

# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

ISSUED SEASONALLY

Oasis  
for girls

1129 Folsom Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
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## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

### FLYAWAY PRODUCTION AND ARTS APPRENTICESHIP



Interns Xiomara, Shirley, Chyna hanging from objects.

For two months this summer, 13 young Oasis for Girls' interns explored strength, independence and advocacy through the practice of aerial dance. The interns who were between the ages of 14 and 18 swung on containers of corn and hung from a steel box of seeds under the lead of Jo Kreiter's Flyaway Productions. The professional company, composed entirely of women, is acclaimed for its apparatus-based dances that expose the range and power of female physicality.

Oasis interns met with the company three times a week. The project focused on dance/performance as a tool for political activism. The students explored the complex issue of genetically modified food as it affects their daily life.

In addition to performance the interns also created an advocacy project to promote awareness of health foods. The girls tabled at the Heart of the City's Farmers Market on Sunday, August 20th, at Civic Center Union Plaza. They passed out handouts about organic foods and GMOs (genetically modified foods). Handouts were in English, Chinese, and Spanish, which the girls translated themselves. To gauge the health of the community, they created pledge cards to encourage people to eat organics either once a week, once every two weeks, or once a month. The project was a great success with over 60 pledge cards filled out at the end of the morning.

The final performance was held on August 23rd. It included original choreographed work by the girls as well as a sneak preview of Kreiter's upcoming "Live Billboard Project."

Congratulations to Shirley Acuna, Darsy Davila, Chyna de la Cruz, Xiomara, Dmetrius, Agnes Fakahua, Elaine Kwan, Irene Kwan, Cindy Lee, Mandy Lee, Elizabeth Marroquin, Luisa Sicairos, Maude Thompson, and Tina Zhong for participating this summer!

## OASIS WOMANPOWER

### STAFF

Rachel Paras Executive Director  
Ly Hoang Program Manager  
Tina Bartolome Arts Program Coordinator  
Megan Wilson Development Consultant  
Pamela Chavez Summer Coordinator

### INTERNS

Ebony Dortch G2G Youth Leader  
Hannellene Bundalian SOMCAN Summer Intern

### ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nicole Lambrou Board Chair  
Purvi Patel Treasurer  
Carrie Robertson Secretary  
Ly Nguyen Co-Founder  
Lupe C. Garcia  
Elizabeth Misner  
Danielle Tomkiel

## FALL DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 20: Open House 5:30-7:00pm  
Sept 26: Rise Applications due  
Sept 29: Girl 2 Girl Reunion  
Sept 30: Face Painting at SomaFest  
Oct 3: Rise program begins  
Oct 11: Arts Apprenticeship begins

## CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR

[www.sfoasis.org/oasis\\_calendar.php](http://www.sfoasis.org/oasis_calendar.php)  
for the latest program updates and more!



Girl to Girl participants enjoying a healthy meal.

## THANK YOU 2006 FUNDERS!

Levis Foundation, Tides Foundation, Kimball Foundation, van Loben sels/Rembe Rock Foundation, Irene Scully Foundation, Eva Gunther Foundation, Milagro Foundation, Nicholson Family Foundation, Bill Graham Foundation, Bank of America Foundation, TJX Foundation, Northern CA Grantmakers Assn. Summer Youth Program, CHALK YFYI, SFF Foundation Donor Advised Funds, Jewish Community Foundation Donor Advised Funds, Morris Stulsaft Foundation, Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, Rainbow Grocery Cooperative, Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund in addition to the many caring individual and in-kind donor recognized on our website! Check them out!

Oasis for Girls is a proud project of The Tides Center - thank you Work Team 3!

## GIRL 2 GIRL

Girl 2 Girl is a new 8-week life skills project that came out of a stated need by Oasis girls for programming that engages the minds, bodies and spirits of girls ages 10-13. Caught between childhood and adolescence, many middle school age girls still need a safe and engaging place to be on a daily basis while their parents are at work, but aren't necessarily engaged by all of the K-5 activities that most daycamp programs focus on. From educational workshops on cultural identity, sexism and hip hop to field trips, cooking, meditation and theatre games, girls had the opportunity to: express themselves, build community and work together as a team in a positive and supportive environment. Girls at Oasis co-wrote the Youth Funding Youth Ideas grant proposal with staff which funded the program. Girls who successfully completed the program received a \$50 stipend. This summer, 16 girls from Francisco, Bessie and Marina Middle Schools participated in workshops. By the end of the program the girls created a zine and brought down the house at Bindlestiff Studios with their final theatrical performance of the summer! Congratulations girls and thank you to the community partners who dropped their knowledge: Hify, CUAV, Youth Yoga Dharma, ME Program, special guest author e-Fierce, singer Diana de Pineres, and GirlSource.