

COLAGE NOTES



An irregular publication of COLAGE/San Francisco Bay Area

Summer 1999

You Are Invited!

Spring sprang and now summer is here! We have been gearing up for family summer events and activities and we are inviting you and your families to join us! Some of the events planned especially for you are: Family Week in Provincetown, MA July 31st-August 7th, a Whitewater River Rafting Trip on the Trinity River August 13-15th, and San Francisco Pride!

There is more enthusiasm and energy from Bay Area lgbt family groups for SF Pride than ever! COLAGE, NCLR, Our Family, and All Our Families Coalition have teamed together to construct a very creative, lgbt family oriented float. Last year 400 people marched together with COLAGE and other family organizations, don't be left out this year! Join us to march with other lgbt families among the first 20 contingents of the parade. There are many opportunities for people of all ages to get involved in float building & decorating so bring family, friends, and co-workers to climb aboard the float to help out!

Speaking of Pride season, COLAGE has also been busy for the past few months with media interviews including with magazines such as the Advocate and two t.v. debuts on the Leeza and Roseanne talk shows. Keep your eyes peeled and ears open for shining COLAGER stars in the public eye.

New COLAGE Staff, Field and Chapter Coordinator

In December 1998, COLAGE began a job search to fill the position of Field and Chapter Coordinator, our second full-time staff person. This March, we hired, Jude Koski, newly relocated from Ann Arbor, Michigan. While in Ann Arbor, she was the Education Coordinator of Ozone House Youth Homeless and Runaway Shelter, volunteer co-facilitator of an artistic exploration chapter of COLAGE, and for the past four years, a counselor and planning collective member of Mountain Meadow Summer Camp—a camp in New Jersey for kids of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (lgbt) parents. Having volunteered her time working with young people of lgbt parents for almost five years, she immediately knew that she wanted to be a part of COLAGE. Although her parents are straight, her passion to work for justice for lgbt families and her dedication to youth and youth empowerment are part of what's most important to her.



As Field and Chapter Coordinator, she will be working closely with local members and volunteers to build strong, vibrant COLAGE chapters in the Bay Area. As well as organizing on-going monthly local COLAGE events and activities. She is looking forward to working with you and your families soon! Please feel free to contact Jude M-F 10-6p @ 415-861-5437 or email jude@colage.org.

Focus Group Participants Wanted

We are seeking lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (lgbt) parents and people in middle school, high school, and those in their twenties of lgbt parents to participate in focus groups. What are focus groups? Our focus groups will be groups of 5-10 people who are lgbt parents or folks of lgbt parents brought together to discuss the needs and wants of COLAGERS in the Bay Area.

The groups will take place in your Bay Area community including: San Francisco, East Bay, South Bay, and Marin. Contact Jude M-F 10-6p @ 415-861-5437 or email jude@colage.org.

Bay Area Groups: New and Used
New! Middle School Kids of LGBT Parents
East Bay COLAGE-support, art, and activity group for middle school aged young people. Dawn Gammon, adult daughter of lesbian moms, is jazzed to be launching a group specifically for young people who are growing up in families similar to hers. Dawn is seeking participants, a space for the group to meet, and people to help coordinate the group. Contact Jude M-F 10-6p @ 415-861-5437 or email jude@colage.org.

New! Teens of LGBT Parents
San Francisco COLAGE-support, creative expression, and activity group for teens of lgbt families. We are seeking group participants, facilitators and all those interested in coordinating the chapter. Contact Jude M-F 10-6p @ 415-861-5437 or email jude@colage.org.

Used! Kids of Transgender Parents
San Francisco play group for young people of transgender parents. This very special group is co-sponsored by and held at Alternative Family Project. Contact Alternative Family Project for details: tel. 415-436-9000

CONTACT INFORMATION

Felicia Park-Rogers, Director
Jude Koski, Field and Chapter Coordinator
Ryn Gluckman, Summer Intern
Carolina Wings, Summer Intern
3543 18th St. #17 SF, CA 94110
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email: colage@colage.org website: www.colage.org

family summer events



June 3-13 Dance Performance

Purple Moon Dance Project –Conceptions
A dance performance of the journeys
travelled by lesbian mothers. Performances benefit COLAGE &
All Our Families Coalition.
SOMARTS Gallery & Theatre 934 Brannan St. @ 9th
Call 415-552-1105 for reservations or questions

June 24 Love Makes A Family Book Signing & Reading in SF

Time: 7:30pm Place: A Different Light
Bookstore Tel. 415-431-0891
Join us for the celebration of the Love Makes A Family book
reading co-sponsored by COLAGE! The book illustrates many
COLAGE families and other lgbt families.

June 25 Love Makes A Family Book Signing & Reading in Oakland

Time: 7:30pm Place: Mama Bears
tel. 510-428-9684

Pride Events:

June 19 & 20 Float Building & Painting

Join the float building crew to help construct our float!
Call COLAGE for details.

June 25 & 26 Float Decorating

Help decorate float for SF Pride with COLAGE, All Our Families
Coalition, Our Family, and NCLR.
Time: 5-9pm @ Pier 26 (at the foot of Market under the Bay
Bridge)

June 27 Pride March

All the family groups & Tinky Winky are marching in the top 20
contingents again this year! 400 people joined us last year and
made a huge impact so celebrate our families and don't miss
out this time!

Time: 9:30am Place: Spear St. between Market & Mission

After The March:

•Face & fingernail painting, balloons, and fun for kids of all ages
at the COLAGE/NCLR booth #5 located on Polk St. between
Redwood & McAllister.

•Visit the "Powerful Future" Tent in front of SF City Hall (on Polk
b/t McAllister & Grove) featuring: Love Makes A Family photo
exhibit & COLAGE and other lgbt family group resource tables!

Meet other COLAGERS, Volunteer for Pride!

Volunteers needed for float building & Pride Day
Please call COLAGE @ 415-861-5437 for details!

July 4 Picnic

Ol' Fashioned Fourth of July Alternative Family Picnic Yerba
Buena Gardens Esplanade, San Francisco (3rd & Mission)
11am-4pm Contact Alternative Family Project: tel. 415-436-9000
Email: afp@baylinks.com

July 31-August 7 Family Week

Sponsored by COLAGE and Family Pride Coalition-
Provincetown, MA. A unique opportunity to gather with hundreds
of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families. As you
workshop, network, play, and relax you will make new friends,
compare notes on family life, build valuable connections, and
have magical encounters that will stay with you for a lifetime.
Affordable rooms available if you act fast. Contact our Field and
Chapter Coordinator, Jude Koski for more information: M-F
10am-6pm 415-861-2876, email jude@colage.org.

August 13th-15th River Rafting Trip

An especially amazing outdoor
adventure for adult children of
lgbt parents and lgbt families
co-sponsored by Camp It Up
Adventures! Last year 25
parents, kids, and young adults
shared this memorable
California wilderness experi-
ence. We will be camping out
and having adventures on the
23 miles of gentle pools and moderate rapids of the Trinity River.
It's a spectacular mix for a fabulous family weekend of excitement,
fun, and adventure! Registration due NOW, call COLAGE for
registration information: 415-861-5437.



August 22 Anna Day and the O-ring & Gay Par- ents, Straight Schools Book Readings

A Different Light Bookstore is sponsoring a book reading and
discussion by author of Gay Parents, Straight Schools, Virginia
Casper. Time: 3:30pm @ A Different Light Bookstore 415-431-
0891

September 18 Transgender Family Picnic

Join transgender families & friends for the very special
transgender annual picnic sponsored by COLAGE. Last year
about 100 folks gathered for this unique and memorable
community picnic. Come again, or if you missed it last year mark
this date and don't miss it! Bring food & games for all ages to
share. COLAGE needs help coordinating this event, please call
us for details on how to get involved: 415-861-5437.
Place: Golden Gate Park above children's playground
Time: 11am-2pm



Summer Intern, Round 2!

Hello everybody! Once again I am in San Francisco working in the COLAGE office as your summer intern. For those of you who I did not have the opportunity to meet or talk with last summer, my name is Ryn (Erin Gluckman), I am a fulltime student at Hampshire College in Massachusetts, studying law and social change. I spent all last winter telling everyone on the East Coast about the fabulous work that COLAGE is doing and all of the amazing people that I have met working here (that's all of you!) It is such a pleasure for me to

be back for a second summer. I will probably be doing a little bit of everything in the office, but mostly I am here to answer your questions and meet your needs! I will be around at COLAGE events and in the office every weekday so I look forward to meeting you and having an exciting and busy summer with ya'll!

We Appreciate Your Support

Things you can do to continue to support COLAGE:

•Clothing Donations-

Donations of clothing or anything else made to Community Thrift (SF 625 Valencia @ 17th) can benefit COLAGE. Request that COLAGE (#97) receive a credit the next time you drop your goods off there!

•Have a garage sale, organize a neighborhood garage sale

•Give through United Way-You can write COLAGE in on your United Way form!

•Give through CA State Employees Charitable Campaign-You can write COLAGE in on your campaign form!

•Bring us your penny jars!

Please consider making a donation.

**Urgent Note from COLAGE below!!
Please Respond Immediately. Thank You!**

So, you might be wondering why you don't get this very often. Well, the reason is simple, it's a dilemma you're probably more familiar with than you want to be: not enough money!! We have a small budget, and an even smaller budget for Bay Area activities because our chapters generally are responsible for paying for their own activities but we take on some of the work of organizing in the Bay Area since it is our largest chapter. There are 1,200 people on our Bay Area list and it costs over \$500 to send a simple mailing like this one to that whole list. So we have a proposal, if you would like to continue receiving COLAGE Notes please send a contribution to help offset the costs. With your help we could send this three times a year so you could receive the information you need more often! Thanks for your help. If you are interested in volunteering to help with producing COLAGE Notes, we could use that too!!

Name: _____ Contact Information: _____

- Yes! I want to receive COLAGE Notes. Here is my contribution of \$5 to cover the cost of three editions of COLAGE Notes.
- Yes! I want to receive COLAGE Notes but I don't have money to pay. Please send it anyway!
- Yes! I want to receive COLAGE Notes, but I already contribute to COLAGE and would like to have my regular annual contribution used to cover the COLAGE Notes expenses.
- Yes! I want to continue to receive COLAGE Notes and become a member of COLAGE. Enclosed is my gift of:
 - \$15 Starving Student \$35 Annual Membership \$50 Family Membership (includes membership to Family Pride Coalition)
 - \$100 Fairy Godmother Other _____
- No! Thanks for your work, but I'm not interested in receiving COLAGE Notes any longer.

Check enclosed Visa/MC/Am. Express # _____ ExpDate _____ Signature _____

Return to COLAGE Notes c/o COLAGE 3543 18th St, #17 San Francisco, CA 94110

Check Out Our Award Winning COLAGE Web Site www.colage.org

Our Web site is a highly useful resource tool for COLAGERS. It offers loads of information for COLAGERS, parents, researchers, and allies. Learn about COLAGE local & national events, read stories written by COLAGERS, find out how to start a COLAGE chapter, and much, much more!

Take a look! www.colage.org

Get Involved!

COLAGE has many volunteer opportunities for all ages! It's a fabulous way to meet people and help out COLAGE. We are a Project 20 site, school internship site, and a great way to get yourself involved in local organizing!

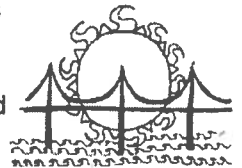
Volunteer Opportunities!

- Computer assistance and trouble shooting for Windows 95 Network using Office 97, PageMaker, Filemaker Pro
- Group facilitators
- Help with information requests, answering phones, other office work
- Help with special events, planning and day of event
- Help with fundraising, events, personal ask
- Help with publications, editing, design, production, mailings
- Accounting help much needed

Temple Youth of Golden Gate Rainbow (TYGGR)

A social/activity youth group for Jewish young people 13 and older held at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, meets one time per month. TYGGR has organized events and activities such as Chanukkah parties, serving meals at homeless shelters, scavenger hunts, and outdoor games!

TYGGR's upcoming event is tie-dying t-shirts! Time: June 13th 3-6p Place: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav 290 Dolores St., SF. Contact Meredith Fenton if you would like to go or if you have questions about the group: 510-434-1513.



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GLHS
973 Market St., 4th Floor
San Francisco CA 94102



Projects In The Works

- New COLAGE chapters:**
- East Bay-for middle schoolers
 - San Francisco-teens
 - San Diego-teens
- An updated "Start A Local COLAGE Chapter Guide"and COLAGE Brochure**
- COLAGE Web Site Improvements**
- Bay Area needs assessment of COLAGEr's**