The Bay Area COLAGE community speaks out!
by Jude Kerki

Happy Spring! Our Bay Area members and friends of all ages had many opportunities to get involved with COLAGE this winter. Whether it’s been our fabulous Bowl-A-Thon, an empowering No On Knight speak-out, or volunteering for our focus groups, COLAGEi are highly visible and active in the Bay Area. Together, staff, volunteers, and members are teaming up to create stronger COLAGE communities.

Christopher Rodriguez, COLAGE intern, coordinated two focus groups to hear from youth and adults and learned that members want more activities, groups, and volunteer opportunities. I am happy to announce that this year there will be eight events, seven activity groups for COLAGEi up to age 30, plus a new volunteer program. Thank you to all of those who participated in the focus groups!

In April, Ryn Gluckman, COLAGE No On Knight Coordinator, will be leaving COLAGE, and moving home to Vermont to work for Vermont Freedom To Marry. Ryn has been active with COLAGE for over two years as our Intern, COLAGE No On Knight Coordinator, and the coordinator of our international pen pal, membership, and information & referral programs. Thanks to Ryn’s hard work, over 50 COLAGEi in California got involved in the No On Knight Campaign, 41 kids received pen pals worldwide, and over 700 requests for information were filled! Thanks Ryn, COLAGE loves you, good luck.

New! Bay Area email news!

Want updates on COLAGE events, groups, and more? If you haven’t already, you must sign up to receive COLAGE Bay Area NetNews. The COLAGE NetNews list will no longer include Bay Area updates. We want to keep you informed! It’s easy to sign-up! Do it today!

Send a blank email to: COLAGE_NetNews_BAY_AREA-subscribe@list.gtopia.com

For COLAGE National NetNews: COLAGE_NetNews-Subscribe@list.gtopia.com

Or, sign up on our website: www.cologne.org

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March
Saturday, 26th 1-5pm
Teen -21 In Making Party
What's a zine? It's a creative magazine made by you,
meet other teens! Call COLAGE for location.

Wednesday, 29th 7-9pm
All Ages Ice Skating Party
Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center, 750 Folsom St., SF
12 and under: $4.50, 13 and up: $6.00

April
Friday, 21st
COLAGE Internship Deadline
Apply to work in the SF International Office! Visit our
website or call COLAGE for details on how to apply.

Friday, 28th
Lee Dubin Memorial Scholarship Deadline
If you or a COLAGER entering an undergraduate school
or you already an undergraduate college student you
are eligible for this scholarship. Visit our website or
call the office for more information about how to apply.

Friday, 28th
PFLAG/COLAGE Conference, Washington, D.C.
Join COLAGE staff, volunteers, board members, and
members in Washington for 2 days of workshops and
social gatherings.
Sunday, 30th
Millenium March on Washington
March with us to demand equality and respect for our
families. COLAGERs and board member Sol Kelley-
Jones will be speaking!

May-Outdoor Activity for all ages!
Details to be announced.

June-Sunday, 25th-San Francisco Pride Parade
Join COLAGERs of all ages to make cool signs and
march in the parade. Afterwards, Chill out at the
COLAGE booth to color your hair and nails! Fun!

July
Tuesday, 4th
Alternative Family Project Picnic
Art station for teens and kids plus, face and fingernail
painting by COLAGE volunteers!
14th-16th
Spectrum Family Camp 415-457-1115
15th-22nd
Camp Lavender Hill 707-544-8150
cvanstone@webtv.net
http://www.stanford.edu/~trigon/clhv/
18th-20th
COLAGE/Family Pride Coalition Family Week-
Saugatuck, Michigan
Meet COLAGERs from all over! Teen bon fire on the
beach! Carnival games for kids! Over 70 COLAGERs
ages 9-adult participated last year's workshops & activities
run by COLAGE. Featuring workshops especially for
adolescents & community and religion & spirituality
also, 9-12 y.o. workshops on dealing with school & friends
and talking about our families. Join us for Family Weeks
2000, register now for only $25 per family. For details
visit our website or call Jude at COLAGE.

August
7/29-8/5
COLAGE/Family Pride Coalition Family Week-
Provincetown, Massachusetts
See above for details.
19-26th
Camp It Up! Quincy, CA 501-763-0615
redros1214@aol.com

EVENTS INFORMATION
Groups, events, and outings are held every month!
All are free and open to COLAGERs, family, friends,
and allies of all ages unless otherwise stated. Call
or email Jude at COLAGE for further details.

WISH LIST
Book Shelves
VCR
Point & Shoot Camera

Activity/Support Groups

Middle School Group-East Bay
Meets every other Monday
Pacfic Center, Berkeley
2712 Telegraph Ave. (A@ Derby)
Activity/Play based group...very fun!!
To sign-up: Contact Dennis 510-528-6540
dennis@vtia.labi.gov

*New High School Group-East Bay
To sign-up: Leave a message for Z @ The Pacific
Center 510-648-8283 luvyaz@aol.com

*New 18-30 y.o. Group-Bay Area
Come to kick off our crew's 1st event.
April 16th 11am Sunday brunch @
Squit n' Gobble Cafe
237 Fillmore St., San Francisco
To sign-up: Contact Sanjai 415-876-0610
raba20@hotmail.com

For further information or questions about our groups or to start a group in your school or community contact
Jude Koski, COLAGE Field and Chapter Coordinator, M-F 10am-6pm @ 415-861-5437 or email: jude@colage.org

PROJECTS IN THE WORKS
March on Washington for lgbt rights, Millennium
March on Washington, COLAGE/PFLAG
Conference April 28-30th
5 new Bay Area groups for middle schoolers-adults.

Two Family Weeks/Conferences in collaboration
with Family Pride Coalition: Saugatuck, Michigan
July 20 & Provincetown, Massachusetts July 29-
August 5.

Eight Bay Area events including a families and
COLAGERs of color event, transgender family
picnic, and an Ice-Skating Party.

Volunteer Opportunities
Experienced youth group facilitators
Events Committee participants
March 16, 2000

Dear COLAGErs, Parents, Families, and Allies,

Proposition 22, the Knight Initiative, passed on March 7th, 61% to 39%. The overwhelming passage of this anti-gay, anti-family initiative is disturbing and scary for all of us. This is the latest in a long history of attacks on the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community and their families. In this moment however, COLAGE would like to take the time to remind you and your families about the victories that took place in the course of this campaign and the ways that we, as children of lgbt parents, can reflect upon the No On Knight Campaign as one step in an ongoing struggle to win freedom for our families and communities:

- In the course of this campaign over fifty COLAGErs worked throughout the state of California, educating hundreds of thousands of voters about our lives, experiences and families.
- Three COLAGErs, ages 12, 17, and 25 testified to 3 Bay Area television stations and one radio station about the effects that passage of Prop. 22 would have on their families.
- Seven COLAGErs, ages 12 to 26, interviewed with MTV in response to Prop. 22.
- COLAGE made presentations to groups of activists and families and did outreach in more rural areas such as Chico and Fresno.
- COLAGE sent out 6 different mailings to over 2,000 of our members and allies in California in addition to over 7 email action alerts nationally, alerting our members everywhere about Proposition 22.
- COLAGErs spoke at rallies in L.A. and San Francisco with celebrities like Melissa Etheridge, Ellen Degeneres, Anne Heche, and politicians like Sheila Kuehl and Tom Ammiano.
- Three COLAGErs spoke for 30 minutes on the Knight Initiative and their families on KNBR.
- COLAGE was interviewed by multiple news outlets during the course of the campaign for our perspective on Prop. 22.

Hundreds of children across the state were empowered for the first time to speak out about their families. The coalition building and connections that were made will carry us into a world that is just and free and loving. According to the numbers, we lost. But the resources, time, and energy that were spent during this campaign were spent educating people, and that education doesn’t disappear after the polls are in. COLAGE would like to thank all of you, for all of your hard work. While the numbers show that we lost, there is huge victory in the coalitions that have been formed and the empowerment and publicity around COLAGE voices. The fight will continue; this is not the end. COLAGE will continue to advocate for our rights and the rights of our parents.

COLAGE’s No On Knight Campaign is the first political campaign that COLAGE has taken an active role in. In order to assess our campaign and how we should continue advocacy work in the future please take the time to fill out the following survey. Your comments and suggestions are essential to shape the political and legal advocacy that COLAGE will take on in the future. Please fill out the survey below and return it to the COLAGE office at 3543 18th St., #17, San Francisco, CA 94110. Your feedback is appreciated! Thank you so much for your time.

I thank you for all of your good work - it truly does make a difference.

Sincerely,

Ryn Gluckman
No On Knight Coordinator, COLAGE

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**COLAGE No On Knight Campaign Survey**

Please fill out this survey completely. Your comments will shape the work that COLAGE does in the future. If you need to, attach another piece of paper for additional comments. Thank you for your time!

Did you know that COLAGE was running a No On Knight (NOK) Campaign? If so, how did you find out (circle one)?

- Mail
- Phone Call
- Email
- Attended an event (what event did you attend):

Did you ever receive a COLAGE NOK (circle all that apply)

- Mail
- Phone Call
- Email

Are you happy that COLAGE ran a No On Knight campaign?

Scale of Happiness

Very Happy  1  2  3  4  5  Extremely Displeased

If so, why? If not, why?

Did you know about the Knight Initiative (Prop. 22) before the March 7th vote?

- Yes
- No

How did you hear about the Knight Initiative?
Do you feel like the materials COLAGE provided explained the initiative clearly?
Scale of Clarity
Very Clearly 1 2 3 4 5 Extremely Confusing

Were you happy with the position that COLAGE took on the Knight Initiative?
Scale of Happiness
Very Happy 1 2 3 4 5 Extremely Displeased

If not, explain why.

Did you attend a COLAGE NOK event? If so, what event and what was your experience (good, bad, empowering, disempowering)?
Scale of Happiness
Very Happy 1 2 3 4 5 Extremely Displeased

If you attended an event, did it make you feel better able to respond to the Knight Initiative? Did the COLAGE No On Knight Campaign empower you to organize against the Knight Initiative?

Before the COLAGE NOK Campaign were you involved in activism or politics?
Scale of Involvement before the Knight Initiative
Super Activist 1 2 3 4 5 Not Involved at all

Did the COLAGE NOK Campaign change your involvement (increase or decrease it? Change the value of it?)
After the Knight Initiative
Super Activist 1 2 3 4 5 Not Involved at all

Did you take any action independently of the COLAGE NOK Campaign against the Knight Initiative (i.e. letter writing, phone calling, protests, organizing)? Please explain.

Before the COLAGE No On Knight Campaign how did you feel about having lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (lgbt) parents?

Did you know other people with lgbt parents?
Yes No Unsure

Did the Campaign change how you felt about having lgbt parents?

Did you meet other children with lgbt parents as a result of the NOK Campaign?
Yes No

Overall, how do you feel about the work that COLAGE did fighting the Knight Initiative?
Feelings about COLAGE NOK Campaign
Super thrilled 1 2 3 4 5 Lots of room for improvement

Do you have any suggestions or concerns?

Would you like to see COLAGE more involved in political and legal campaigns like the NOK Campaign? If so, please explain?

Please return this survey and any additional comments to
COLAGE
Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere
3543 18th St., #17
San Francisco, CA 94100

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email
415*861*5437 colage@colage.org