area organizations for a special day for ALL families! Activities included in price of admission.
Where: Oakland Museum of CA, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland.

Saturday March 21st, 4:30-6:30pm

We Are Family Activity (ages 8-11)
See February 21st for description.
Where: SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, SF

Sunday March 22nd, 2-4pm

Stand Up, Speak Out (ages 12-18) Public Speaking Skill Share. Improve your public speaking skills and prepare for our COLAGE Panel on March 24th.
Where: Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart St, San Francisco

Tuesday, March 24th, 6-7:30pm

COLAGE Panel. Hear about LGBTQ families from the experts – youth and young adults with LGBTQ parents.
Where: Rainbow Room, SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, SF

Saturday, April 18th, 4:30-6:30pm

We Are Family Activity (ages 8-11)
See February 21st for description.
Where: SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, SF

Sunday, April 19th, 2-4pm

Stand Up, Speak Out (ages 12-18) Digital Storytelling. Create your own video for the COLAGE YouTube Channel.
Where: Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart St, San Francisco

Saturday, May 16th, 4:30-6:30pm

We Are Family Activity (ages 8-11)
See February 21st for description.
Where: SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street, SF

Sunday, May 17th, 2-4pm

Stand Up, Speak Out (ages 12-18) Celebration! Watch the digital videos created in April, honor our accomplishments and get excited for Pride month!
Where: Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart St, San Francisco

For all events, **please RSVP at least one week in advance** to monica@colage.org. Contact monica@colage.org or visit www.colage.org/bay area for more information.

COLAGE Bay Area and OFC's Mamas & Papas are teaming up!

We Are Family



Bay Area

Fun monthly activities for youth ages 8 to 11 with one or more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer parents, facilitated by adults with LGBTQ parents.

Every 3rd Saturday at the **San Francisco LGBT Center**, 1800 Market St, SF

4:30-5pm – Family dinner with parents and youth ages 5 and up

5-6:30pm – COLAGE activity for 8-11 year olds

Mamas & Papas Group for parents of ages 5-10

Kidspace childcare for 5-7 year olds

Make new friends with LGBTQ parents!

Have fun!

Make art!

Play games!

Talk about our families!

Join Us **4:30-6:30pm** -- **February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16**

PARENTS – Please contact Our Family Coalition to RSVP for Mamas & Papas and childcare for younger children (under 8 years old):
www.ourfamily.org

PLEASE NOTE – COLAGE programming is drop-in, so youth can participate in our activity without their parents attending Mamas & Papas.

RSVP for COLAGE at least one week in advance – monica@colage.org or 415-861-5437

ARE YOU 12-18 YEARS OLD?



DO YOU HAVE ONE OR MORE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND/OR QUEER PARENTS (S)?



**IN THE WAKE OF PROP 8 AND A HISTORIC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION...
ARE YOU READY TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD?**



BAY AREA presents:

Stand UP, Speak OUT!

GAIN PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS!

CREATE YOUR OWN MEDIA!

MEET OTHER YOUTH WITH LGBTQ PARENTS!

Every 3rd Sunday at the Embarcadero YMCA, 169 Steuart ST, SF

MARK your CALENDAR

February 22 – Kick-off Party! Join us for pizza and a viewing of COLAGErs in the media.

March 22- Public Speaking! Improve your skills for speaking out. Then, Speak Out to your local community as part of our **TEEN PANEL** on Tuesday **March 24** at the SF LGBT Center!

April 19 – Digital Storytelling! Speak out to the **WORLD** by creating your own YouTube video, which will appear on COLAGE's YouTube Channel.

May 17 – Speak OUT! Celebrate all that you've done and screen the digital videos. Get excited for Pride month.

RSVP to Monica@colage.org or call 415-861-5437 for more information.

Attend all four sessions and be entered in a raffle to win a prize!

Richard Chamberlain: Why I'm Sorry I've Never Had Children



Defining the Serious Buff



Stocks up 0.55 Page C1

San Francisco Examiner

★★★★ Final edition Complete stocks

120th Year No. 282

Monday, May 6, 1985

25c

Gay Fathers Exposed!

Laughs, Tears & Tickles About Gay Fathers

the Holocaust Page B1
Death camps silent testimony to Nazi horror Page A5

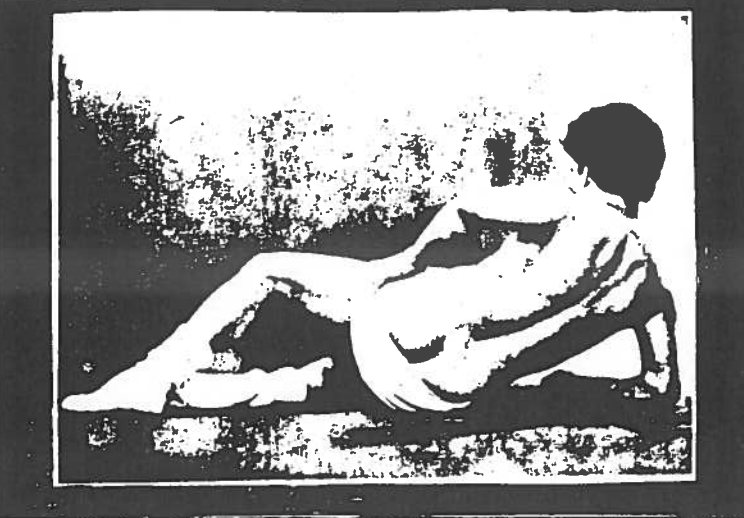
MADRID (AP) — President Menem's visit to Spain has become a national and international issue as a new challenge from Spanish leaders who are under pressure to open military bases and withdraw from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The president here for a two-day visit after visiting West Germany, Menem will speak to "young people of Europe" and help end the threat of nuclear war this 10-day European tour ends Friday, after visits to France and Portugal.

Spain's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia greeted Reagan and his wife, Nancy, when they arrived at Madrid's Barajas Airport in late afternoon and escorted them to their quarters at the Prado Palace, which was the home of Gen. Francisco Franco during his 36-year rule.

An estimated 25,000 anti-American demonstrators marched in several Spanish cities yesterday, and police

Let's clear up the myths



Robin Johnson is attended to by firemen before a trip to the hospital that followed an accident today on S280 near 10th Avenue. The 23-year-old San Francisco resident lost control of his southbound pickup truck, overturned and skidded about 150 feet. Fire Capt. James Farry said, "He's very, very lucky. ... That someone behind didn't ram the truck, it could have been a race."

Now. Share the secret

By Dennis J. Opatry
 Examiner staff writer

Charles William Bradford today paid \$481,351.70 to back rent, a major step toward keeping his reversible store on the ground floor of the city-owned Sutter-Stockton garage.

Last week Bradford agreed to open to city officials all his financial records, including corporate tax returns, dating back to 1980.

City Attorney George Agnost announced the payment and said "This clears up the rental reference to date from 1981. This is the first step for Mr. Bradford and his creative art to be thrown out of the garbage."

Legally Agnost said, Bradford could not have done another business deal all his own in 1984, and evidence in only covers the previous year's rent. Bradford, however, is seeking removal of his 10-year lease with the city.

Jeffrey Lerebourg, Bradford's new attorney, headed the city attorney's team that drove Bradford from three San Francisco buildings as payment for the Sutter-Stockton garage and back rent that Bradford owes.

The money was obtained by loans from the Bank of America, Seafirst Bank and Charles Bank, Lerebourg said. The loans were co-signed by himself, Joseph Krasner, Bradford's partner in his women's store across the street from the garage and Jack Goldmann, secretary of William Bradford, Ltd.

If Bradford defaults on the loans, Lerebourg said all that would be liable for their repayment.

The \$481,351.70 represents the

Today

- City/State**
 The last hotel in a Tenderloin neighborhood has turned down an offer from the new owner to move out so the place can be renovated, and perhaps converted into a tourist hotel. Page B1.
- Opinion**
 Congress skittish performance on budget (renewed) suggests the need to turn instead to budget freezing. Editorials, Page B2.
- Business**
 A Justice Department prosecutor says that the bank fraud scheme to which E.F. Hutton & Co. pleaded guilty last week involved much more money than previously indicated. Page C1.
- Weather**
 Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain in the north. Fair elsewhere. High 60, low 40 to 55 tonight; high 60 to 75 tomorrow. Details, Page B7.

Contents

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Bay Area	F6	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F7	Robert Maza	C1
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Bay Area	F19	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F20	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F21	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F22	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F23	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F24	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F25	Robert Maza	C1
Bay Area	F26	Robert Maza	C1
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A Warts-And-All Out of the EXPOSURE Closets

By Stephen Salter
 Examiner staff writer

When he opened his shop in the late '50s, Johnny Skoutas was one of seven bartenders on Clement Street between Second and Ninth avenues. Now he is the only one, and his days are long.

"The shopkeeper next door to me, 38 years he was here," he said. "Some new people bought the building and told him his rent was going from \$300 to \$1,200. He didn't even negotiate. He was just gone."

"I got a lot," he said of a recent monthly rent increase from \$300 to \$800. "And I'm on a month-to-month lease. No lease."

Skoutas claims the city of many so-called rent-and-grip actions that in recent years have been either pushed out of San Francisco neighborhoods or being rent is forced to close. With almost no data but increasingly successful testimony from all over the

er arbitration boards and commercial rent control in the narrow parking lot control in the narrow parking lot. There's nothing in this City to protect the small businessman," he said. "There's no place for him to go except to if he got a problem."

More and more frequently, there are discussions about the 200 percent rent increase and overpaid evictions in every neighborhood, some eliminating the special status that used to be in a block. But city officials have not yet begun to test the flexing of political muscle that makes



MARILYN MARIE CONNOR
 Snapshot of Napa victim

We're here to help.

By Gerald Adams
 Examiner urban planning writer

Marye Frenette is preparing to announce her support of a controversial "zip" on downtown development, reliable sources informed the Examiner today.

Limits on downtown growth have been sought by critics of San Francisco's expanding skyline, and one group has threatened to bring the matter before the voters if the City doesn't act.

Chairman of Committee Executive Director Jane Jacobs said Frenette announced last Thursday that she was contemplating the endorsement of a zoning plan of 600,000 square feet.

Last year, the City approved 1.8 million square feet of office space for construction for this year, although projects totaling over 2 million square feet are under review on account for office space have been approved for construction.

Under Frenette's plan, the City had several thousand that Frenette would create

The Exhilaration Of Starting Anew

By Richard F. Harris
 Examiner science writer

Someday tomorrow, the radioactive core of the Diablo Canyon nuclear reactor Unit 1 will reach a temperature of 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, producing enough steam to spin the power-generating turbine at 180 percent capacity.

That will signal the beginning of a new era for the 4.5-billion San Luis Obispo reactor — now estimated to have cost \$5.5 billion — and for every PG&E customer.

It also will mark the beginning of a dramatic but unexciting transformation in the supply of electricity to homes and businesses in Northern California.

For PG&E and its stockholders, the event marks a transition from accumulating debt to spreading the rewards of its investment, which has cost more than 10 times what

PG&E originally estimated. As early as tomorrow, PG&E could start tapping its customers' electric bills to pay for the plant, which was begun more than 15 years ago amid accusations for nuclear power and being completed in an era of abandonment with the technology.

The second unit of the 1,100-megawatt plant has approved for low-cost leasing and could begin operation in November. PG&E estimates.

Here are some things that Diablo Canyon will affect:

ELECTRIC SUPPLY: Electricity flows throughout California on a grid, which can be thought of as a pool that "lower priced" and "higher priced" nuclear power plants in other parts of the state, from the Pacific Northwest to the Gulf of Mexico, are part of the same pool. When both of Diablo's units are up and

running, the plant will be the single largest contributor to that pool. Nuclear energy will account for 15 percent of PG&E's electricity. Since already comes from nuclear power out of the Sacramento valley's Rancho Seco reactor.

The new supply will allow PG&E to lower the down side of its other electric and heat expensive power plants — those now burning natural gas.

The plant in Kern County, for instance, will "almost certainly be placed in cold standby," said Elmer Kaprielian, PG&E vice president for electric operations.

Other plants also will come back out of the cold. Inland Empire's San Luis Obispo in Monterey Bay, Antish and Marro Jua.

"You can't just arbitrarily shut them

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ONE OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS,
WHO GAVE SO MUCH OF HIMSELF
AND WAS TAKEN FROM US BY AIDS.

"THERE ARE SOME EXTRAORDINARY FATHERS, WHO SEEM, DURING THE WHOLE COURSE OF THEIR LIVE, TO BE GIVING THEIR CHILDREN REASONS FOR BEING CONSOLED AT THEIR DEATHS."

LA BRUYERE (1688)

Produced and Directed by the San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers for BUILDING AND LEADING YOUR GAY FATHERS' ORGANIZATION workshop, facilitated by Bill Jones at the International Coalition Conference of Gay Fathers in Los Angeles, May 31 - June 2, 1985.

Graphics, format, layout, and edited by Bill Jones

- Printed by Patrick Lane

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
GAY FATHERS

PO BOX 31622
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131

1985 STEERING COMMITTEE

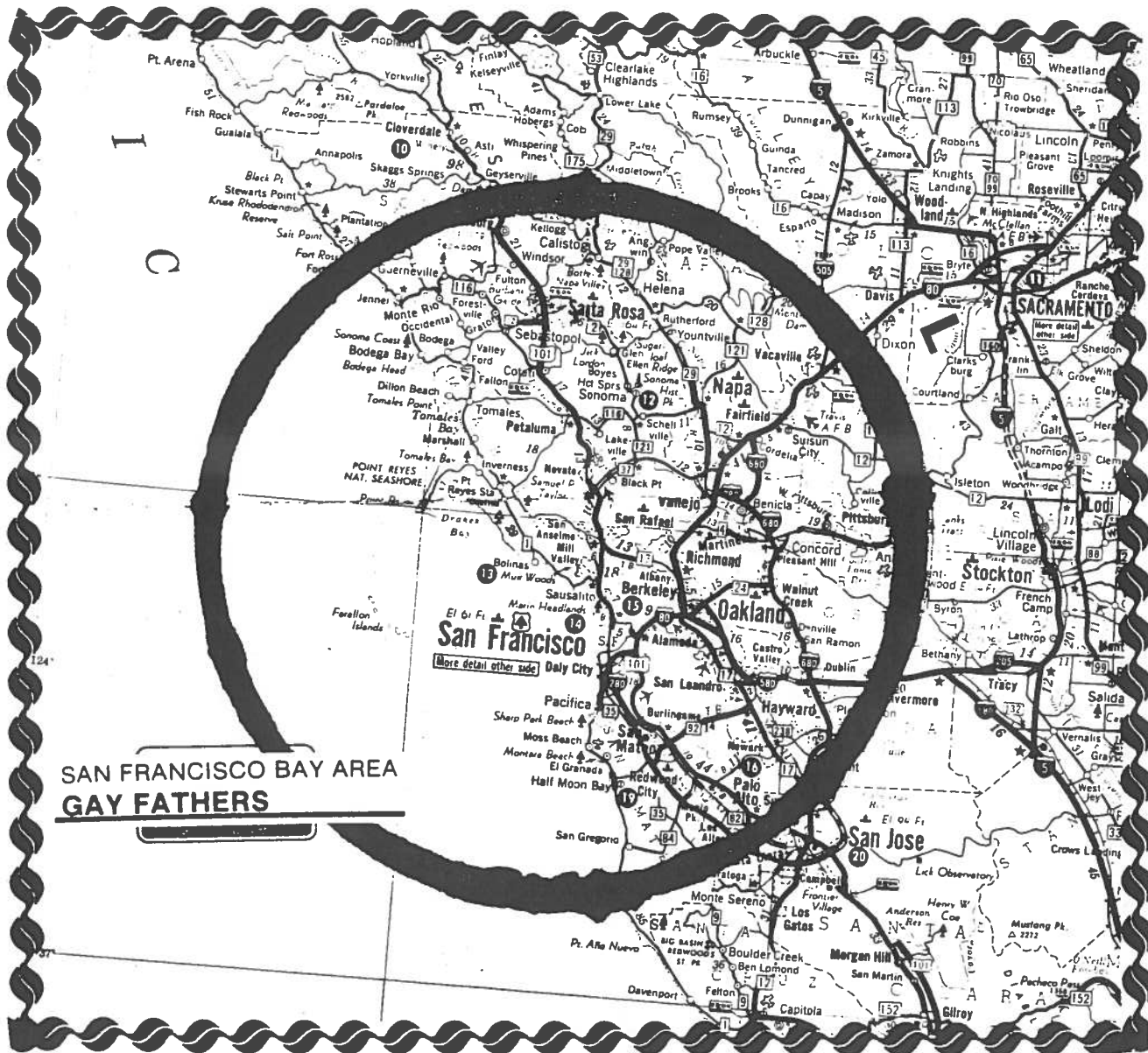
Bill Jones, President (Chairdaddy)	332-2270	Steve Graham, Program (Mnthly & Retreats)	584-0586
John Messer, Vice President (Fundraiser)	841-6500	Ronald Schultz, Library (Archivist)	861-3276
Henry Hopkins, Secretary (Membership)	621-7052	Jean-Louis Huot, Host	474-0657
Dick Sharpnack, Treasurer (Budget)	835-2054	John Roberts, Communications (Newsletter)	848-3416
Cliff Lowe, Special Events	932-2157	Patrick Lane, Communications (Computer)	564-6834

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GAY FATHERS - EXPOSED !

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The SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS live mostly within a 50 mile radius centered at Mill Valley, Marin County. The counties encompassed are Marin, Solano, Napa (North Bay); Contra Costa, Alameda (East Bay); San Mateo (South Bay) and San Francisco.



One of our fathers comes to our monthly meetings from Lake Tahoe, and eight hour round trip. Our pot-luck dinners are THAT GOOD!

WHAT THE HELL IS THE S.F.B.A.G.F. ANYWAY?

by Bill Jones, Chairdaddy - 1985

We started as most G.F. groups do, a small number of men each feeling alone in a confusing, hostile world; not completely accepted or trusted by the gay community and even less accepted or trusted as fathers by the straight community. So we hoveled together at first trying desperately to justify our very existence by sharing experiences concerning our gayness, our children, our wives, families, lovers, and our ardent desire to be good parents.

Oh, the joy we feel when we share our pain and our tears with other gay fathers! To know finally that we are not alone! To know that what we are - gay and fathers is valid, workable, and a joy to live! All of this, at least to me, has come in waves of love from the Gay Fathers Group.

The San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers started very casually (read Nick Latham's description) with pot luck dinners in July, 1975. We were men directly involved in raising our children either alone or with our wives or sharing the parenting with friends or lovers. Our numbers grew as fathers, separated from their children, painfully sought us out. Fathers of grown children and gay grandfathers joined us. Young fathers still with their wives and children, living in daily fear of losing their family's love if they exposed themselves as having gay feelings, still find us and we discuss, endlessly it seems, the painful and liberating process of "coming out".

We are a support group, pure and simple. We do not judge and we do not provide THE ANSWER. We enlighten each other by our honesty and openness about ourselves. We encourage. We stroke. We inform. We reach out. We share. We love. We support you wherever you are and wherever you wish to go.

The S.F.B.A.F.G. has grown in complexity as we grew in numbers and in the diversity of our members. We are thankful to the International Coalition of Gay Fathers for providing the impetus we needed to produce this book. By sharing what we have gone through, both successfully and unsuccessfully; how we evolved and how we are, at this point in time, organized, we hope to cast a little light for you to go find your own way. This is not a guide for you anymore than our rap sessions tell new fathers to our group what to do and when to do it. We want to learn from you too and this book just gives us the agenda from which we can pick each other's brains.

In general, our purpose is to give support and specifically our structure that promotes that support is as follows.

We have one major meeting on the first Sunday of each month. The meeting has always been based on a pot-luck dinner. At first we were a small group and able to utilize members' apartments and homes. Children have always been welcome. Because we are now fluctuating between 100 and 300 members, we rent a basement of the First Congregational Church at Post and Mason in S.F. There is a social hour from 5 to 6, followed by dinner and a short business meeting. We then break up into small rap groups (explained by Steven Graham under PROGRAMMING). The Steering Committee meets on the following Thursday from 7 to 9 and is open to the general membership if anyone is interested. The Sunday following the Pot Luck dinner is expressly for the newcomers to get to know the fathers' group on a more informal and intimate level. There is a pot-luck brunch from 11 to 2 in a member's home and we limit the number to about 20. The month is sprinkled with support groups that meet on a regular basis. We have 6 special events a year which Cliff Lowe describes and fund raisers, fund raisers, fund raisers.

The entire membership is encouraged to get involved with one or more of the offices, committees, or support groups listed below.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

President.....	Bill Jones	332-2270
Vice-President.....	John Messer	841-6500
Secretary.....	Henry Hopkins	621-7052
Treasurer.....	Dick Sharpnak	835-2054
Newsletter.....	John Roberts	848-3416
Computer Wizzard.....	Patrick Lane	564-6834
Special Events.....	Cliff Lowe	932-2157
Program.....	Steven Graham	584-0586
Librarian.....	Ron Schulz	861-3276

would be hard to do

COMMITTEES

Hosting.....	Jean-Louis Huot	474-0657
Booth-Outreach.....	Mike Berg	485-0655
Retreats.....	Cliff Lowe	932-2157
Float - Gay Pride.....	Cliff Lowe	932-2157
Brochure.....	Keith Thomas	922-0632
Kitchen.....	Don Magruder	474-6200
G.F. Crisis Fund.....	Joe Towner	863-6250
Fundraising.....	John Messer	841-6500
Non-profit Status.....	Dave Wharton	648-4440

SUPPORT GROUPS

Weekly.....	Ed Kent	641-8146
Teenage Children.....	Marty Carls	824-5088
Children Under 13.....	Burt Kessler	763-6398
Children Under 13.....	Duane Sisson	763-6398
Ex-Wives.....	Amity Buxton	383-5079
G.F. and Wives.....	Bill Stover	472-3861
G.F. Over 45.....	Jean-Louis Huot	474-0657
Parents of Teens.....	John Messer	841-6500

Psychologist

SPEECH BEFORE THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS DURING THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO, 1984

by Mark Stephens, Representing the Gay Fathers

We are all here today to demand an end to the oppression we experience as gay people. Thousands of us gather here for the millions across the country who cannot.

Perhaps quietest among us are the more than 2 million gay fathers in this country.

Most of these gay fathers are men who are still married, still go to church and PTA meetings, and continue to support their families as most fathers do. Yet they cannot expose themselves as gay people. They run the risk of not only losing their jobs and their friends. They risk of losing their own children as well.

These men are invisible, yet they live in anguish and desperation, in torment and in fear. For many, it is a closet darker than the blackest hell. Few can assert their rights, overwhelmed by worry over the consequences.

A gay man coming out must fight hard to assert his rights in our society. But a gay father must also defend against a barrage of attacks that are based purely on myth.

One myth is that children raised by gay fathers will turn out to be gay themselves. The fact is that children raised by gays are no more likely to become gay adults than those raised in any other household. After all, our parents' heterosexuality didn't rub off on us.

Another myth holds that gay men shouldn't parent because they are immoral and will molest their children. The fact is that 97% of all child molesters are heterosexuals, with children of their own.

Throughout this country, gay fathers are being denied custody. They are having their own children taken away from them, often forbidden from even visiting with them. The father loses his children...but worse...the children lose their father.

So the son or daughter can't understand why he or she isn't allowed to see the father they love so much—the father who has done nothing wrong in their eyes.

All of the research has consistently pointed out that homosexuals do not differ from heterosexuals in their ability to be good parents, that sexual preference has no negative effect on children, that gays are, in fact, better parents because they advocate and practice a value system of love, understanding, and respect for others, free of hate and violence. It is proven that a gay father's openness about his sexuality makes his relationship better with his children.

What really hurts the children of gays is the hatred and injustice imposed upon gay people in this country.

In spite of these facts, our law and society are horribly out of touch with reality. We are dealing with a political and legal system which encourages fathers to be estranged from their own children because of senseless and unproven myth. We are often confused by a religious system which persecutes gay fathers when the same system encourages procreation and parenting.

Tens and thousands of people are writing and lobbying in opposition to you and me, spirited by self-righteous zealots committed to denying us the right, denying us the freedom, to raise our children to be loving responsible human beings. We must each do our part to work for and elect responsible politicians, including judges, who are advocates of the rights of gay people and gay parents.

I am a father. I have two children, a daughter almost 13 and a son who is 16.

My daughter is warm and bright, active and pretty. She is a girl scout and an intermediate gymnast.

My son is energetic and athletic, intelligent and very sensitive. He has had a paper route since he was ten and is working now in a restaurant for his summer job.

They both have pets, and they both get straight A's in school. Neither has ever been in trouble with the law.

My kid's best friends, and the people they respect, are the same kind of people, regardless of color or religion or sex, or sexual orientation.

As a father, I have tried to teach and demonstrate love and respect for others. I am gay, and I am not unlike the over two million other gay fathers in this country who are nurturing their children.

I love my kids, and I am proud of my family. My family is warm and strong and beautiful with the values, the sensitivity and the courage that make this country great.

To the invisible millions of you—and to me—I know there is no greater joy or sense of pride than in raising children. Not just to watch them grow, but to actually participate actively in molding and developing a loving, caring creature.

No one should be able to take that right away! Thank you.

The waiting is over.

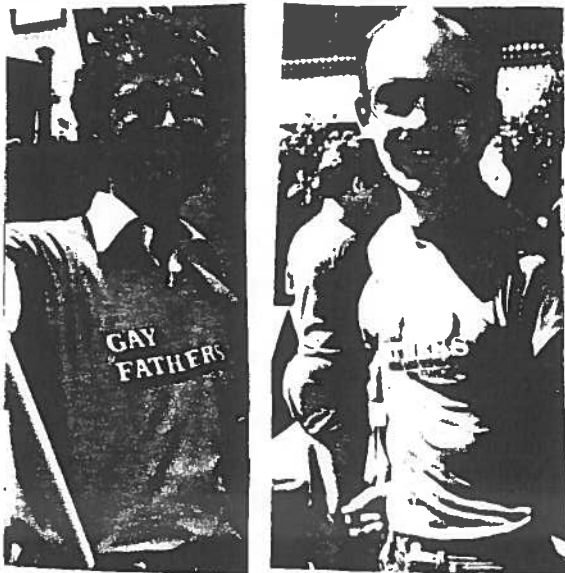
Mill Valley Record

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1985

VOLUME 85/ISSUE 18

25¢ A COPY

Bay Area
movie round-up
—see page A-8



Breaking Silence: Coming Out as Gay Fathers

By Molly Collins
A recent article in the San Francisco Chronicle, written by an openly gay journalist, led to a number of inquiries on the high seas in a nameless boat, psychiatrist and San Francisco...



Sizzling Feud Over Who's in Charge

The Mill Valley Community Center is in a moment of change of being central of the old downtown Post Office and... According to center development director... The center board of directors in April... completed June 11...

...of approval in particular held a great deal of significance for Mason... Mason wrote that... Mason's review of the... Mason had pointed the... and un-

...before Mason's... Mason's review of the... Mason had pointed the... and un-

...the answer is very little ever... For example, during fiscal year 1985, Mill Valley will receive... After payments to individuals such as social security and... Less than 5 percent of that will go directly to your local government... The regionalized funds are the only funds that are directly paid to state and local governments... Mill Valley expects to receive...

S.F.B.A. GAY FATHERS CHAIRDADDIES SPILL THE BEANS

Lurid Stories of Monsterous Growth!

Conceding that the vast majority of Mill Valley residents want to do their shopping here, even if it means paying higher prices for the convenience, service and quality of products they find here... A growing number of downtown businesses now stay open on Sundays, and the shopper response to those added hours has been strong enough to persuade the Chamber of Commerce to ask the city to place a two-hour parking limit in downtown spaces on Sundays to assure that the volume of customers shopping can be accommodated... The city's downtown parking committee recently completed a study which, if implemented, would reduce the number of downtown parking spaces for shoppers. The plan has yet to be ratified by the City Council, but indications are that it will be.

The Folly of Ignoring History

by Gary Reilly
The practice of building grand stair walls that still speak under city housing code height limits may soon come to an end in Mill Valley... The Planning Commission, at its April 22 meeting, voted 4 to 1 in favor of an amendment to the...

Witness tells of desert isle orgies

by Gary Reilly
After filing their completed... The answer is very little ever... For example, during fiscal year 1985, Mill Valley will receive... After payments to individuals such as social security and... Less than 5 percent of that will go directly to your local government... The regionalized funds are the only funds that are directly paid to state and local governments... Mill Valley expects to receive...



Success, We Like Success!

From June, 1975 to present date as seen through the eyes of our chairdaddies

OUR HISTORY

THE ROOTS OF GAY FATHERS — 1975-1976

by Nick Latham

The 1985 Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco marks the tenth anniversary of our SFBA Gay Fathers. Nick Latham, one of the original founders of our group, shares his memories of the origins of Gay Fathers.

"Faggdads by the Bay"

Our sons were five. They zipped about like yapping Pekingese. A bigger sun-lazy breed, we fathers lounged on a Lafayette Park bench, Sunday, June 15, 1975. The conversation of my friend, B.A., and me was the germination of Gay Fathers.

Months earlier Gay Sunshine published my article describing my alication as a fathers in gay liberation. Mail in response exceeded about any other article Sunshine had ever printed! I Answered each letter and kept a list of correspondents.

B.A. and I invited each Bay Area correspondent to join us in the 1975 Gay Freedom Day Parade. On parade morning, we converged on St. Mary's Park, most meeting for the first time: Fathers, children, household members and friends, women among us. Most were end-of-the-era hippies, so "in the moment" no one brought a camera. Several unselfconsciously enjoyed hallucinogens. Then and for several parades to come, some wore camp and other ethnic drag. A few fell in love.

During the parade we met more and more fathers. Some marched with us. Crowds on each block exploded with our celebration. We were novel and startling. At Marx Meadow Blackberri dedicated songs to us. The newspapers singled us out.

We organized a potluck in July, including our new contacts. For months we alternated meetings between my house on Sutter Street and the home of one other father. Our meals were vegetarian, and our children were always present. An early inspiration to name the group "Faggdads by the Bay" was fun but never formalized.

The intimate support group of six or eight households was complimented by monthly Sunday potlucks of about 40. The larger group's first crisis — an inundation of well meaning daddy/husband hunters — was resolved by our first policy, that membership be contingent on continuous relationship with a child or a search for a child of one's own.

The smaller informal group — all daddies with preschoolers — was bonded by survival needs and deep affections. Most lived on a subsistence or welfare incomes and in "alternate lifestyles." With changes of custody and moves to the country, this group, for with I have sweetest nostalgia, drifted apart.

Expansive and capable leadership evolved in Allen Klein, Tom McGee and others. As gay life in San Francisco became more structured and mainstreamed, so did Gay Fathers, meeting the needs of a larger membership and a broader community. Proud as I am to be a founder, I often look in awe on the acheivement of subsequent leaders and membership.

EARLY DAYS — 1977-1978

By Allan Klein

At first, five or six of us met in someone's apartment. Often there was food to share but more often that not it wasn't the food that brought us together, it was our common concerns. Most of us had the same questions and similar problems. Should I tell my kids? Can I be affectionate with my lover when my child is around? How can I get child custody rights?

We came together to get answers to questions because we could get them nowhere else. We supported each other the best we knew how, with love, with understanding, and sometimes with answers because we had been there.

Mailing and minutes of the meetings were never thought about. Each month we would decide where to meet the next month. If you missed a meeting, you called someone and got the information.

The word spread, more men showed up and a flyer was needed to announce the next meeting. I volunteered to do it and a hat went around to collect the postage and envelope monies. When there wasn't enough to cover the costs, I added to it.

Month after month I licked, folded, and stamped. After two years and over one hundred letters per month, I decided it was time to move one. I felt good about helping to keep together a much needed group and more than pleased that it continues to flourish.

Who would have thought that the child we created out of our own needs would grow up to nourish so many?

EARLY DAYS — 1979

by Marty Carls

Just 6 years ago, the SF Gay Fathers group went through a major metamorphosis. It became evident that it was no longer feasible for the group to be facilitated and run by the host father of the month. Newsletter communication, promotion, group facilitation, out-reach, food coordination, and many other needs seemd to be cropping up. I started the first steering committee in order to diversify these emerging responsibilities. This established a more structured procedure for meeting the needs of the gay fathers of S F.

At the time, each monthly meeting was still being held in a member's home. We were averaging approximately 12 to 18 members each month. Each meeting offered two topics for discussion. The topics generally dealt with coming out to family and friends, legal issues and social connecting (some things never change). The first steering committee consisted of Bob Bozette, Stu Grossman and myself. We would meet an hour before the meeting to coordinate the agenda and connect loose ends. Often we would speak during the month about needs, politics, reaching out and eventually expanding to a community location, rather than members' homes.

In looking back at those days and those experiences, I must say that they were rewarding, but they were certainly not the "good old days." Our finances were often non-existent. Had it not been for the financial support of Bill Neer, a long time member, we would not have had the finances to reach out to the community with winning floats at the Gay Day Parades. (Bill recently passed away, from AIDS, and I would personally like to dedicate our float to his memory.)

As the group grew, it became apparent that a Chairperson was needed to be consistently available. I assumed this role for most of the meetings. Gradually, our membership mushroomed. The Chairperson became the Chairdaddy. The 12 to 18 members at a meeting grew to 60 to 120 each month. The skeleton steering committee became a corporate board. All of this represents a great deal of healthy internal, as well as external, growth. I say healthy because we never lost sight of the individual's needs, while we were expanding and developing the group. How sweet it is!

1980 — 1981

by Tom McGee, President

All I can remember is that with our enhanced parade presence, (new banners and t-shirts), we started having increased attendance at meetings. We outgrew the spaces available in private homes. We changed from one man leadership to having various officers and committees to share the work. I attended the first organizational meeting in NYC of the international group. We started having organized picnics and outings, with our children, and we started the idea of having a separate discussion group for our children exclusively, with a professional facilitator. We had guest speakers from a wives and ex-wives support group (their psychologist/group facilitator came to speak to us), and we started thinking about ways to create better understanding between that group and ours.

We tried starting a satellite group in the East Bay, Sonoma County, and down the peninsula. We started having mid-month support groups and occasional social events. The monthly San Francisco main meeting and the social events were the best attended.

1982 and 1983

by Mark Stevens, President

We made tremendous accomplishments in just two years. With over 200 members, we were the largest single gay fathers organization in the world, and still growing. Our innovative programs have been a model to every gay fathers organization on the continent, and we have been first in more areas than we can count.

- 1. The teenage group... Can you imagine the Gay Fathers without it?... How many straight fathers do you know that take their kids to a support group for anything, much less for help in getting along better, and supporting family love in a tough world?...
- 2. The Fathers Over 45 Group... The fact is that as we get older, our roles as fathers change, as do our lives as gay men.
- 3. We have gathered over 100 books on homosexuality and parenting and placed them in the lending library. We have located and xeroxed and put into the library over 150 articles on the same subjects... There's a list of sympathetic lawyers in the area, a list of expert witnesses for custody issues, and even three articles on how, as a gay father, to choose a lawyer. There's a 20 page long bibliography on legal cases that involve gays and custody and other issues....
- 4. The retreats that we have had have been a total experience of blending the hearts and minds and souls of wonderful men who shared more in those two days than might ever occur at a whole year of fathers' meetings. Our first retreat was a new departure for us, but because it was so successful, it served as a model and catalyst for other groups across the country, to help individual fathers, their lovers, and their children, all live happier lives.

- 5. We computerized our mailing list and membership records, including a billing system to simplify dues collection.
- 6. We organized and implemented successfully a year-long fund-raising program.
- 7. We implemented an accounting and budgeting system, allowing us to plan, project, and organize on a yearly basis.
- 8. We wrote and printed up a new brochure describing our organization.
- 9. We installed a telephone line, a 'hot-line,' so that those in need could reach us 24 hours a day.
- 10. It took a whole year of hard committee work, but finally we wrote and then adopted a complete set of operating by-laws.
- 11. We set up and manned information booths at: the Lesbian-Gay Freedom Day Celebration, the annual Health Fairs, and the Castro Street Fair.
- 12. We fully participated in the International Coalition of Gay Fathers Groups.
- 13. We developed a Program to welcome and introduce Newcomers that includes official greeters, special discussion groups at their first monthly meeting, and telephone follow-up.

And, all of this is in addition to the regular monthly meetings, the mid-month support groups, the mid-month socials, the several big parties and social events, a Newsletter every single month, and a variety of summertime activities geared towards the whole family.

If we were successful in our activities during this time, and I think that we were, it was due to the following factors:

- Organization
- Setting goals and carefully planning our programs
- Follow-through
- Increased visibility
- Warmth of our reception of Newcomers
- Listening to the needs and desires of our members.

1984 — THE YEAR OF THE VOICE

by Dyke Garrison, President

The temptation in doing a retrospective is to supply a laundry list of "gee whiz" information that becomes "ho hum so what" by the end of the second paragraph. Instead, let me summarize by noting that 1984 emphasized two areas: outreach and organization.

Organization meant starting the year with a massive "Here we go. Where do we go?" planning session by the steering committee. Calendar, budget, priorities, objectives and goals. Goals like - Be available, be visible, help those who need help.... So far, so good.

In practice that translated to an expanded newsletter with interviews and national gay news. Book reviews. Local interest items. It meant appearances on local television shows. It meant participating in the San Francisco Fair side by side with straight organizations. It meant meetings

with topics like legal issues, schooling, teenage issues, a panel of questions and answers by our own high school group.

Our library continued to expand and launched an aggressive "Everything you wanted to know about Gay Fathers and didn't know who to write to" campaign which offered a free bibliography to anyone responding to an ad in Advocate. The response was significant: yes, there really are gay fathers in those legendary midwestern towns and yes, they have the same needs and question the rest of us have. And then we built a video library. And it was good.

And we started a young people's group which met concurrent with the Father's monthly meeting so the 7-12 year olds could get together.

And we helped the local effort to have Gay Fathers' Rights included in the Democratic Platform (even if it did smack somewhat of politics....)

We played, too. A couple retreats (Who are we? What are our personal, public and fathering roles? What do we want from our group? From each other?...keep it clean, gentlemen). A wonderful eight foot boat for the "Father Who Lived in a Shoe" with all his kids and rode down Market Street to cheers and waves on Gay Freedom Day (and won the award for most inspirational float). Parties here (Christams) and there (annual Stinson beach outing) and elsewhere (Father's Day Eve on the pier).

And some business meetings to help us focus on what we really wanted and why we existed in the first place. (Service and support, in case anyone has forgotten.)

It was not, as this account may suggest, a parenthetical year. We met some needs. We discovered others. We tried to be there for the people who needed us and for one another. And more often than not, we were there.

It was a year. And it was good.

1985

by Bill Jones, President

A party started the new year off as a fund raiser on January 1st. The money that we collected was ear-marked for a fund to provide legal aid to our fathers struggling with custody battles and visitation rights. We call it the Gay Fathers Crisis Fund. Over \$1,000 was contributed that day, with another \$1,000 promised by Mark Stephens, an ex-Chairdaddy, to be donated as soon as we get our non-profit status.

The first meeting of the year was very special and very moving. We honored all our founding fathers and subsequent Chairdaddies and their steering committees with certificates of our appreciation (see copy in the back of the book). What happened during the presentation was an unfolding of our history as a growing and healthy organization. It is to be hoped that the first meeting of each year will provide this space for the outgoing officers to blow their horns and the newly elected officers a chance to beat their drums. Tradition gives us stability and warmth.

We changed our beginning time from 6 P.M. to 5 P.M. to encourage fathers to bring their young children to our support groups. It is hoped that when school starts in the fall, we can start at 4 P.M. and end at 8 P.M. so that children can be tucked into bed at a reasonable hour. The Gay Fathers organization is primarily a support group for fathers involved with their children, and we must keep this in mind.

We are extremely excited and happy that our new support group for our wives and ex-wives, facilitated by Amity Buxton, is so successful. She started this group in March (to a standing room only crowd), and already there is a new support group off-shooting from that for the committed marriages of our gay dads and the wives they love and are struggling to keep.

Under the able direction of our Program Director, Steve Graham, we go deeper and deeper into the AIDS crisis and have faced (and hugged) men with AIDS, and will confront our own mortality in November when an attorney, Dave Wharton, will lead a session on Wills, Health Insurance, and Tying Things Up in General.

The Sunday Brunch to honor our newcomers is also new this year. It provides three things. The first is to give the newcomers an immediate involvement with our group on an informal and intimate level - in a home. The second is to be able to experience what we all felt when we were meeting as a smaller group: a closeness and a time for fun. The third benefit is for the President. He can find out, on a one to one basis, where each father is at, and what they need, and expect, from the group.

This year, for the first time, we are following Toronto's lead and inviting family and special friends to our July potluck supper. We will, at that meeting, honor the organization Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. They will facilitate a large rap session.

The Only Taste Of It's Kind!

WE OPEN IN NINE

COCK-A-DOODLE-DO

Chicken Good Luck too!

Give your kid a summer treat — a job!

My boy Jimbo came home the other day and asked me something that got me madder than a hooked trout.

Dad, can I go to camp this summer instead of working? "SUMMER CAMP" That's for toddlers and rich kids.

The only work kids do at summer camp is on their backhand in that silly game of tennis.

Let's face it, any kid over 12 should be doing some sort of

summer. I always had to pull no weight by working. In summer I worked even more.

I told Jimbo there was no way he was going to give up his paper route this summer to go to camp.

Then I sent him out to hit the stores in the neighborhood to find out if they need some part time help this summer.

If he can't find a job there it will be plenty of work around our

go to the local M.A. where he lifts weights. Believe me after two hours of pumping iron, Jimbo's in no mood to go running around with irublemak, drinking beer and smoking cigarettes.

The Good Lord didn't give kids all that energy just to waste it on the tennis courts and horse jumping shows. He gave it to them so they'll be able to work hard at hard

MY AMERICA

By ED ANGER

THE TRIBUNE

METRO EDITION

Oakland, California

Monday, May 6, 1985

25 Cents

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS REVEAL SUPPORT GROUPS!

Children Can Learn That It's OK to Be Different

Healing Ourselves

Teach your child to like himself.



When push comes to shove

By George Skotton
Los Angeles Times

BITBERG, West Germany — Throughout his political career Ronald Reagan has been on the occasion when his personality was on the line — with skillful speech emotion cynicism and tremendous camera presence. But never before had he been such a contrived performer, such a stage to repair.

And not even the president's most ardent admirers among his contemporaries were claiming yesterday that one day of solemn heart-felt speeches and imagery had erased three months of acknowledged blundering in arranging Reagan's trip here to a German military cemetery.

One White House official speaking on condition he not be identified echoed the prevailing attitude of Reagan advisers when he observed: "He did just what he wanted to do as well as he could do. Now we'll just have to wait and see."

There was of course, more substantial comments from officials who spoke for the record. "It was a brilliant performance," insisted Assistant Secretary of State Richard P. Burt.

Reagan received a long, loud round of applause from his staff as he walked through Air Force One while flying from Bitberg back to Bonn. He responded, according to spokesman Larry Speakes, that it had been a very moving day for all of us — a day of remembrance and hope.

Later, he told reporters, "It's been a wonderful day."

Reagan had mentioned to reporters on Saturday that he was "looking forward" to visiting the

ANALYSIS

Bitberg cemetery. But if he really was, it did not show from the length of time he finally spent there — eight minutes, com-

and Jewish leaders worldwide. The SS, an abbreviation for Schutzstaffel, was the security force originally set up as Hitler's bodyguard. Its members became the administrators and guards of the concentration



Making Changes Doesn't Have To Be Lonely.

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Black male Americans stand a 1-in-21 chance of being murdered, odds about six times worse than those confronting white men. A-6

A lawyer who defended Salvadoran guardsmen convicted of murdering four... C-12

'Young and Weird'

Crazy Double Love Life

Legends... The recent fiasco over a Super Bowl game raising gate that fell to fewer than expected... The new Concord Commercial Bank hopes to capitalise on Concord's downtown office north and downtown... Bank of Oakland has announced the flow of red ink... Public health nurses whose role is threatened by laid cutbacks, reach out into the community to aid the sick and the needy. C-1

Katherine Facocca, daughter of Chrysler chief Lee Iacocca, joins the battle against diabetes — the disease that clouded her mother's life. C-1

The FBI is keeping track of citizens who have shown an interest in U.S. politics in Central America. B-7

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy and much cooler today with a slight chance of rain. An increased chance of rain tonight. Cloudy and vegt tomorrow. A-12

SUPPORT GROUPS

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CHILDREN OF GAY FATHERS

by Bert Kessler and Duane Sisson

A group for the children of gays? Aren't they a little young to be dealing with all of this? Questions like this are often expressed. We have found that it is good for fathers, their lovers and friends and for their young children to have the fellowship of gay fathers.

Our play group has helped dispel the myths our own children hold about what gays are like. Eating with all the fathers, lovers and friends and having their own play group facilitated by gay men has given them the experience of the diversity, love and caring of gay men. Their presence keeps alive in the fathers group one of the major reasons for our gathering together.

Unlike the teenage group the children's group is not rap session. Few children want to sit around and talk. If they do talk, and no subject is taboo, they do so in midst of activity. We have arts and crafts projects, ball games with that wonderful invention the nerf ball, tumbling, puzzles, words, board games, stories, etc.

The aim is to be together so they too will know sooner than later they are not the only ones in the world with a gay father. When and if someone needs to verbalize strong feelings they are accepted and listened to as a part of our experience.

Starting the group was not easy. Adults always set the agenda and the meeting time was originally just too late for children, 6-10 pm. Having enough flexibility for the wide range of the participants has been difficult but as the group meets, what the children would like to do becomes more clear.

It is a joy to see children dropping the onus our society puts on them, coming out of their shells and enjoying true love and fellowship of gay fathers.

THE TEEN GROUP

by Mary Carls

We are celebrating the third year of serving teenagers of gay fathers. We can remember starting the group as a one-shot experience that mushroomed into an overwhelming success. We are particularly proud of the support provided to these young adults, both through the leadership and positive role modeling of myself, as well as the peer support system the teenagers give to one another.

Each month the group is open to teenagers who have gay fathers. As it is a drop-in group, our membership varies in number from 4-18 members each month. Some members each month are regular participants; others attend for the first time. This variety has afforded the teenagers a unique peer support system. The more active, long time members seem to instinctively assist, comfort and provide a foundation for the newcomers develop secure feelings. This allows the entire group to solidify unusually fast. This also provides a climate of safety in order to discover one's feelings are special for oneself, but not totally unique. This awareness and atmosphere enables the teenagers to feel safe and to explore their commonality at levels they likely have not experienced to date. What a unique and healthful encounter our children have available to them!

Some of the issues that come up in the group are: dealing with Mom, Dad, divorce, Dad's lover, sibling rivalries, school and social issues (grades, dating, peer pressures), drugs, communication skills, sexuality, assertiveness issues, AIDS, coming out as a child of a gay parent to others, and "Will I be gay/lesbian?". We also spend time acknowledging the joys as well as the conflicts in each of our lives.

Through relaxation exercises, guided fantasies, and role playing as well as discussion, the above issues are brought to the surface, experienced, felt, discussed and sometimes resolved. Resolution is often the exception, as these areas of concern are primarily deep issues, & have to be approached from a perspective of an on-going life process. Teenagers, as well as the vast majority of adults, tend to deal with conflicts by either denying them, blocking them or fighting them. The resistance to look at painful areas in our lives and do something to change the situation is great, as a human condition. The peer support the teens give one another helps each of them feel less isolated, as well as provide a sense of inspiration to break through some of the resistance and deal with those heavy-duty issues mentioned.

We have also included the fathers in some of our meetings as invited guests. In this atmosphere, the basics for father/child communication are established. One to one, as well as group appreciation and love, is expressed by many. It surprises many of us with conflicted father/child relationships how easy it is for us to feel and express appreciation and love to one another in a structured, sane, and calm communication atmosphere. This is very exciting to witness and participate in.

In closing, I must acknowledge that this group could not happen without the willingness of both father and teenager to explore and deal with what's going on in their lives. We, as the S.F. Gay Fathers Organization, can be very proud to be the only group of its kind in the world. We also can have a great deal of admiration for ourselves, our children, and our community awareness and sensitivity, to be actively doing something to make the world a healthier and happier place to be.

(FORMER OR CURRENT) WIVES OF GAY FATHERS SUPPORT GROUP

by Amity Buxton

Wives or former wives of gay men with children have a special need for support, which must not be ignored by gay fathers. These women have two concerns: (1) their husbands are more attracted sexually to gay men than to their wives, and (2) regardless of sexual orientation, they and their husbands share the pleasures and responsibilities of parenting their children.

Regarding the concern about sexual preference, wives need to meet and talk with other women who are coping with the reality of their husband's dual allegiance and their own sense of "second best" in the area which, to the female-according to recent research studies-is equated with love. Wives of gay men need to share common feelings in order to assuage their feelings of rejection and devastation to some degree. They need to learn successful coping strategies to accept the situation and to enjoy the "together" times with their husbands. A support group provides a vehicle for communication and learning.

Regarding shared parenting, wives need to find out how other couples contain the gay issue while they work together to provide the stability and consistency necessary to act as a parent "team" for guiding their children's development. This union of mother and father is very important to the children, as it is in divorce or separation. The children must know that both parents will help them address the real and imagined implications of having a gay father. They suffer if their fathers and mothers harbor anger and resentment about this fact, and support groups helps the parents resolve such feelings or at least cope with them constructively.

The wives support group of the San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers organization operates on two levels:

1. As a sub-group of the Father's monthly meeting, when fathers, wives, or couples elect to meet with a facilitator or panel of wives, to ask questions or share concerns and solutions.
2. As a network of wives who share individual concerns by phone or in person.

The Father's group organizes the scheduling of the monthly support group meeting. The wives who lead the group select the topic, in consultation with the Fathers' leadership, in response to expressed needs of both the fathers and wives.

GAY HUSBANDS AND WIVES SUPPORT GROUP

by Bill Jones

Recently the SF Bay Area Gay Fathers' group has sponsored several activities of special interest to those who are still married (or otherwise involved with a special female) and want to remain in some sort of primary heterosexual relationship while still remaining open to ongoing relationships with other men or otherwise expressing our gay sexuality.

The recent formation of two other special-perspective groups contributed to this new interest. This past Fall, the Fathers began sponsoring a support group for Spouses and Ex-Spouses of Gay Men (described elsewhere), to which many of our married members have brought their wives; at about the same time, the Wednesday Night Gay and Bisexual Married Men's Rap Group at the Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley, which many Bay Area Fathers attend, began regular meeting of a "Still-Married" group.

In April, one father from the SFBAGF opened his home to a social event which brought together a number of gay married men, their wives, and many of the children. Although a small group was originally planned for, eighteen couples attended. In addition to social contact with members of a like group (which many — both men and women — later said was the first of its kind they had ever experienced), some other useful networkings have resulted from this initial session.

Some of the wives have now formed a support-group network of their own, with weekly meetings under the leadership of one spouse who is a trained counselor. Many of the men are networking outside of the group(s) to which they may belong, and all report that some of the sense of frustration they once felt at their own apparent uniqueness and aloneness has now evaporated, as they have had a chance to exchange ideas and experiences with others in similar situations.

Some of the recurring issues which will undoubtedly come up again in future discussions:

- jealousy in the marriage and how to handle it;
- strategies for reserving time for oneself;
- coming out to ourselves;
- coming out to the wife/significant other;
- way to live with the realization that anyone who hopes to keep two two significant relationship going with member of opposite sexes automatically becomes a member of a minority within the bisexual community, itself a minority within the gay community, itself a minority . . . and so on. ("Just how many group am I really ready to be misunderstood by, anyway?")
- strategies for establishing or maintaining an appropriate level of openness/support/tolerance for us within the main relationship; helping the wife/significant other to feel comfortable and supported in what may be a new, uncomfortable, even threatening situation.;
- forming/continuing another relationship in such a way that the expectations and needs of both parties can be met.

At least one additional social event for couples of families is planned during the course of the Summer, and the three support groups will continue indefinitely. Additional information and ways to contact any of the groups may be had from Bill Jones, President of the SFBAGF.

FATHERS OVER 45

by Keith Thomas

In May of 1982, four fathers with young-adult children got together to explore the idea that SFBAGF might better meet the needs of some of the older fathers if there were a mid-month support group specifically for them.

Their familial concerns and problems were often markedly different from those of dads in their twenties and thirties. A young father might be trying to cope with the divorce and visitation pronouncements of a homophobic judge or the challenges of co-parenting a young child with his lover. An older father might be dealing with things such as the juvenile drug scene, sudden estrangement from a teenage son, or an adult daughter who has only recently learned about dad's sexuality, or his relationship with a wife or ex-wife to whom he was married for many years. Not to mention the problems of feeling past one's prime and — perhaps for the first time — alone and without a home.

How to meet understanding, accepting gay men is difficult problem for many gay fathers who are still wearing the bloom of youth. It can be much harder for an older gay dad — especially one who has let himself believe "...nobody wants you when you're old and gray..." (and gay).

"Fathers Over 45" meet once a month in a father's home. Attendance has varied from highs of 12 to 14 to as few as two or three. A search for a meeting format continues and perhaps the answer will turn out to be there should be no one format. Usually, and always if there are newcomers, meetings begin by each father in turn identifying himself and describing his situation. Should someone in the room have a pressing problem, his dilemma may become the discussion topic for the evening. Occasionally a topic has been chosen and announced in advance, but always a personal problem of the moment is given priority over any previously chosen topic.

Meetings are usually held on weeknights starting at 8:00 and running about two hours. Light refreshments are served. Now and then an organized pot luck dinner is the focal point for a strictly social evening.

The host is allowed up to \$10.00 to cover meeting cost. The group no longer has its own mailing but relies on the Newsletter and meetings of the main group to announce meeting dates and locations.

DISTURBING QUESTIONS: Why is attendance frequently so low and why does the group fail to attract or hold many new members? One answer may be that there is a seeming reluctance on the part of many gay men to be identified with any group that by its name indicates that members are no longer strapping youths. In the beginning there was much discussion about the name. Suggested names using words such as senior, mature, and older were vigorously opposed. The name "Fathers Over 45" has endured, perhaps, largely because no one has come up with anything better. Younger gay fathers and their special friends are always welcomed to attend meetings but rarely do.

THE OVER 45'S SUBGROUP

by Jean-Louis Huot

The purpose of the Over 45's group is to meet the needs of the members of Gay Fathers whose concerns are no longer that of child care or dealing with wives as is much the case with younger members. The Over 45's have a different set of issues to look at, and different way that they experience the need for support and fellowship.

The Over 45's meet once a month in someone's home. These meetings usually are for two hours in the evening, and end with coffee and cake or cookies. The SFBAGF had voted funds for any father who wants to be host for such a group and would which to be reimbursed for the costs of coffee etc.

There have also been meetings of this group in cafes or in bars. Sometimes (perhaps two or three times each year) these meetings are held as pot-luck dinners. Locations and time of these meetings are put into the monthly newsletters, and announced at the monthly supper meeting.

These meetings are more social than support groups, as the members of this group rarely seem to have problems that they need to share and discuss and gather support for. Occasionally the meetings have had a guest speaker or a particular topic, and not infrequently, the meetings spill over afterwards to a nearby bar for further socializing.

Perhaps because the needs of this group's members are less demanding, the group is not effective, unless calls are made each month to remind the members (some of whom never come to the monthly meeting) of the next meeting and where and when it will be.

CRISIS FUND

by Joe Towner

The Crisis or Emergency Defense Fund is one of the newest and most innovative ways in which SFBAGF members are working together to help each other in their parenting. Created in November 1984, after a highly successful and inspirational private fundraiser for one of our members, The Crisis Fund combines financial and counseling support for individual fathers involved in costly legal battles to secure and protect their visitation and custody rights. As many of us have learned, unfortunately, gay fathers' relationships with their children can be challenged legally by ex-spouses, resulting in financial hardship and emotional stress for the father. SFBAGF has always been committed to helping its members in such crises, but now the establishment of the fund will allow us for the first time to extend direct financial aid to fathers involved in litigation.

The Crisis Fund is a loan pool generated by separate fund raising activities from which short-term, interest-free emergency loans will be made to members in good standing who have demonstrated economic hardship due to legal fees and related costs. The fund is administered by an independent committee of the SFBAGF which reports to the SFBAGF Steering Committee and which operates under written guidelines approved by the general membership. The Fund exists under the nonprofit corporate status of the SFBAGF, and all contributions to the Fund account will be considered tax-exempt charitable donations. All applications for, and award of loans are, of course, strictly confidential.

The Crisis Fund is more than just money. The Committee brings together broad expertise in fund raising, family law, conflict resolution, gay counseling, and innovative problem-solving. Its services and advice are available to any member who needs emotional support or more specific referrals to low-cost legal, psychological, or other professional assistance in dealing with an emergency in his relationship with his children. It is the committee's policy that loans are only to be made in conjunction with the offer of these other services. We intend to work with various community organizations and our own resourceful membership to develop referral lists of reputable gay affirmative professional services in the Bay Area. These lists will ensure that any gay father can have easy access to free or low cost consultations regarding the multiple issues and potential costs that could be involved in litigation. In addition to cash donations to the loan pool, the Committee invites professional practitioners and firms to donate initial consultations to the Fund. We also plan to tap the many experiences of our members in preparing a videotape about our own court cases; this will be kept in the SFBAGF library and will be available for national circulation.

By seeking to avoid unnecessary confrontation and by ensuring high quality legal representation when absolutely necessary, the SFBAAG Crisis Fund will make an important contribution to the gay community in general and to our members individually. We hope to eventually expand the fund to cover other high-cost emergencies confronted by gay fathers, perhaps ranging from out-of-state travel to catastrophic medical bills. However, the fund will always remain rooted in its original source: our love for our children and our pride in ourselves.

THE GAY FATHERS WITH TEENAGE CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP

by John Messer

About mid-way through last year, one of the monthly discussion groups held at our large Sunday meeting focused upon members who were rearing teen-aged children. The group was extraordinarily well attended, and in the two hours we met, many issues emerged. It became quite apparent that the need was there to form a more permanent opportunity to address the issues and needs at hand. Consequently, we began to meet once a month outside the general monthly meeting.

We are as diverse a group of fathers with teens as one can imagine. Some are single-parenting our children, others have shared custody, still others have to fight to be able to see our kids at all. We have discovered that we have much to offer each other both in terms of information sharing of a legal and counseling nature, and also in terms of the emotional support we give. Being a teenager is, in and of itself, typically a rough time. Being a gay father has its own special difficulties as well. The two in combination make this particular support group all the more important as one of the many services we offer to each other as a group.

NOTABLES ON NEWSLETTERS

By John S. Mills

Communication is one of the primary goals of Gay Fathers. It is the sharing of feelings, the exchange of information and the gift of validation that makes our group so important to our members. The monthly newsletter is one of the principal vehicles by which we communicate with one another. The newsletter reaches every member of the organization, those who are near and those who are far. As the editor of the SFBA Gay Fathers during 1984, I was astonished to realize that our newsletter was mailed not only to our local members, but also fathers as far away as Honolulu and New York. From time to time I would receive letters from fathers who had moved from San Francisco. They shared how their monthly newsletters enabled them to vicariously experience the activities and emotional support of the group.

Many rules of good journalism are applicable to the production of even a simple newsletter. Having a variety of designated sections which appeared month after month, for example, insured a diversification of the content of the publication. Members of Gay Fathers have many different interests and needs, which should be reflected in the organization's newsletter. The regular sections included the President's Message, General Meeting Description, Bay Area Beat (local news), Librarian's Corner (book reviews), Feature Story, Announcements and Advertising Page.

The recurring sections of the newsletter also gave the readers both structure and consistency. The basic format of the newsletter remained the same month after month. When one needed to find out a potluck assignment for the general meeting, for example, one would know that it would always appear near a special symbol at the bottom of the page devoted to the general meeting.

Perhaps one of the most important characteristics of the newsletter was that the front page always had a listing of the important upcoming meetings and events and a highly visual promotion of a special event. The goal of having this type of information on a front page was that it would become a quick and easy monthly reference for the fathers. Critical addresses, times, names and places could be readily located by the reader.

Inside the cover, news items were divided by a balance of past and future group activities. An important function of the Newsletter is to generate enthusiasm for events and activities that are planned. Participation in the upcoming activities was encouraged. Past news items were also important. These articles described the successes of the group's functions and provided an excellent opportunity to give recognition to appropriate members.

A section for announcements was included near the end of the Newsletter. This acted as a written bulletin board for members to communicate with one another. Items of lesser importance were included in this section. This was also an appropriate place to mention the activities of other groups, which might be relevant to some of our members. The newsletter always concluded with a sponsor's page. The contributions from the sponsor paid for the production and mailing of our newsletters.

The newsletter required an editor. Information would occasionally need to be reduced in order to fit into the space available. Frequently announcements from other organizations would be submitted in forms of various lengths in consideration of free space in the newsletter. All too frequently details regarding upcoming special events were not received by the deadline for submission and the editor found it necessary to do some speculative and creative writing in that situation. A deadline for copy was necessary about one week before the scheduled mailing in order to allow time for the final composition and duplication of the newsletter.

The physical production of the newsletter was achieved by first creating sheets of white construction paper the size of 8 1/2 by 14 inches. Each sheet would be sectioned into two halves measuring 8 1/2 by 7 inches, which would eventually become each page of the newsletter. Titles and ornamentations for the

headings of each section was typed onto conventional typing paper, then cut and pasted onto the construction paper. The six large pieces of construction paper with the final written compositions were then photocopied using a two sided process at a local commercial duplicating store. Using a light print setting, scotch tape lines and marks between copy sheets were not reproduced during the duplication process. After the newsletter was collated and stapled, it formed 12 distinct pages the size of 8 1/2 by 7 inches. The cost of photocopying 250 of the three legal size sheets double-sided was approximately sixty dollars.

The "Mailing Bees" were always a joyful occasion to socialize. With four fathers participating, 220 copies of the newsletter could be folded, inserted into an envelope and stamped in a little over one hour's time. Approximately 30 copies of the newsletter were not mailed. Fifteen were reserved for the newcomers that would attend our next general meeting. The president of the organization was given five for his purposes and the editor kept ten copies for individuals' requests for extra newsletters.

The production of a newsletter is an exciting and challenging activity. The importance of the newsletter in maintaining communication within the group cannot be overestimated.

WRITING A QUESTIONNAIRE/SURVEY

by John Buxton

The primary objective of writing a questionnaire is to obtain information. The questionnaire must be clear in its questions and easy to answer in order to encourage respondents to reply. A lengthy or involved questionnaire will discourage people from answering. Also, don't intrude in sensitive areas by asking personal questions, e.g., income, education, age, religion, etc.

If at all possible, use a one page format. Questions that are structured for check-off or short answers rather than open-ended will produce more responses. They will also simplify analysis of the data. Nonetheless, encouragement and space should be provided to allow for additional comments. These comments can provide elaboration of answers or discussion of topics not asked on the questionnaire.

The purpose of the questionnaire should be given even if it is only a general or minimal statement. Brief justifications can go on the questionnaire itself but longer ones should appear in a cover letter in order to conserve space for questions.

Group the questions asking about the needs of the respondent at the beginning of the questionnaire. This will establish that he is the primary concern and not the organization. Questions directed to the needs of the organization come after this when a receptive attitude has hopefully been established.

A mailed questionnaire has a much lower rate of return than one distributed in a meeting. Distribute and collect the questionnaire at a meeting when respondents are waiting for a speaker or other event to start. Don't distribute at the end of a meeting as people are planning to leave. Have plenty of spare pencils and some extra copies of the form. Have the explanatory presentation made by a speaker of brevity and wit. If there are objections to some of the questions, suggest the objector write his substitute questions on the back for consideration in the next questionnaire.

Provide a summary or feedback of the results to your respondents in a newsletter or similar publication soon after completing the survey.

SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE:

Please help yourself and other fathers in our group by answering the following questions about your needs and talents:

1. Would you like to be on the mailing list given only to members?
2. Would you like the newsletter sent to you?
If yes, show address if different from below: _____
3. Which of the following support groups are you interested in:
 - a. teenagers
 - b. children under 13
 - c. fathers over 45
 - d. weekly rap group
 - e. wives and ex-wives
 - f. husbands and wives still together
4. Which of the following committees are you interested in helping:
 - a. hosting
 - b. fund raising
 - c. special event and fair booth
 - d. retreat organization
 - e. gay parade float
 - f. media outreach
 - g. kitchen
 - h. crisis fund
 - i. non-profit status
 - j. overall planning (Steering Committee)
5. Which of the following skills are you willing to contribute:
 - a. public relations
 - b. newsletter
 - c. legal
 - d. working with children
 - e. crafts (skilled labor)
 - f. creative (specify) _____
 - g. clerical
 - h. other (specify) _____
6. What activity would you like to have added or expanded: _____
7. What is your most immediate concern as a gay father? As a Gay Man? _____
8. Additional comments (please back if necessary): _____
9. Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address _____
Children's Names and Ages: _____

THE HOSTING COMMITTEE

by Jean-Louis Huot

The purpose of the Hosting Committee is to welcome the Newcomers who arrive at the monthly meeting and aid them in feeling comfortable and at home in the group.

There is a table at the door of each monthly meeting where people come in and get their name tags and pay their contribution for the cost of the hall. Behind this table is another, at which the Host for newcomers sits. He gets each prospective member of the group who is there for the first time to fill out a sheet of information and tells them to fill out a sheet of information and tell them about the group, and what they can expect to encounter this evening. He asks if they wish to join the group now and gives them the form for that if they do and gets their money. Or, if they wish to think it over, he gives them a form and an article about the gay fathers group and a couple of back issues of the newsletter, and a return envelope that they could send in their membership form and check in.

The newcomers are given a nametag that is larger and has a blue border, so that members of the group will recognize their status and so talk with them in the social hour that precedes the dinner and meetings.

Within the week following, the Host will call the Newcomer and see how he liked the meeting, if he has any questions about the group or our activities, and if he can come to the President's Brunch that he holds the Sunday following the general meeting.

The other members of the Hosting Committee are alert to talk with and welcome the Newcomer as he comes into the room where we hold the social hour.

DUTIES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS SECRETARY

by Henry Hopkins

The primary responsibility is to maintain a current mailing list. This is very important because a correct up-to-date list is necessary each month so that the Newsletter will reach all the members of the group.

In order to do this, I greet and collect donations from arriving members and guests at the monthly potluck meetings. Information received at this time is used to update our mailing list. Donations are turned over to the treasurer.

In the early months of the New Year, I collect annual membership dues, send them to the Treasurer and build the new active, inactive members list.

Another duty is to take Steering Committee notes and have them ready for interested people at the monthly members meeting and the following Steering Committee meeting.

I make my home available for the monthly Mailing Bee where some members gather to get the new Newsletter out to the membership.

It is my pleasure to serve the SFBAGF in these ways.

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER OF THE SF/BAGF

By Ron Scholz

PHILOSOPHY: A gay man must grow in the knowledge of himself and of the gay world around him in order to relate better to himself, his loved ones, and his world. Each fathers group has the obligation to help other gay fathers come to better understand and like themselves as individuals of worth as well as their role as father, spouse (ex-spouse), lover and citizen of the world. The library or information center can be a part of that.

BOOKS: Much has been written about the gay lifestyle. A collection of books that may be checked out by the members of the group can be of great help, especially to those who are new to gay lifestyle. Books can be obtained as gifts from those in the group who would wish to donate what they have so others can make use of them. All that is needed is a single individual who will take the responsibility of making a list of the books in the library, placing check-out cards in each book, and seeing that those books checked out are returned. It is important that members of the group be made aware that books are available to be checked out.

VIDEO-TAPES: Many individuals now have VCR's in their homes. A video-tape library is also important. The SF/BAGF's have a video library that individuals may borrow from. A \$20.00 deposit is charged for each video borrowed. For those that go through the mail, \$5.00 is charged for shipping and handling. Any group who is interested may write to: Archivist SF/BAGF, Department L, P.O. Box 31622, San Francisco, CA 94131 for an annotated list of video's in the library. Each father's group should keep a list of those tapes that are available either from their own group or those that can be borrowed from SF/BAGF.

JOURNAL ARTICLES: Magazines have provided a wealth of current information on the area of gay fathers. SF/BAGF maintains a list of over 100 journal titles that may be purchased for \$1.00 an article. All articles deal with subjects of importance to gay fathers. The current nine categories of articles are:

1. Children's Viewpoint
2. Church Issues
3. Gay Adoption
4. Gay Parenting
5. Gay Step-Parenting
6. Group Information
7. Homosexual Fathers
8. Homosexual Husbands
9. Legal Issues

A current bibliography may be ordered by writing:

Archivist SF/BAGF
Department L
P.O. Box 31622
San Francisco, CA 94131

ARCHIVIST: The same person who is responsible for the library can keep information about the group. In San Francisco a photo album is kept of all our activities. The national coalition also has an archives of which any vital information, newsletter, etc. can be sent. Check your national chapter newsletter for information of where to send it.

Wants to Give You Secret Before It's Too Late!

Details below

Times Tribune

25 cents

Enjoy Your Sexuality. Again.

Peninsula Edition

Gay Fathers Nuts And Bolts Operation Exposed!

Shocking News On the Home Front BUDGET 'WINDFALL'

THE MOTHER, BILL BUCKLIN got off a 20-day, no-fault, 22-night before last... He said he was sitting in the... walking into the kitchen opening the... and feeling your wife's... What made it... that he had it at a party honoring his... wife... she... the sign of a... If you don't know that... children are now being printed on... it's all that good a joke.

The Rise and Fall Of Sex and Stuff

WHY WOULD anybody care that Far... the nationwide chain of ice cream par... has closed its big Howard St office... because the company — some 78 outlets, sta... bought from Marriott... years ago by Richard Blum & Assoc... had been chairman of the board... husband of one beloved mayor. Ar... to insiders Farrell has been losing about \$500... a month and is now back in Marriott's... World deal. He's done in 10 years... things like this keep him hum...

Drag Phone Sex Banned from Parade



The Startling Powerful Facts

By Jeff Brazil
Times Tribune staff

When Dave Kallieck and I... with three realtors in a 12... month period that saved \$1... \$100 a month, he decided it was... to try Mountain View's lead... mediation service... After calling the Palo Alto Area... mediation service, he was assigned... a mediator. The mediator then ar... longed a meeting for Kallieck's... several fellow tenants from his... apartment complex, and a repre... sentative from the property man... management company that own... the complex.

SAVE MEGA BUCKS!

Seeing through the budget froth stops the red ink

THE HENRY JAMES HILLS... An executive Gary... from prison by a govern... who still believes him guilty... a two-year sentence... with \$200,000 for his name of... that his alleged victim... never occurred... James H. James... a two-year sentence... but refused to de... that money, saying, "After his 1976 conviction through the... of the evidence, I

we see a couple of meet... 27-year-old software en... But when it was all... over the property manager's... what he was going to do anyway... raise the rent... Skyrocketing rents were the... primary reason that Mountain View... did several other cities on the Pen... ninsula have turned to establishing... voluntary rent-increase mediation... services. Such programs now... operate in Mountain View, Palo...



New President

The Absolute, Final, Last Word

By Howard Mint
Times Tribune staff

SAN FRANCISCO — Nobel laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu brought the vanguard of the anti-apartheid movement to the Bay Area Sunday, decrying with other political and religious leaders the "evil and reprehensible" system of racial discrimination... Long personal anecdotes, a religious somnia and much emotion in the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner said a Civil Airmen's audience here in "we are the winning side and not just because we are white." He said, "The United States African government has a role to play here to do away with injustice...

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**DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT WE
DO?**

Would you call, and let us know?

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**Money
& Changes
Everything**

main media coverage had been based on the maximum of \$1,048,000... The idea came up what was to be the opening day of jury selection for trial on the charges... U.S. Attorney Edward DeLoach Jr said the guilty plea means it could be barred for as long as three years from bidding on any new lease contracts but that he has received no indication of what the Pentagon will do... U.S. District Court Judge Louis... Beattie said the maximum penalty

Please see CE: A-13

• Budgets • By-Laws • Computer Networking
• Mailing List • Non-Profit Status • Calendar

NUTS AND BOLTS

CO-ORDINATIONS OF SPECIAL EVENTS

by Cliff Lowe

The Special Events Co-ordinator is responsible for the planing and execution of the social and outreach programs. These activities include such diverse activities as retreats, holiday parties, special parties, and the group participation in the Freedom Day activities. Other activities include beach parties for our extended families, weekend get-togethers and locations for group members to gather for holiday dinners when they have no other place for the celebration.

Ideally, the Special Events Co-ordinator works with a sub-committee who take responsibility for various phases of a specific activity. The co-ordinator then oversees the entire activity. The key to success is to find persons within the membership who have an interest or a skill, and to put them to work.

In the past, the S.F.B.A.G.F. has experienced such diverse activities as river rafting, beach parties, St. Valentines' Day parties, Fathers' Day parties, weekends in the country or at the ocean, and several very successful retreats. Some of the day activities have included hikes to the wilderness with our children, or kite flying on some of San Francisco's scenic but windy hills.

Our biggest activity every year is our participation in the Freedom Day Celebration in June. We have an information booth at the Civic Center, and we march as a contingent in the Parade. This is always a big occasion in San Francisco. It is reported to be the largest parade in America, outside of NYC's St. Patrick's Day Parade. The response from the crowd has always been enormously positive to our contingent. We have won the award for Most Inspirational Float for three years in a row.

Basically, the Special Events Coordinator is the Perle Mesta of the S.F.B.A.G.F..

"RETREAT!!"

San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers has been many things to many people over its ten year lifetime. It has been innovative, creative and supportive in many, many ways. One aspect of this has been the willingness of dynamic steering committees to provide new ways to serve its membership. Two years ago the Committee came up with the idea of an annual "retreat". The term itself has various connotations to different persons—from a religious experience to a withdrawal from reality for a period of time. The idea of a retreat for Gay Fathers was to provide some "time out", to get away to a refreshing and peaceful environment and to share one's life flow with men of similar experiences, desires and needs.

It was a risky idea—would anyone want to attend?—what kinds of sessions would be provided? etc, but the experience of the first retreat that year absolutely knocked the socks off the twenty or so guys who attended! A rented commercial lodge in the woods—can you believe old camper's bunk beds?—Gourmet meals prepared by some of our own best chefs, and rap sessions that were timely and appropriate to the situations of so many of us. They had the effect of burrowing through the protective veneer so many of us "stout hearted, walking wounded daddies" had subconsciously adopted so that tears flowed (sometimes for the first time in a long time!), broken hearts were gently held and mended and a sense of manly fraternity and love created that has abided with each one of us since that last "hug fest" of a closing session. The personal testimonials, the deeply expressed love of our children and loved ones, and, for some of us, the first experience of standing among "our brothers" and being able to proclaim our love for ourselves was an experience that we hope may be shared by each of the gay fathers in our group and, indeed, everywhere in God's good creation.

The sessions were thought up and run by the guys themselves and are available for sharing with your group. The idea of a Costume Party on Saturday night ("Come As Your Favorite Whatever!") lent just the

tough of fun and humor to really get to know each other and the sensitively planned closing session created such a sense of oneness and fraternity that we have planned two retreats a year from now on! Lasting friendships have been formed, the entire group has been strengthened by the "life" regenerated by the retreats and we very much desire to share the "mechanics" of this super experience if you so desire. Please feel free to call on us "San Francisco Daddies" for help in arranging such an event for your group and, Allah be praised, there are a few of us who "have toothbrush and will travel" to help you produce this very successful experience for your group!

MONTHLY POTLUCK AND SUPPORT MEETING

by Steve Graham

The monthly meetings are the primary gathering place for SFBAGF and achieve the organization's two primary objectives of socialization and support.

Socialization is principally fostered through the potluck meal and is now preceded by a social hour where particularly new members are introduced to continuing members and one another. The opportunity to meet people and make new friends is considered a legitimate objective of the organization.

Support is principally fostered through the support groups which meet after a short business meeting. The groups are facilitated by members who have training and experience at peer support group facilitation. In contrast to a therapeutic group or an information group, a peer support group empowers its members to come to terms with common predicaments through the mutual sharing of feelings and experiences. Peer support evolves from the members' discoveries of their own and one another's strengths and resources to resolve, grow, and move ahead. A gay father as a result of a successful support group will not only feel more competent and better about himself but will network with other fathers during and following the group as a continuing source of support.

Group topics are suggested by the member and are announced in advance. If the topics are varied, interesting and relevant, and the groups will be facilitated (see the separate section on facilitating), the number of groups and members will only be limited by the space available at the meeting place. Currently in San Francisco five to seven groups are held each month (all our meeting space allows), and demand for expansion has been met in two ways; the creation of the South Bay and North Bay chapters that meet more locally, and the scheduling of special support groups at other times during the month.

At the present time the following support groups meet at other times during the month at fathers' homes:

- Weekly Support Group: every Tuesday an opportunity to socialize and participate in a small support group;
- Fathers with Teenagers: meets monthly;
- Fathers Over 45: meets monthly;
- Steering Committee: Principally an organizational meeting but also supportive.
- Weekend Retreats: Twice a year get-aways for intensive support groups and socialization.

The following are currently regular groups/topics that meet each monthly Sunday meeting as continuing support groups:

- Newcomers: an opportunity for new members to learn about what SFBAGF has to offer and to experience support around their circumstances as gay fathers;
- Transitions: an opportunity for members experiencing specific issues of divorce, visitation and custody disputes, coming out, coming together, breaking up, etc. or these changes in our lives that can benefit by mutual support;
- Teenagers Group: support group for teenage sons and daughters of gay fathers now in its third year;

- Preteenagers: a more activity oriented group for younger kids with opportunities for interaction and support around life's issues as appropriate;
- Spouses and Ex-Spouses of Gay Fathers: scheduled as a one time group earlier this year, this has become a successful continuing opportunity to look at issues, roles and relationships between gay men and their wives and ex-wives. Facilitated by a spouse, this group has drawn to the monthly meeting an increasing number of women who are spouses and ex-spouses.

In the past, continuing groups have included additional opportunities such as partners of gay fathers. It is expected that interest in continuing groups will wax and wane or that members will choose to meet at different time than the monthly meeting, this freeing space for a new continuing group or additional special groups at the regular monthly meeting.

Special groups focus on topics that are timely and of common concern to gay fathers and are scheduled for one time. Recent examples include a series on AIDS (AIDS-medical update; Person with AIDS; AIDS action-volunteer opportunities; insurance and wills). Relationship topics are common (e.g. monogamy vs. non-monogamy) as topics concerned with parenting (e.g. kids, fathers and drugs; gay parenting and the school system). Other topics have included religion, politics, sexuality, coming-out to our kids and others, employment, divorce and custody, etc.

Program feedback and evaluation is critical for maximum responsiveness and relevance. Much of San Francisco's evaluation comes from informal feedback through the facilitators and directly to the Program Coordinator and other Steering Committee Members. Towards the end of the year, however, a special group is convened at the monthly meeting to review the year and its programs and begin the planning for the next year and all its changes.

A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT FACILITATING

by Steve Graham

The very term "facilitating" implies serving as an agent to achieve an objective or, more simply, to help make something happen. In the groups sponsored by SFBAGF, the objective is to empower the members to support one another around issues they have in common as gay fathers. The role of the facilitator, then, is to help achieve this empowerment and mutual support. From this understanding it is clear that the facilitator does NOT do the following: 1) have all (or even some) of the answers; 2) do all (or most) of the talking; 3) serve as the "experienced" expert to the "novice" members; 4) serve as the "therapist" to the "troubled" members; or 5) serve as the leader to the "followers."

The facilitator should perform in a way that within the hour and one-half or so available, a number of things are achieved. First, the topic of the group must be sufficiently explained so that members can select a group that is relevant to them and is facilitated by someone with whom they are comfortable. It is probably best for the facilitator to announce the topic and state, if appropriate, the limit on the number of members the group can handle. (If a topic/group is too popular, it may be advisable to be prepared to split the group into two groups with an additional facilitator in order to keep the size a manageable one, between 8 and 12 usually.)

Once the group is convened a "sense of group" is established in the minds of the members. This requires a physical set-up that provides privacy and comfortable seating arranged in a circle so that all participants (and facilitator) are equal and no one sits behind or in front of another. This also requires the "closing" of the group to additional members at a certain point in time and discouraging members from leaving for another group (or group hopping). Facilitators can begin the group in any number of ways. Silence and perhaps guided meditation or physical relaxation provides the distancing from the rest of the evening and helps create a sense of group. This can be followed by a brief verbal

contribution by each member (allowing for those who are simply not ready to speak) that includes self-introductions and a brief "headline" of his personal experience or circumstances visa vis the topic. The "group" is constructed by the individual contributions of its members at the outset. The confidentiality of what is shared in the group is an unbreakable rule that must be stressed at the beginning.

Each member has an opportunity to share experiences and feelings with the group free of judgments and supported by his peers, the other members. Beginning with the introductory comments, (unless they are monopolizing the group to the irritation of others). The facilitator should discourage judgements by other members or immediate "advice" and encourage the sharing of similar experiences and related feelings. The work of the facilitator, then, is to manage the process of the group interaction, not to serve as the expert, therapist, or "answer man."

The members should experience their own self worth through the receiving and giving of mutual support to one another around the topic of the group. The facilitator should pay attention to the listening members (rather than always the member who is talking) to pick up on non-verbal reactions that could be encouraged to be verbalized and lead to the bonding of mutual support. The honest expression of negative and positive emotion should be allowed by the facilitator and, if at all possible, supported by other members rather than "taken care of" by the facilitator. As a practical matter, the facilitator should ask the group if any of them have had similar experiences or similar feelings to those expressed by a member to encourage this mutual emotional support.

Members should leave the group with a sense of accomplishment, closeness to other members, and with a sense that the process of mutual support is an ongoing one that can continue informally as friends, etc. in between meetings. A scheduled ending time usually requires the facilitator to wind up the group when there seems to be so much left to do. Asking members to share what they got from the group helps bring it to a comfortable close, allows recognition of unfinished business and opportunities for the facilitator to encourage informal networking.

The SFBACF began this year a facilitators' training program where members interested but inexperienced in facilitating could spend a Saturday learning basic techniques and practicing them in mock groups. Apprenticeships for several times before facilitating a group on their own is a good idea for breaking in new facilitators. So too is regular communicating, evaluation and feedback from facilitators in order to trouble-shoot a wide variety of problems, including members who require more intensive one-to-one help, changes in topics, sharpening of techniques to handle special problems and recruitment of new facilitators who seem to emerge as natural "co-facilitators" of groups.

Wants to Give You
Secret Before It's Too Late! Details below

Times Tribune

Enjoy Your Sexuality. Again.

25 Cents

Peninsula Edition

Gay Fathers Nuts And Bolts Operation Exposed!

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The Rise and Fall Of Sex and Stuff

WHY WOULD anybody care that Farley's homemade chocolate ice cream parlor has closed its Hayward St. office? Because the company — some 70 outlets, six of which were in the San Francisco area — was bought from Marriotti by a group led by Richard Himm & Associates, a company being reborn as the brand and husband of our beloved mayor. Arrogant as it is, Farley's has been losing about \$500,000 a month and is now back in Marriotti's hands. Worst case? Farley's is in a state of financial collapse. But Himm & Associates are pleased. Things like this keep him busy.

Drag Phone Sex Banned from Parade



The Startling Powerful Facts

By Jeff Braatt Times Tribune staff

When Dave Kadavek got out with three and a half million in a 15-month period that saved his rent and helped him pay off his debts, he decided it was time to try Mountain View's long-heralded mediation service. After calling the Palo Alto Area Information and Referral Service, the organization that runs both the Mountain View and Palo Alto mediation programs, he was assigned a mediator. The mediator then arranged a meeting for Kadavek and several fellow tenants from his apartment complex, and a representative from the property owner's company that oversees the complex. They met, they talked, and after two sessions, Kadavek and his fellow tenants walked out with each other's hands shaken in a gesture of goodwill. They met, they talked, and after two sessions, Kadavek and his fellow tenants walked out with each other's hands shaken in a gesture of goodwill.

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New President

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By Howard Mize Times Tribune staff
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Money Changes Everything

man through contract was as fixed the maximum of \$1,000,000. The plea came on the day of jury selection for the charges. U.S. Attorney Edward Dennis Jr. said the guilty plea means it could be barred for as long as three years from bringing on any new defense contracts but that he has received no indication of what the plea will do. U.S. District Court Judge Lewis F. Brittle said the maximum penalty

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT WE DO?

Would you call, and let us know?

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 • Mailing List • Non-Profit Status • Calendar

NUTS AND BOLTS

Please see CE, A-15

BYLAWS

OF THE

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND OFFICE

1.1. The name of this organization shall be: San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers.

1.2. The principal office shall be in San Francisco County, California.

ARTICLE 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

2.1. The San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers is a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to provide a supportive environment to fathers who are gay-oriented, by providing assistance to gay men in building a positive self-image and by supporting them in their endeavors to be loving and responsible fathers.

2.2. The organization shall deal with issues involving parenthood, co-parenting, child development, and gay life-styles, including but not limited to legal problems, custody, visitation, separation, divorce, adoption and social needs.

2.3. The organization shall obtain, compile, and disseminate educational and other information related to parenting issues, especially as they pertain to the gay community.

2.4. The organization shall provide assistance to similar groups in other locations, especially to those in the process of organizing.

2.5. The organization shall promote broader understanding of alternative parenting concerns within the general community.

2.6. The organization shall be specifically empowered to do the following in support of its purposes:

A. Solicit and receive grants, contributions, gifts and/or loans.

B. Hold benefits, functions, and other fund-raising events.

C. Join coalitions, federations, and other local and national groups consistent with the organization's purpose.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1. The San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers is based upon individual memberships. There shall be two categories of membership with the following qualifications:

A. Regular (Voting) Member: Any father or male legal guardian who is gay-oriented or any other gay-oriented male deemed by the Steering Committee to have a substantial fathering role in the life of a child.

B. Associate (Non-Voting) Member: The male lover or companion of a regular member not otherwise qualified for regular membership, or any gay-oriented individual who is actively preparing to assume a fathering role.

C. The Steering Committee shall be empowered to confer honorary associate memberships upon individuals or organizations which have made significant contributions to the organization or its purposes.

3.2. Only Regular Members and their guests and Associate Members shall be entitled to attend the organization's meetings, except that newcomers may attend two meetings prior to submitting a membership application.

3.3. Membership shall become effective as of the first regular meeting following the approval by the steering committee of an application and payment of dues.

3.4. All members whose dues are paid as of the date of ratification of these Bylaws shall become Regular Members of the organization and shall be entitled to retain regular membership thereafter.

ARTICLE 4. MEMBERSHIP DUES

4.1. The dues of the organization shall be as follows:

Regular: \$15/year \$10/semi-annual (August-December)

Associate: \$10/year \$5/semi-annual (August-December)

4.2. The Steering Committee shall propose any changes to the schedule in 4.1., which must be approved by a majority of the Regular Members present and voting at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE 5. VOTING RIGHTS

5.1. Regular Members in good standing may vote, each individual having one vote.

5.2. Members must vote in person except when an absentee ballot is provided in advance by the Steering Committee.

5.3. Upon a Call for Eligibility by any Regular Member, the Steering Committee shall determine the eligibility of the member to vote.

ARTICLE 6. OFFICERS

- 6.1. Titles: The organization shall have nine officers who shall be known collectively as the Steering Committee. The Officers shall consist of the following: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Program Coordinator, Special Events Coordinator, Communications Coordinator and the immediate past President who shall be non-voting ex-officio.
- 6.2. Steering Committee: The Steering Committee shall conduct the business of the organization, propose the general policies and direction of the organization to the membership, coordinate the regular monthly meetings, and plan special functions.
- 6.3. Eligibility and Term of Office: All officers shall have been Regular Members in good standing for at least three months prior to their election. No office may be filled by the same individual for more than two consecutive terms.
- 6.4. Five officers of the Steering Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- 6.5. Elections:
- A. Nominations will be opened at the October meeting. Nominations received will be published in the October newsletter. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the November meeting.
 - B. Officers shall be elected at the regular November meeting for one-year terms beginning January 1 of the following year.
 - C. Voting will be by secret ballot. Election shall be by majority vote. Should no candidate receive a majority of votes cast, a runoff election between the two leading candidates shall be held.
- 6.6. Resignation or Removal: Any officer may resign at any time by delivering a written resignation to the President or Secretary, which shall be presented to the membership at the next regular meeting. Any officer who misses three consecutive monthly Steering Committee meetings unless such absences are excused by the President shall be deemed to have resigned his position. Any officer may be removed at any time for cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the regular Members at a regular meeting, provided that notice of the proposed removal is mailed to all Regular members two weeks in advance and provided that such officer is given opportunity to speak on his own behalf prior to any vote.
- 6.7. Vacancies: Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the annual term by a majority vote of the Steering Committee.

6.8. Duties:

President: The President shall preside over all general meetings of the organization as well as meetings of the Steering Committee; shall establish committees with the advice of the Steering Committee; shall appoint all committee chairmen; shall be ex-officio member of all committees; shall be the official spokesman of the organization; shall provide direction to the individual Steering Committee members in their duties under these Bylaws; shall designate additional duties as required; shall provide overall editorial approval of the monthly newsletter; shall sign major correspondence; shall co-sign checks in excess of an amount to be determined by the Steering Committee; shall sign contracts and legal documents; and shall otherwise perform the duties of the chief executive officer.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President in his absence or incapacity; shall serve as permanent Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee; and shall perform other such duties as prescribed.

Secretary: The Secretary shall take and maintain accurate minutes of meetings; shall maintain all organizational records; shall provide notices or correspondence requested by the President or Steering Committee; shall maintain and distribute every six months a roster of paid-up members; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall keep all records of accounts, receipts, and disbursements, and any other financial information required for the completion of State and Federal reports; shall sign routine disbursements up to an amount determined by the Steering Committee; shall collect dues from all members; shall provide the Steering Committee at its February meeting a proposed annual budget for submission to the general membership no later than the March monthly meeting; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

Program Coordinator: The Program Coordinator shall be responsible for planning the content and organization of monthly membership meetings; shall develop tentative agendas for advance Steering Committee approval; shall recruit facilitators and speakers; shall maintain a program resources file; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

Special Events Coordinator: The Special Events Coordinator shall serve as the organization's liaison with other community groups and coordinate the organization's participation in community events; shall coordinate fund-raising events with the Vice-President and Treasurer; shall plan special events for members and children; shall develop an annual calendar of special events and supporting budget for the Steering Committee to present to the membership; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

Librarian: The Librarian shall maintain the organization's resources library and coordinate acquisition and circulation of materials related to the organization's purpose; shall serve as the organization's historian-archivist; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

Communications Coordinator: The Communications Coordinator shall be responsible for assembling, editing, producing, and distributing the monthly newsletter; shall coordinate all public information and media coverage for and about the organization; shall prepare announcements for the bulletin board; shall be responsible for any membership yearbook; and shall perform other duties as prescribed.

ARTICLE 7. MEETINGS

7.1. The regular membership meetings will be held monthly at a time and place designated by the Steering Committee. Notice shall be provided in the monthly newsletter.

7.2. The Steering Committee shall meet monthly at a time and place designated by the President.

7.3. The Annual Meeting shall be the November monthly meeting.

7.4. Meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts' Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 8. AMENDMENTS

8.1. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be considered only at the February, June, and October meetings.

8.2. Amendments may be proposed by the Steering Committee or by a petition of 20 regular members submitted to the Steering Committee one month prior to a regular meeting at which amendments may be considered. The proposed amendment shall be published in the newsletter prior to a meeting when amendments will be considered.

8.3. Amendments will require approval by two-thirds of the Regular Members present.

ARTICLE 9. RATIFICATION

9.1. These Bylaws shall become effective upon ratification by a majority vote of the Regular Members present and voting at a regular meeting.

SFBAGF BUDGET 1985

	2	3	4	5	6
ITEM		BUDGETED EXPENSE \$	BUDGETED INCOME \$		
GENERAL SUPPORT					
MONTHLY MEETINGS		1000			
MID MONTH		240			
INSURANCE		350			
PHONE (ANS SERV)		800			
VIDEOTAPE MATERIALS		200			
INT COALITION DUES (2)		350			
CONVENTION		400			
MISC PRESIDENTS DISC FUND		600			
GEN'L PRINTED MATERIAL		1000			
KITCHEN FUND		100			
SECRETARIAL		200			
PROGRAM		250			
NEWSLETTER		1300	300		
		6790	300		
LIBRARY					
MATERIALS		250			
XEROXING		500			
ADVERTISING		100			
PHOTO SUPPLIES		100			
SALES OF ARTICLES			800		
		950	800		
SPECIAL EVENTS					
SPRING/SUMMER/FALL RETREAT		3600	3000		
STREET FAIRS		150			
CHRISTMAS PARTY		300			
VALENTINES PARTY		100			
BEACH PARTY		100			
GAY PRIDE PARADE		1000			
FATHERS FAIRE		200			
		5450	3000		
FUNDRAISING					
ANNUAL DUES			2250		
MONTHLY COLLECTIONS			1200		
T-SHIRTS/BUTTONS		400	800		
GARAGE SALES (2)		100	2000		
FUND RAISER			2840		
BAKE SALE			500		
		500	9590		
TOTAL		12190	12190		

THE BUDGET

by Dick Sharpnak

The budget of the S.F.G.A.G.F. is the picture of spending and income we see at the beginning of each year. It is a flexible budget that responds to unexpected expenses or lack of income.

WAYS WE RAISE MONEY:

1. Yearly membership dues - \$15 for singles, \$25 for couples.
2. \$2 to \$5 door charge at our monthly potluck dinners.
3. Two garage sales each year.
4. Fund raiser in conjunction with Gay \pride week.
5. Bake sale in conjunction with local health fair.
6. Sale of "Gay Fathers" T-shirts.

SUGGESTIONS:

The support of the entire membership in fund-raising is necessary if spending goals are to be met.

A strong fund-raising committee will support membership involvement.

Fund-raising events should be scheduled prior to major expenditures. You will know then if you have the money to spend.

THE COMPUTER AND THE GAY FATHERS

by Partick Lane

The SFBAGF uses an IBM PC to manage its membership lists. The computer offers an excellent way to maintain the list accurately and efficiently. However, the accuracy and efficiency of this operation depends on a close and constant communication between the secretary and the computer father. Without this communication there will be complaints from father who are on the mailing list who have paid their dues and are not receiving the newsletter. This implies the same close communication link between the treasurer and computer father also. The computer serves as the central clearing house for much important information relating to the membership and also to the organization itself.

Although the SFBAGF Steering Committee meetings are open to all members, some organizations may have closed meetings. In this case the meetings should always be open to the computer father so that he can have his input and provide a basic understanding of what the computer needs to operate best. Even though most of us know something about computers it is still difficult and sometimes amazing what they can do and can be used for. This understanding does not come about by magic. Someone always has to instruct this machine on what to do and how to do it.

Another very important contribution of the computer father is the continuity that he provides under changing leadership. If an organization uses the same computer father from year to year, a way of operating is established that gives continuity to the records and organization of the group. Be aware that any major changes in your system may take considerable time to debug.

SFBAGF has a few members that are not "out". In these cases they are not listed on any listing that goes out to the members. Once a year the members receive a roster of the fathers listed with addresses and phone numbers. This year we have added a second phone number so that those fathers who wish can be contacted during the day.

SFBAGF has also begun a second listing based on a questionnaire that was mailed out with our membership letter in January. This listing will be available to those who have similar interest and desire. The Steering Committee will be in charge of handling this information and it will not be sent to the membership due to the nature of the information. The Survey was designed by one of the fathers who designs surveys professionally. Sample of this database are not included as it is not completed yet, but it contains information of a more confidential and personal nature.

The membership list contains a space for the inclusion of members children with their ages. (In order to sort the names chronologically be sure to put the year first, followed by the month, and lastly the day of the month.) We intend to send birthday cards to the children at some point. Meanwhile the listing of children is used primarily during the summer time to find out what fathers and which children can share outings together. Since the children can be sorted according to age, fathers with similarly aged children can be put into contact with one another.

The software used in our mailing list is dBASE II. Although this is for all practical purposes a programming language there are usually those around organizations who are currently using it or some other complete database program that will fill the bill. Since dBASE II is so popular the actual program for printing our mailing list has been included.

The actual structure of the database is included below. The number of characters in the fields is important as they relate to the printed listing program. A "C" in the "TYPE" column indicates that the information entered into that field is "character", the "N" means that the data input is numerical. (Phone numbers and date are considered "character" because they will not have mathematical fundtions performed on them. The database structure is as follows:

```
STRUCTURE FOR FILE: B:FATHERS .DEF
NUMBER OF RECORDS: 00254
DATE OF LAST UPDATE: 05/26/85
PRIMARY USE DATABASE
FLD      NAME      TYPE WIDTH  DEC
001      FSINAME   C    010
002      LSINAME   C    015
003      ALPHA     C    020
004      ADDRESS   C    030
005      CITY     C    015
006      STATE    C    002
007      ZIP      C    005
008      STATUS   C    001
009      PHONE    C    014
010      PHOOT    C    014
011      LISTED   C    001
012      CHILD1   C    030
013      CHILD2   C    030
014      CHILD3   C    030
015      CHILD4   C    030
016      LTRSENT  N    003
** TOTAL **          00251
```

The database contains 16 fields for the input of information. The alpha field is simply the last name first, last name second. This field is included mostly to make a printed list easy to read and to assist with printing the list alphabetically. By using this field a report can be narrower on a page and the last name and first name are closer together. The "PHOOT" field is merely the second phone number. The "CHILD#" fields begin with the child's birthday so that the children can be sorted according to age as was mentioned above. The "LTRSENT" field keeps track of how many letters have been sent to names on the list. The "STATUS" field is used to categorize members. For example "a" refers to a Steering Committee Member, "d" refers to a member who has paid dues this year, "g" is used for members who were active last year but not this year. This gives us the ability to send personalized letters to these people trying to get them back into the active category. "i" is used for inactive member (members not paying dues for two or more years) and "s" is used for a category of special friends of the SFBAGF who would like to receive the newsletter. The status field prints out alphabetically on the mailing list. Thus, the "a" for Steering Committee means that this group will be printed out first, "d" which is the current active members prints out second and so forth. The following is a sample of how our mailing list looks. The names of the Steering Committee are correct since they are listed elsewhere in this document. All other names have been changed since we don't give our listing out to non-members.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS June 2, 1985

STEERING COMMITTEE

Lastname	Firstname	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone - 1	Phone - 2
Graham	Steve	774 Joost Avenue	San Francisco	CA	94127	(415) 584-0586	(415) 922-5438
Hopkins	Henry	3960 B 18th Street	San Francisco	CA	94114	(415) 621-7052	
Huot	Jean-Louis	1335 Clay, #2	San Francisco	CA	94109	(415) 474-0657	(415) 864-3529
Jones	Bill	B-61 Issaquah Dock	Sausalito	CA	94965	(415) 332-2270	
Lane	Patrick	2475 19th	San Francisco	CA	94116	(415) 564-6834	(415) 681-1053
Lowe	Cliff	1285 El Curtola Boulevard	Walnut Creek	CA	94595	(415) 932-2157	
Messer	John	3540 Monterrey Blvd.	Oakland	CA	94619	(415) 841-6500	(415) 530-9330
Roberts	John K.	2525 Stuart Street, #401	Berkeley	CA	94705	(415) 848-3416	
Schultz	Ronald	78 Buchanan, #203	San Francisco	CA	94102	(415) 861-3276	(415) 563-3444
Sharpnack	Dick	872 Walker Ave. #4	Oakland	CA	94610	(415) 835-2054	

THERE ARE 10 IN THIS CATEGORY

ACTIVE MEMBERS who have paid dues this year

Lastname	Firstname	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone - 1	Phone - 2
Agamemnon	Mike	2436 Belden Avenue	Redwood City	CA	94963	(415) 363-3555	
Andrews	Zoltan	450 Buchwald, #A	San Francisco	CA	94132	(415) 455-5959	
Barry	Bob	PO Box 4567	San Francisco	CA	94326	(415) 345-8675	
Belchwin	Lane	145 Portsmouth Drive, #56	San Francisco	CA	94151	(415) 233-5467	

The following is the dBASE II program listing the print the above list. The printer must be capable of print 15 characters per inch in order for the listing to fit on an 8.5 by 11 inch piece of paper. This pitch should be selected before running the program.

```
SET TALK OFF
ERASE
SET PRINT ON
SET MARGIN TO 11
SET PRINT OFF
```



```

ACCEPT 'ENTER THE DATE' TO DATE
ACCEPT 'WHAT DATABASE WILL YOU BE USING' TO USE
ACCEPT 'DOES THE DATABASE NEED TO BE INDEXED (Y/N)' TO INDEX
USE &USE
IF !(INDEX) = 'Y'
? 'Presently indexing the database'
INDEX ON STATUS+ALPHA TO ININ
USE &USE INDEX ININ
ELSE
USE &USE INDEX ININ
ENDIF
SET PRINT ON
? 'SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA GAY FATHERS',DATE
?
STORE 1 TO PAGE
STORE 2 TO LINES
DO WHILE .NOT.EOF
IF STATUS = 'a'
? 'STEERING COMMITTEE'
? 'Lastname      Firstname      Address      ;
   City          ST Zip       Phone - 1     Phone - 2'
? '=====;'
   ;
STORE LINES+3 TO LINES
ENDIF
IF STATUS = 'd'
? 'ACTIVE MEMBERS who have paid dues this year'
? 'Lastname      Firstname      Address      ;
   City          ST Zip       Phone - 1     Phone - 2'
? '=====;'
   ;
STORE LINES+3 TO LINES
ENDIF
IF STATUS = 'g'
? 'INACTIVE MEMBERS who were active last year'
? 'Lastname      Firstname      Address      ;
   City          ST Zip       Phone - 1     Phone - 2'
? '=====;'
   ;
STORE LINES+3 TO LINES
ENDIF
IF STATUS = 'i'
? 'INACTIVE MEMBERS who were active over one year ago'
? 'Lastname      Firstname      Address      ;
   City          ST Zip       Phone - 1     Phone - 2'
? '=====;'
   ;
STORE LINES+3 TO LINES
ENDIF
STORE LINES+1 TO LINES
STORE STATUS TO MSTAT
STORE 0 TO COUNT
DO WHILE MSTAT=STATUS .AND. .NOT.EOF
? L$NAME,' ',F$NAME,' ',ADDRESS,' ',CITY,STATE,ZIP,' ',PHONE;

```

```

,' ',PHOOT
STORE LINES+1 TO LINES
STORE COUNT+1 TO COUNT
IF LINES > 54
STORE 0 TO LINES
EJECT
STORE PAGE+1 TO PAGE
? 'SFBAGF ',TRIM(DATE)
? 'PAGE ',TRIM(SIR(PAGE,2))
?
? 'Lastname      Firstname  Address          ;
  City          ST Zip    Phone - 1       Phone - 2'
? '=====;
=====;
?
STORE LINES+6 TO LINES
ENDIF
SKIP
ENDDO
?
? 'THERE ARE ',TRIM(SIR(COUNT,3)), ' IN THIS CATEGORY'
?
?
STORE LINES+4 TO LINES
ENDDO
SET PRINT OFF
SET TALK ON
CANCEL

```

The following is a listing for the dBASE II program that prints our labels on three-up continuous form labels. (The "escape codes" refer to the Epson mx-100 printer and will need to be changed if another printer is used.)

```

SET TALK OFF
SET PRINT ON
? CHR(27)+CHR(81)+CHR(120)
? CHR(27)+CHR(71)
? CHR(27)+CHR(69)
? CHR(27)+'C'+CHR(72)
SET PRINT OFF
SET EJECT OFF
SET FORMAT TO PRINT
STORE T TO SET
STORE 1 TO LINE
ACCEPT 'WHAT DATABASE DO YOU WANT TO USE' TO DBASE
ACCEPT 'WHAT INDEX TO YOU WANT TO USE' TO INDEX
USE B:&DBASE INDEX B:&INDEX
LOCATE FOR STATUS = 'a' .OR. STATUS = 'd' .OR. STATUS = 'X' .OR. STATUS = 'X'
DO WHILE .NOT.EOF
STORE $(FSTNAME,1,20)-(' '+$(LSINAME,1,20)) TO NAM1
STORE ADDRESS TO ADD1
STORE $(CITY,1,20)-(' ',+$(STATE,1,2))-(' '+$(ZIP,1,5)) TO CIT1
STORE LIRSENT+1 TO LIRSENT
CONT

```

```

STORE $(FSINAME,1,20)-(' '+$(LSINAME,1,20)) TO NAM2
STORE ADDRESS TO ADD2
STORE $(CITY,1,20)-(' '+$(STATE,1,2))-(' '+$(ZIP,1,5)) TO CIT2
STORE LTRSENT+1 TO LTRSENT
CONT
STORE $(FSINAME,1,20)-(' '+$(LSINAME,1,20)) TO NAM3
STORE ADDRESS TO ADD3
STORE $(CITY,1,20)-(' '+$(STATE,1,2))-(' '+$(ZIP,1,5)) TO CIT3
STORE LTRSENT+1 TO LTRSENT
STORE TRIM(NAM1) TO NAM1
STORE TRIM(NAM2) TO NAM2
STORE TRIM(NAM3) TO NAM3
STORE TRIM(ADD1) TO ADD1
STORE TRIM(ADD2) TO ADD2
STORE TRIM(ADD3) TO ADD3
@ LINE,2 SAY '
STORE LINE+1 TO LINE
IF SET
WAIT
STORE F TO SET
ENDIF
@ LINE,2 SAY NAM1
@ LINE,38 SAY NAM2
@ LINE,74 SAY NAM3
STORE LINE+1 TO LINE
@ LINE,2 SAY ADD1
@ LINE,38 SAY ADD2
@ LINE,74 SAY ADD3
STORE LINE+1 TO LINE
@ LINE,2 SAY CIT1
@ LINE,38 SAY CIT2
@ LINE,74 SAY CIT3
STORE LINE+1 TO LINE
@ LINE,1 SAY '
?
?
STORE LINE+2 TO LINE
IF LINE >69
STORE 1 TO LINE
ENDIF
CONT
ENDDO

```

If you would like to have a copy of these programs on disk or sent by modem to one of your members please feel free to call Patrick Lane at (415) 564-6834.

THE LAW AND THE PROFITS: WHAT LEGAL STATUS FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION?

by Dave Wharton

I am a gay fathers and a lawyer specializing in nonprofit organizations. My experiences, good and bad, with nonprofit and community service organizations can be summarized succinctly: incorporate as a nonprofit and obtain federal and state tax-exempt status as quickly as possible.

If you are not incorporate, the laws of your state regulate your existence in way that you may not know of; in fact, these regulation may cause you avoidable problems. Fathers groups are unincorporated associations until they act to be otherwise.

Benefits of incorporation are:

- 1) protection from personal liability for officers and members; and
- 2) ease of doing business with other intitities: banks, phone company, landlord, insurance company, post office.

To incorporate, a group must file Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State at the State Capitol; along with a filling fee (usually about \$200). The Articles, sometimes know in some states as a Charter, is a simple, fairly standardized form, usually 2 or 3 pages in length. The secretary of State's Office may provide simplified explanatory brochures, or a father/lawyer may be able to assist you.

After incorporation, the group needs to draft bylaws, which are internal rules of operation for the corporation dealing with officers, meetings, elections, financial accountability, and the means for exercising various corporate powers.

Next step is to obtain Sec. 501(c)(3) tax exempt status from the IRS. Obtain IRS form 1023 and review it for requirements. This status means that incorporated fathers groups generally pay no tax on income and that all contributions are tax-deductible to the donor (with some exceptions). This 501(c)(3) Status makes if attractive for corporations and foundations potentially to lend support to the group, financially or in-kind through space use, studies, library development, or the like. Donations could even be channeled to the group through United Way's donor option plan!

In California, Franchise Tax Board form 3500 set the stage for tax-exempt status at the State level. Similar procedures exist in other States.

Articles of Incorporation, bylaws, form 1023 etc., etc. - the paperwork may seem endless, but it's the legal equivalent of disaster prevention, and it will pay dividends to members year after year. My short, sweet recommendation is: DO IT NOW! If you need legal assistance I'd be glad to help. Please feel free to call me at (415) 648-4440.

THE CALENDAR

by Bill Jones

Mark Stephens began a new tradition for the SFBAGF when he called his steering committee together for their first meeting in January. They met for a full 8 hour day and planned the calendar for the entire year. Blank calendar pages for all 12 months are passed out to each committee member. The main potlucks are penciled in with special note taken of interfering national holidays. Steering Committee meetings, support group meetings, mailing bees, deadlines for the newsletter, fund-raising events, special events, retreats, mid-month meetings, and hopefully the birthday of the President are all noted

and planned for the upcoming year.

The secretary then compiles the dates and copies them for the Steering Committee and for the newsletter.

The following is a sample of one of our monthly calendars from the newsletter.

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

- JUN 2
SUNDAY
5PM
GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER - 1ST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, POST AND MASON STREETS, SAN FRANCISCO. SEE INSIDE FOR POTLUCK DINNER ASSIGNMENTS. THE SOCIAL HOUR FOR ALL MEMBERS BEGINS AT 5 PM WITH DINNER AT 6 PM.
- JUN 4
TUES
7:30PM
WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUP - AT THE HOME OF ED KENT, 1050 DOLORES STREET, BETWEEN 23RD AND 24TH STREETS. PHONE 641-8146. WE MAY HAVE VISITING GAY FATHERS FROM OTHER AREAS AT THIS MEETING.
- JUN 6
THUR
7:30PM
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - AT THE HOME OF HENRY HOPKINS, 3960B 18TH STREET, BETWEEN NOE AND SANCHEZ. PHONE - 621-7052. PROMPTNESS IS APPRECIATED SO PLEASE NOTE THAT CASTRO PARKING IS DIFFICULT.
- JUN 8
SAT
8PM
HOUSEBOAT COCKTAIL PARTY - A FUNDRAISER AT THE HOUSEBOAT OF BILL JONES, B-61 ISSAQUAH DOCK, SAUSALITO. TEN DOLLARS ADMISION. CALL BILL AT 332-2270 IF YOU NEED DIRECTIONS.
- JUN 9
SUNDAY
11AM
TO 2PM
SUNDAY POTLUCK BRUNCH - AT THE HOUSEBOAT OF BILL JONES, SAUSALITO. PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THIS SOCIAL EVENT AT THE MONTHLY POTLUCK ON JUNE 2ND, OR CALL BILL AT 332-2270 OR JOHN MESSER AT 841-6500.
- JUN 11
WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUP - SEE JUNE 4TH
- JUN 17
MONDAY
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - SEND INFORMATION TO JOHN ROBERTS, 2525 STUART STREET #401, BERKELEY, 94705. PHONE 848-3416.
- JUN 18
WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUP - SEE JUNE 4TH
- JUN 20
THUR
7PM
MEETING FOR FATHERS OF TEENS - AT THE HOME OF JOHN MESSER, 3540 MONTEREY BLVD., OAKLAND. PLEASE CALL JOHN AT 841-6500 TO RSVP.
- JUN 25
WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUP - SEE JUNE 4TH
- JUN 27
THUR
OVER 45 FORUM AND NEWSLETTER MAILING BEE - AT THE HOME OF HENRY HOPKINS, 3960B 18TH STREET, BETWEEN NOE AND

WE WANT TO MAKE IT WITH YOU

THE **PRESS** DEMOCRAT

— Amazing Photos

Terri-Graphic

Santa Rosa, Calif., Friday, May 10, 1985

• Stationery • Posters
• Brochures
• Certificates
• Logos

A picture is worth a thousand words



Get It Together!

Art Can Be Both Sensuous And Practical

By CATHERINE BARNETT
Santa Rosa police arrested about 90 demonstrators Friday from the Federal Building office Thursday — the most arrests for civil disobedience ever in the city.
The cerebral protesters in the last Saturday's march intended to be arrested. They resisted their bus ride to jail, chatting with the uniformed Marine recruiter and outpacing the arrest of police.
Santa Rosa police, consulted beforehand by the demonstrators protesting American policy in Central America, notified by pre-arrangement to arrest by protesters hitting the

recruiting offices and a hall at the Federal Building.
The demonstrators were arrested in groups and police said they arrested about 90 people. Police were unable to provide a precise count Thursday night.
All were cited on misdemeanor charges of willful and malicious obstruction of a law enforcement officer in public places but were not jailed. The maximum punishment is \$1,000 and six months in jail.
The tactics of the 1980s street demonstrations were there — "We Shall Overcome" and "I Had a Dreamer" — but the anger and violence

were not.
Lt. Rodney Stevens of the Santa Rosa Police Department observed the protest on every possible angle.
Stevens said Thursday's arrests were the most ever made by Santa Rosa police in a protest, however.
He said protesters and riot with police were planning the march to gain a jail for a "show" turn up.
"It is a subtle difference than it used to be. They used to just show up and fight," Stevens said.
(See Arrests, back page)

S.F.B.A.G.A. Give Graphic Details!

From wire and staff reports
To the dismay of offshore oil drilling opponents, new studies say there are more oil and gas reserves off the Northern California coast than originally projected.

san francisco has never seen anything like it

Documents released Thursday by the Department of Interior in Washington, D.C., reduced previous projections of reserves in the Atlantic, Alaska and Southern California areas, but indicated there is more to be found off critical areas of the Central and Northern California coastline.

Warner Chabot of Marine County, a spokesman for offshore drilling opponents, predicted the new estimates will increase the pressure to lift a congressional moratorium against oil and gas exploration and drilling off the Northern California coast.

"There said he did not dispute the figures, which he called optimistic, but said they will generate even stronger opposition from the state and local governments" against the sale of "federal and Northern California oil leases."
The new estimates combined with a 1984 report by Alaska

SACRAMENTO — A private oil company has received permission to drill the first oil and gas test holes off the coast of Sonoma and Mendocino counties and elsewhere along Northern California, the federal Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday.

How soon test drilling would begin, however, was anybody's guess.

Almost as soon as the approval was made, state legislators, members of Congress and environmentalists vowed they would fight the decision. State Coast Commercial fishermen also have been opposed to the drilling and (See Critical, back page)

EXCITEMENT THROUGH CREATIVITY

WEATHER



Shoveling on The Goodwill

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THE NUCLEAR BUTTON

Startling Story of America's Defense Systems

STARTING TODAY ON PAGE 6

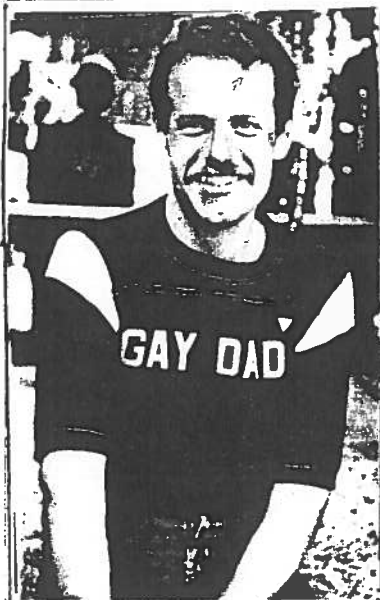


Army Blowing Nearly 2 Billion

state warned the death penalty. Covering the 1980s, it shows an upward trend in the first-degree murder.
He said the state's "highly publicized" case, which he said was "a case of a man who was convicted of a crime that he did not commit."

Inspiring Your Neighbors

Can News Service
Encouraged by remarkable success with brain transplants in animals, scientists are now hopeful that the procedure eventually will provide an effective treatment for a variety of human brain disorders, including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.
Other scientists spurred by successful tests with animals already are implanting small, drug-secreting implants into the brains of some patients to relieve severe, intractable pain, muscle spasms and other neurological problems caused by damaged nerve cells.
These bold forays into neural and human brains are a result of



How to Get What You Want

YOUR CHOICE

By SUZAN SWARTZ
Family physician Calvin Steover, who's delivered babies in Sonoma County for 23 years, was removed in April from the staffs of Memorial and Community hospitals, an action he contends will destroy his large obstetrics practice.
"I don't know how I can go back to delivering babies," said Steover, who will appeal his dismissal from both hospitals. He said he also will sue both for damages.
The 54-year-old contends his punishment is because of medical politics and not professional negligence. "I'm a maverick... but a handy practice," he said.
"This has wiped out 23 years of practice. The damage has been done."
Memorial, in a letter to Steover, said he was dismissed by the hospital's executive committee, made up of physicians, for a "pattern of poor judgment and management."
Community, in a letter dated three days later, did not specify any particular offense but said its executive committee voted

unanimously to rescind his obstetrics privileges.
Neither hospital will comment publicly on the action, saying staff changes are internal matters.
Both hospitals said Steover is no longer allowed to practice obstetrics at their facilities.
Steover said the hospitals are the only ones with obstetrics departments nearby to his Santa Rosa office. He said he's turned away 50 expectant mothers, referring them to other doctors, since the dismissals. Some of the patients, he said, had previous babies delivered by him.
His lawyer claims the loss of obstetrics privileges, "the nucleus of a family practice," will deprive Steover of "\$1 to \$2 million over his career."
Steover says he's delivered close to 2,000 babies, including 800 at home, and claims it is his willingness to do home births as well as be a back-up doctor for mothers that led to his removal from the hospitals. Even for patients who plan to deliver at home, a doctor needs hospital privileges in case he has to admit (See Doctor, back page)

If You've Got It, Flaunt It!

state warned the death penalty. Covering the 1980s, it shows an upward trend in the first-degree murder.
He said the state's "highly publicized" case, which he said was "a case of a man who was convicted of a crime that he did not commit."

steering him to the state prison for a 10-year term. The court was told that Steover was a "maverick" and a "handy practice."
The jury, which recommended leniency, also could have returned lower verdicts of 2nd-degree

VISUAL GRAPHICS



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

GAY FATHERS

P.O. Box 31622, San Francisco, CA 94131

GRAPHICALLY SPEAKING

by Bill Jones

A picture IS worth a thousand words! Look at our letterhead for instance. you get the idea immediately. Two mature men, affectionate with each other and nurturing their offspring. BUT not good enough for us. The children do not also represent our teenagers and the figures are beginning to remind us of shadows on cement after a nuclear bomb blast. So Cal Anderson has improved our image with an improved logo. See it on the following page.

We needed a way to thank our volunteer officers and other fathers who put in so much time, energy, and talent for our organization. Not just words or flowers that soon fade with memory. Something they would be proud to hang on their walls. Something to refresh their feelings of affection in the years to come. I designed, with the help of a lay-out artist, the certificate of appreciation included in this book. It does three things, actually. One, it thanks someone in particular for a particular job well done. Two, it becomes a messenger of good will when we use it to thank the print, radio, or TV media for a job that is sympathetic to our cause. And third, it encourages others in our group to volunteer for jobs.

A brochure for our group is MOST important. We hand it out at fairs and mail it out to answer inquiries. It must have a graphic appeal as well as being concise and informative.

Toronto is ahead of us with an idea. They are producing a poster about Gay Fathers to put up in the bars, etc. That should open the doors for many new members. We are following in their footsteps.

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B.O.W.L.E.R. I.N.F.O.R.M.A.T.I.O.N

Q. ARE YOU NUTS? I CAN'T BOWL!

A. OOOH YES YOU CAN! LET OUT YOUR INNER-BOWLER AND COME MEET LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO THINK A SPARE IS WHAT'S IN THE TRUNK. **AND** IF YOUR INNER-BOWLER DOESN'T DO IT FOR YOU, THERE'LL ALSO BE YUMMY FOOD, SILLY PRIZES, AND MUCH MORE.



Q. SO WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

A. YERBA BUENA BOWLING CENTER 750 FOLSOM ST. (B/T 3RD & 4TH), SF 2ND FL., LOCATED AT THE ROOFTOP AT YERBA BUENA GARDENS, ON THE ROOF OF MOSCONE CONVENTION CENTER. NEED MORE DIRECTIONS? CALL YERBA BUENA BOWLING CENTER AT (415) 820-3541 OR VISIT WWW.SKATEBOWL.COM/ AND CLICK ON "DIRECTIONS".

6 EASY STEPS TO BECOMING A FABULOUS COLAGE BOWLER

ANYONE CAN BOWL. LITTLE KIDS, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, TEENS, GAYBY BOOMERS, AND EVERYONE IN BETWEEN CAN DO IT.

1. TIP: EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATES GETS A FABULOUS PRIZE!

TAKE THIS PLEDGE SHEET WHEREVER YOU GO, AND SIGN UP FRIENDS, FAMILY, SCHOOL- BUDDIES CO-WORKERS, -- YOU GET THE IDEA.

2. TIP: ASK PEOPLE WHO WILL GIVE LOTS OF SUPPORT TO PLEDGE YOU FIRST, TO SET A STRONG EXAMPLE.

TIP #2: ON THE OUTGOING MESSAGE OF YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE OR VOICE MAIL, LEAVE A REQUEST FOR PLEDGES.

BRING THIS SHEET AND ALL THE MONEY YOU'VE COLLECTED TO THE BOWL-A-THON.

4. TIP: IF YOU DON'T COME, PLEASE MAIL EVERYTHING TO **COLAGE**, 3543 18TH ST, #1 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

SET A PLEDGE GOAL FOR YOURSELF - \$100, \$250, \$500. **TIP:** PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP PLEDGE-GETTER, THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST GAME SCORES, AND ANYONE WHO COLLECTS MORE THAN \$100 IN PLEDGES!

5. TIP: DON'T LIMIT YOURSELF TO JUST ONE PLEDGE FORM! MAKE A PHOTOCOPY BEFORE YOU START COLLECTING PLEDGES OR CONTACT **COLAGE** FOR MORE FORMS.

3. COLLECT ALL THE PLEDGES BEFORE THE BOWL-A-THON, WITH CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO "**COLAGE**" **TIP:** ATTACH AN ENVELOPE TO THIS SHEET AND COLLECT THE MONEY AS YOU SIGN PEOPLE UP.

6. BOWL!

TIP: RAISE \$20.00 OR MORE AND BOWL FOR FREE!

Note: Bowlers who don't collect pledges pay \$20 to participate in the event.

Q. CAN I MAKE IT TO THE BOWLATHON? A. SPONSOR A BOWLER!

HERE'S HOW! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CALL **COLAGE** AT 415-861-KIDS AND TELL US WHICH PLEDGE RANGE YOU WANT TO MATCH.

TIP: IT'S A GREAT WAY TO RAISE MONEY IF YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO COLLECT PLEDGES OR CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE BOWL-A-THON.

TIP #2: ASK NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS TO SPONOR A TEAM OF BOWLERS (SUCH AS A **COLAGE** MIDDLE GROUP OR HIGH SCHOOL GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE) BY MATCHING THE GROUP'S PLEDGES.

THE PLEDGE RANGES ARE:

- \$25-\$50 \$50-\$100
 \$100-\$250 \$250 AND UP!

YOUR HARD EARNED PLEDGES WILL GO TOWARDS EXCITING & IMPORTANT

BAY AREA **COLAGE** PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS! INCLUDING:

- ART & ADVENTURE SUPPORT GROUPS
- AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAMMING
- ANNUAL FAMILY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

QUESTIONS? • WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

CALL **COLAGE** AT (415) 861-KIDS (5437) • EMAIL BETH@COLAGE.ORG • WWW.COLAGE.ORG

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID SAN FRANCISCO, CA PERMIT NO. 925



3543 18TH ST. #1
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

*****3-DIGIT 941

GLHS
973 Market St Fl 4
San Francisco CA 94103-1710

9 1



FAMILY FUN!!!

URGENT DATED MATERIAL!!!

415-861-KIDS (5437) or email beth@colage.org • www.colage.org

Pledge Form Inside! • For More info Contact COLAGE

★ **BOWL FOR PLEDGES, BAY AREA PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES** ★
SPONSOR A BOWLER ★ ULTRA COOL PRIZES

JOIN US TO HAVE FUN AND TO RAISE MONEY FOR COLAGE BAY AREA PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Saturday • December 8th, 2001 • 1pm-3pm
Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

COLAGE SIXTH ANNUAL BOWL-A-THON



COLAGE SIXTH ANNUAL BOWL-A-TTHON

Raise money for COLAGE--support and activism by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents

★ **JOIN US FOR FUN, ★
FAMILY & FRIENDS!**

Saturday • December 8th, 2001

1pm-3pm

Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF 

ULTRA COOL PRIZES AWARDED TO:

- ★ MOST MONEY RAISED ★ LOWEST & HIGHEST SCORES
- ★ BEST BOWLING OUTFIT ★ HIGHEST NUMBER OF PLEDGES
- ★ AND MUCH MORE!

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Sponsors at press time are:

AmericanAirlines®




The Yerba Buena
Bowling Center

For Pledge Forms and further info Contact **COLAGE**

415-861-KIDS (5437) or email beth@colage.org www.colage.org

Please Post

CUT HERE



COLAGE BOWL-A-TTHON

Raise money for COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) support and activism by and for people with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents.

Saturday • December 8th, 2001 • 1pm-3pm • Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

P • L • E • D • G • E F • O • R • M

Bowler's name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Bowler's instructions are on Q&A page. (See reverse)

All donations are tax deductible.

Sponsor's Name	Address/City/ State	Zip	Phone	Pledge	Method of Payment	Paid
X Janet Sample	99 Sample St., San Francisco, CA	94949	(415) 555-1212	\$25	Cash/Check	X
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I release COLAGE and its organizers from any claims or liability resulting from my participation in the COLAGE Bowl-a-thon.

signature of bowler _____ date _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____
Total Pledges: _____ please bring full amt to the event. **Total Paid** _____

Amount Received: _____ For Office Use Only
 Cash _____ Check _____ Amount Due _____ Name: _____
 Outstanding Amount Received _____ Date _____ Form Completed



Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere

3543 18th St., #17
San Francisco, CA 94110

Tel: 415-861-5437

Fax: 415-255-8345

E-mail: COLAGE@COLAGE.org

Website: www.COLAGE.org

COLAGE is an international organization dedicated to support, advocacy, and education for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender parents.

Our goal is to promote the acceptance of all families regardless of race, ethnicity, class, or sexual orientation. We specifically foster the growth of children of lgbt parents, and seek to create healthier families, stronger communities, and a safer world.



COLAGE Projects

Youth Leadership
Support Groups
Annual Conference
Quarterly Newsletter
Pen Pal Program
Referral
Resource Booklets & Fact Packs
Legislative & Media Advocacy
Email Action Alert
Email Discussion Groups
Award Winning Website



DETAILS INSIDE!

a new youth anthology

COLAGE presents: **Focus** *on* **Family**



**PLUS: JOIN US FOR
6 BAY AREA COLAGE
EVENTS IN JUNE**



3543 18th Street #1
San Francisco, CA 94110

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SUSAN STRYKER
657 MISSION ST STE 300
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-4113



FAMILY FUN!
6 BAY AREA EVENTS IN JUNE

CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH WITH COLAGE



All Month, Wednesday, May 26 - Sunday, July 11
That's So Gay: Portraits of Youth with LGBT Parents at Zeum
Come and see the expanded *That's So Gay* exhibit which highlights the voice of youth with LGBT parents and make your own art! Check www.zeum.org or call 415-777-2800 for hours
ZEUM at Yerba Buena Gardens is located at 4th St. @ the corner of Howard St, next to the carousel.
HOW MUCH: Youth ages 4-18 \$5, Adult \$7, Student & Seniors \$6
WHAT YOU CAN DO: See *That's So Gay*, make your own clay animations, music videos, digital artwork, and crafts.

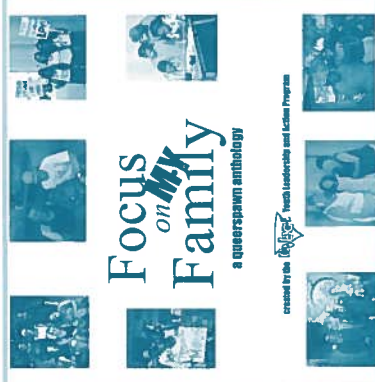


Tuesday, June 8th, 7-8:30 pm

Second Tuesday Family Series
COLAGE Activity Night
Games, movies, art and more for youth ages 9-13 with LGBT parents. FREE!
SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street
RSVP **mandatory** to meredith@colage.org

Sunday, June 13th, 1-3 pm

COLAGE Crew East Bay
Get creative with a fun art project for youth in the 3rd-5th grades with LGBT parents. FREE!
Pacific Center in Berkeley, 2712 Telegraph Avenue
RSVP to meredith@colage.org or 415-861-5437 x102



Wednesday, June 16th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Join the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program to celebrate: Focus on MY Family: a Queerspawn Anthology
This exciting COLAGE event will include the debut of a new collection of youth writing and art, readings from the anthology, a chance to see the *That's So Gay* art exhibit, refreshments, a silent auction and more. \$1-100 sliding scale donation at door. Proceeds and donations will benefit COLAGE.
ZEUM at Yerba Buena Gardens at 4th and Howard Streets.
For more info or to RSVP, 415-861-5437 or meredith@colage.org

Sunday, June 20, 2pm

We Do! Marriage Celebration and Book Event
Join political guests, members of COLAGE and all you special newlyweds as we celebrate *We Do* and same-sex marriage! Wedding reception begins at 2:00 p.m. with gifts for the first 50 newlyweds and special gifts and activities for kids! FREE!
Books Inc. 2275 Market St., SF, 415-864-6777



Saturday, June 26th, 11:30 am

COLAGE Presents with Frameline:
It's All Right To Cry - Kids' Matinee
Part of the 28th Annual LGBT Film Festival
\$6 members, \$7 general, Free for ages 12 & under
A film collection geared towards kids of all ages and their parents including pieces from *Free To Be You and Me*, cartoons, musical numbers and free snacks!
Castro Theater, 129 Castro Street, San Francisco
For more info: 415-703-8650 or www.frameline.org

Sunday, June 27th

San Francisco LGBT Pride
March with COLAGE! Play with us in the Family Garden! Join our contingent and really show off your pride. Fun for the whole family and kids of all ages. After the march come to the Family Garden for more fun, games, beautification and resources. Our contingent and the Family Garden are presented in collaboration with Our Family Coalition. Call 415-861-5437 for meeting times and places. FREE!

Sunday, July 4th, 11-4pm

We are Family Picnic
COLAGE will be on hand with activities during this picnic and celebration for LGBT families. This year's picnic features entertainment, Kid Karaoke & Animal Call Contests, prizes & more. Yerba Buena Gardens Rooftop Gardens, SF
For more information: 415-543-1718.

B.O.W.L.E.R I.N.F.O.R.M.A.T.I.O.N



- Q. ARE YOU NUTS? I CAN'T BOWL!**
- A.** OOOH YES YOU CAN! LET OUT YOUR INNER-BOWLER AND COME MEET LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO THINK A SPARE IS WHAT'S IN THE TRUNK. AND IF YOUR INNER-BOWLER DOESN'T DO IT FOR YOU, THERE'LL ALSO BE YUMMY FOOD, SILLY PRIZES, AND MUCH MORE.

Q. SO WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

- A.** YERBA BUENA BOWLING CENTER
750 FOLSOM ST. (B/T 3RD & 4TH), SF
2ND FL., LOCATED AT THE ROOFTOP AT
YERBA BUENA GARDENS, ON THE ROOF OF
MOSCONE CONVENTION CENTER.
NEED MORE DIRECTIONS?
CALL YERBA BUENA BOWLING CENTER AT
(415) 777-5727 OR VISIT
WWW.SKATEBOWL.COM/ AND CLICK ON "LOCATION".

6 EASY STEPS TO BECOMING A FABULOUS COLAGE BOWLER

1. ANYONE CAN BOWL. LITTLE KIDS, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, TEENAGERS, GEN-XERS, AND EVERYONE IN BETWEEN CAN DO IT.
TIP: EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATES GETS A FABULOUS PRIZE!
2. TAKE THIS PLEDGE SHEET WHEREVER YOU GO, AND SIGN UP FRIENDS, FAMILY, CO-WORKERS -- YOU GET THE IDEA.
TIP: ASK PEOPLE WHO WILL GIVE LOTS OF SUPPORT TO PLEDGE YOU FIRST, TO SET A STRONG EXAMPLE.
TIP #2: ON THE OUTGOING MESSAGE OF YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE OR VOICE MAIL, LEAVE A REQUEST FOR PLEDGES.
3. COLLECT ALL THE PLEDGES BEFORE THE BOWL-A-THON, WITH CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO "COLAGE"
TIP: ATTACH AN ENVELOPE TO THIS SHEET AND COLLECT THE MONEY AS YOU SIGN PEOPLE UP.
4. BRING THIS SHEET AND ALL THE MONEY YOU'VE COLLECTED TO THE BOWL-A-THON.
TIP: IF YOU DON'T COME, PLEASE MAIL EVERYTHING TO **COLAGE**, 354-3 18TH ST, #1 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110
5. SET A PLEDGE GOAL FOR YOURSELF - \$100, \$250, \$500.
TIP: PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP PLEDGE-GETTER, THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST GAME SCORES, AND ANYONE WHO COLLECTS MORE THAN \$100 IN PLEDGES!
6. **BOWL!**
TIP: YOU GET ONE FREE GAME, FREE SHOES, AND A FREE BALL FOR THE DURATION!
Note: Bowlers who don't collect pledges pay \$20 to participate in the event.

★ SPONSOR-A-BOWLER PROGRAM! ★

HERE'S HOW! YOU CHOOSE TO MATCH THE PLEDGES SOLICITED BY BOWLERS. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CALL **COLAGE** AT 415-861-KIDS AND TELL US WHICH PLEDGE RANGE YOU WANT TO MATCH. THEN, WE'LL PAIR YOU UP WITH A BOWLER IN THAT PLEDGE RANGE! YOU CAN ALSO CHOOSE TO SPONSOR A GROUP OF BOWLERS WHO ARE GETTING PLEDGES AS A TEAM.

THE PLEDGE RANGES ARE:
\$25-\$50 • \$50-\$100
\$100-\$250 • \$250 AND UP!

TIP: IT'S A GREAT WAY TO RAISE MONEY IF YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO COLLECT PLEDGES OR CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE BOWL-A-THON.
TIP #2: ASK YOUR EMPLOYERS TO CONSIDER SPONSORING A GROUP OF BOWLERS (SUCH AS A **COLAGE** GROUP OR HIGH SCHOOL GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE) BY MATCHING THE GROUP'S PLEDGES.

YOUR HARD EARNED PLEDGES WILL GO TOWARDS NEW AND EXCITING BAY AREA COLAGE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS! INCLUDING:

- 6 BAY AREA SUPPORT/ACTIVITY GROUPS FOR COLAGERS IN MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL.
- **COLAGE NOTES-A BAY AREA NEWSLETTER** • TEEN PANELS IN BAY AREA SCHOOLS.
- **COLAGE** EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CAMPING TRIPS, ART SHOWS, AND DANCES.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- 5-10 HOURS A MONTH:
 - EVENTS COMMITTEE
 - NEWSLETTER
 - FACILITATE GROUPS
 - HELP AROUND THE OFFICE
- 1-2 HOURS A MONTH:
 - GUEST ARTISTS AND ONE-TIME WORKSHOP PRESENTERS
 - HELP WITH MAILINGS
 - FLYERING FOR EVENTS AND GROUPS
 - PHOTOGRAPHER FOR EVENTS

QUESTIONS? • CALL **COLAGE** AT (415) 861-KIDS (5437) • EMAILJUDE@COLAGE.ORG
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE! WWW.COLAGE.ORG



354-3 18TH ST. #1
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

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*****5-DIGIT 94103 6 2
Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California
973 Market St Ste 400
San Francisco CA 94103-1715

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FAMILY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FUN!!! ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

URGENT DATED MATERIAL!!!

Pledge Form Inside! • For More info Contact COLAGE
415-861-KIDS (5437) or email jude@colage.org
Check Out our Website! www.colage.org

BOWL FOR PLEDGES ★ SPONSOR A BOWLER ★ ULTRA COOL PRIZES!!

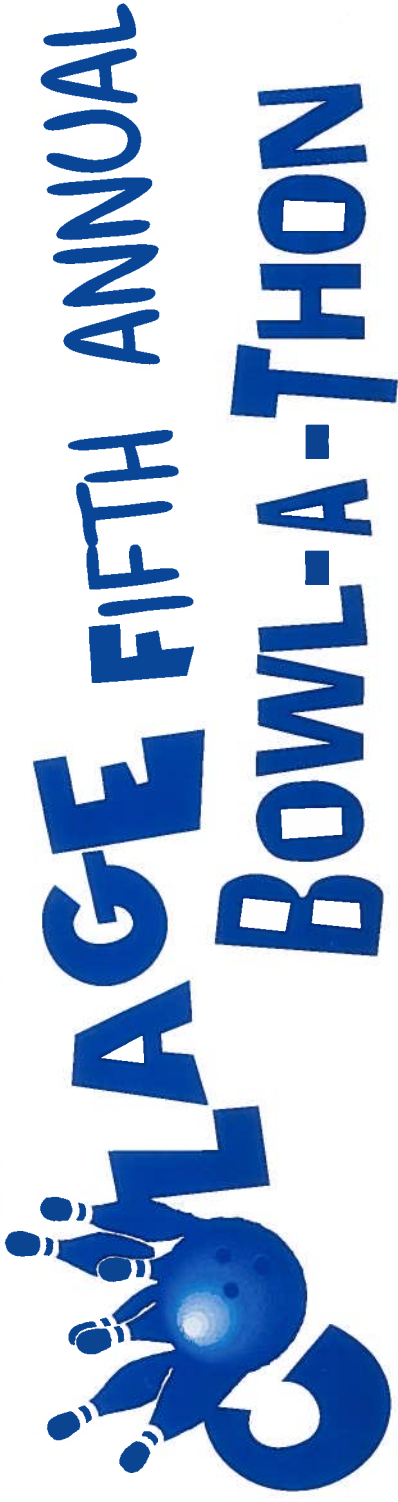
JOIN US TO HAVE FUN AND TO RAISE MONEY FOR

COLAGE BAY AREA PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES!

Sunday • December 10th, 2000 • 1pm-4pm

Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

COLAGE FIFTH ANNUAL BOWL-A-THON



COLAGE FIFTH ANNUAL BOWL-A-TTHON

Sunday • December 10th, 2000 • 1pm-4pm
 Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

★ JOIN US FOR FUN! ★
 FAMILY & FRIENDS

RAISE MONEY FOR **COLAGE** (CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE)
 AND OUR WORK ON BEHALF OF DAUGHTERS AND SONS OF
 LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER PARENTS.

COLAGE PROVIDES SUPPORT, ADVOCACY, AND
 EDUCATION TO THOUSANDS OF BAY AREA FAMILIES. **COLAGE** SPONSORS
 SUPPORT GROUPS, CONFERENCES, A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, A PEN PAL
 PROGRAM, TEEN PANELS, PICNICS, ACTIVITIES, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

★ ULTRA COOL PRIZES AWARDED TO: ★
 LOWEST SCORES ★ HIGHEST SCORES ★ BEST BOWLING OUTFIT
 HIGHEST NUMBER OF PLEDGES ★ AND MUCH MORE!

★ THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS ★

**WELLS
 FARGO**

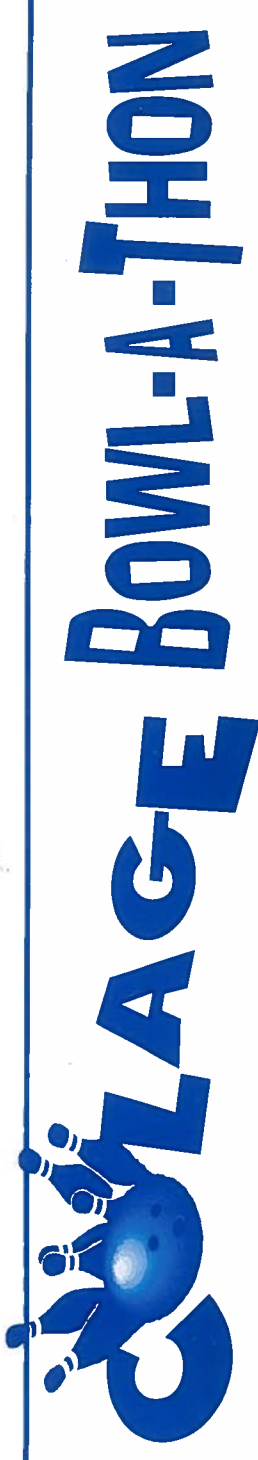
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For Pledge Forms and further info Contact **COLAGE**

415-861-KIDS (5437) or email jude@colage.org

Please
 Post!

Check Out our Website! www.colage.org



COLAGE BOWL-A-TTHON

To raise money for **COLAGE** (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) and their work for children with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents.

Sunday • December 10th, 2000 • 1pm-4pm • Yerba Buena Bowling Center • 750 Folsom St. • SF

P • L • E • D • G • E F • O • R • M

Bowler's name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Bowler's instructions are on Q&A page.

Sponsors Name	Address/City/ State	Zip	Phone	Pledge	Paid
X Janet Sample	99 Sample St., San Francisco, CA	94949	(415) 555-1212	\$25	X
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I release COLAGE and its organizers from any claims or liability resulting from my participation in the COLAGE Bowl-a-thon.

Total:
 please bring full amount to the event.

signature of bowler _____ date _____ signature of parent/guardian if bowler under 18 _____ date _____

Pledges Received: _____

For Office Use Only

Cash

Check

Name: _____

Form Completed