

OASIS LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rachel P. Paras	Executive Director
Jessica Van Tuyl	Program Manager
Jocyl Sacramento	Program Coordinator
Julia Eden Ris	Program Coordinator
Rebecca Brown	Development Consultant
Nedzada Handukic	Office Coordinator
Jah' Torri Bettis	Youth Staff
Madeline Ing	Youth Staff

ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heather Zona	Board Chair
Tracy Wood	Vice Chair
Leila Jere	Treasurer
Carrie Chen	Secretary
Danielle Tomkiel	
Maria Sison	

ADVISORY BOARD EMERITUS

Ly Nguyen	Co-Founder
Jill Pfeiffer	Co-Founder
Lupe C. Garcia	
Nicole Lambrou	
Linda Johnson	
Neha Patel	
Purvi Patel	

EXECUTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Elizabeth Misner

**Thank you Tides Center for your support:
Sonya Watson, Work Team 1, and
Gene Centeno**

DATES TO REMEMBER

November/

December: Oasis Holiday Letter Campaign. Make your gift today at www.sfoasis.org

December 5: Parol Making @ Bayanihan Community Center 5:30 pm

December 12: Membership: Oasis Holiday Party 4:30pm to 6:30pm

December

22 through Oasis closed for the Winter Season.

January 2: Have a happy and safe new year!

THANK YOU DONORS:

2008 Foundation, Corporate and Government Supporters: Irene S. Scully Family Foundation*, Louis R. Lurie Foundation*, Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund*, San Francisco Foundation*, Northern California Grantmaker's Association Summer Youth Program*, Van Loben Sels/ Rembe Rock Foundation*, Isabel Allende Foundation*, TJX Foundation*, The San Francisco Arts Commission Cultural Equity Grants Initiative*, Hot Topic Foundation*, GGS Foundation, The Women's Foundation of California* Community Action Fund, Gap Foundation/Gap Founders Award, San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Families, Eva Gunther Foundation, Symyx Technologies, Square Z Consulting, RJ Properties, Aquarium of the Bay, Powwow Network*, eWomenNetwork, Inc., Cleo Foundation, Lumpkin Family Foundation, Morris Stulsaft Foundation, Crescent Porter Hale Foundation [* Indicates multi-year]. THANK YOU PARAGON REAL ESTATE for your printing support!

And to the many extraordinary individual donors, in-kind supporters and volunteers, thank you! Visit the partners page on our website at <http://www.sfoasis.org/partners.php> for updates to our donor levels and to see your name in print as a valued, Oasis for Girls supporter!



SPECIAL EDITION

DECEMBER 2008 / ALUMNI NEWS

REALIZING OUR MISSION: REACHING OUT FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS



2008 has been an exceptional year for Oasis for Girls! We saw and heard from our participants--past and present--who have expressed a transformation, an epiphany, or a simple thank you for providing a safe place for girls.

This special edition newsletter is dedicated to the 1000+ alumni--girls, volunteers, staff, advisory board members--who have played an enormous role in our success. We hope to hear more from you, especially next year as Oasis for Girls turns ten years young and celebrates your **success as leaders** in your communities! We are pleased to share Oasis alumni news, updates and success stories in this special edition.



Jennifer Tse: In 2007, Jennifer studied abroad in Hong Kong for one semester. She attended Oasis for Girls during high school and subsequently attended UC Berkeley. She says, "Oasis for Girls caused me to become a more **independent woman**. I don't feel pressure to find a boyfriend quickly and enjoy being single and having time to spend with my friends. I hope Oasis for Girls is still helping other girls further their education by providing resources like scholarships to them." Jennifer has since offered her assistance to Oasis and has translated our homepage to traditional Chinese (to be posted soon). Thank you Jennifer!



Mariza Rocha: Mariza experienced Oasis through a service learning program of Colgate University. "My time with Oasis will always be with me and has contributed a great deal to my **personal growth**. Thank you for teaching me; thank you for your guidance; thank you for your interest. It means a lot." Mariza is a senior and intends to obtain additional marketing experience before applying for MBA programs specializing in marketing. Mariza is now a new Oasis individual donor!



Cindy Pham: Cindy is a long time Oasis member now attending UC Santa Cruz. "Near the end of my first year of college, I found out that Oasis was hiring girls for the Leadership Institute. I come from a low income family, and my parents are immigrants from Vietnam, so it was important me that I not pass up on the opportunity to make a change on an issue that is important to me--poverty. I came back to San Francisco for the interview, but this time I felt more confident. By taking Feminist Studies and having been in the Keynote program (now called RISE), I felt that I was able to share more insight. I didn't mind working with other young girls that I did not know. My goal was to learn how I can further use the skills that I learned in the Keynote program, and to share my knowledge with other young girls. Back at Oasis, we had guest speakers come to talk to us about issues that are important to them, and the ways they are making a change in their communities. We also learned how to interview, use a camera, and how to set up an interview with potential interviewees. We set out in pairs to interview women who are or were in poverty, as well as women who helped fight against poverty. Our next step was learning how to plan an event so that we can gather family and friends together and share our video. Our main purpose in sharing the video was to educate, raise awareness about the issue of poverty, and to inspire others to take actions or make positive changes in their communities. Many people showed up to support us at our event, and despite some nervousness, we were all confident when it was our turn to speak. Thanks to the Oasis staff, interviewees, guests, and finally, the girls, the event turned out to be a great success.

My plans after the Leadership Institute are to get more acquainted with politics, and getting my voice heard by voting. Although it can be quite overwhelming, **I feel that I am more capable of making social change**. I always hear that the best place to work is somewhere where one is happy to come to work, and I think Oasis is it. I plan on coming back to work at Oasis, and if my dream comes true, it is to see Oasis for Girls expand so that more girls can participate."

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Patty Lindahl and the Future Fund Award



"This is Patty Lindahl, an old Future Fund recipient. I heard from May Deng that you guys would like to know how your funds were spent and what impact they had. My story's not that interesting, hah, but your help was very valuable to me and I wholeheartedly appreciate it.

I applied the money to the cost of my tuition at Stanford University. Yes, the amount of the scholarship may not have been enormous, but put together with student aid and other scholarships, it really made my education affordable. I graduated from Stanford with only \$5,000 in student loans (Federal Perkins Loan). This in turn has made the burden of medical school loans more bearable. I am now in my third year at UC Davis School of Medicine, and while I will accrue a good amount of loans in this process, they will be easy enough to handle and pay off within 5-10 years after graduation. I do want to say, though, that **my experience at Oasis far surpassed the Future Fund scholarship.** I still remember all the girls who first started the Movin' On Up program with me (now RISE), and all the girls I helped and mentored when I came back to work with you. Congratulations on a great program and I wish you further success! Thanks for everything."



Since it's inception, Oasis has awarded Future Fund Scholarships to 21 outstanding young women as part of our Leadership Development program. For these young women, this monetary support represents a substantial resource that can transform their abilities to meet their basic academic needs. In addition, it confers a sense affirmation and pride in their academic merits and potential, which is of great importance to young women who may be the first to graduate from high school or attend college and who may live in communities that actively disdain academic achievement and ambition. **Oasis is committed to the development of educational equity**, in which all young people, including the low-income, disadvantaged girls and young women we serve at Oasis for Girls, have access to the same quality of educational opportunities, services, and support as the most fortunate young people in America.

OUR VISION:

The vision of Oasis for Girls is to cultivate generations of strong and creative leaders who realize their potential, live healthy lives, and make a positive impact in their communities.

OUR MISSION:

The mission of Oasis for Girls is to provide a safe space where girls and young women are inspired and empowered to become strong and creative leaders in their communities.

Oasis for Girls (a project of the Tides Center) located in San Francisco's South of Market neighborhood, is a space for girls and young women ages 11-24. We provide year-round programming in the Arts and Arts and Education, Leadership Development, and Life Skills Education.

Oasis For Girls / Tides Center

1129 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Tel: 415.701.7991
www.sfoasis.org

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT: OASIS GIRLS MEASURE UP!

Oasis for Girls is pleased to welcome the Measure Up team of amazingly talented youth staff. Together with youth staff Jah' Torri Bettis and Maddy Ing, these dynamic young women are responsible for leading a community assessment as part of Oasis' year-long, evaluation project. They receive weekly professional development in high level data collection and evaluation through Oasis' partnership with Cadelba Lomeli-Loibl, Bay Area Project Manager of Youth in Focus. They represent the leaders of today! Stay tuned for the final project in May 2009.



Amani Almahbashi

Amani is currently a senior at San Francisco State University obtaining a B.S. degree in Physiology. Her long term goal is to become a dentist. Amani has been involved with Oasis for three years as part of the Leadership Circle, a RISE participant, and a Future Fund Scholar! Welcome back Amani.



May Deng

May recently graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Conservation & Resource Studies in May 2008. She is also currently seeking a full-time job. She has been a part of Oasis for Girls since 2001! She has participated in many Oasis programs and workshops and is currently involved in Measure Up. Thank you May for helping us keep in touch with the Oasis girls from the 90's and early 2000's!



Cherree Collins

Cherree is 16 years old and has lived in San Francisco her whole life. She attends Mission High School and can't wait to graduate! Cherree was introduced to O4G from school where applications were available by the main office. Plus, she heard her friends talking about it, so she grabbed an application, filled it out, and sent it in! Cherree danced in the Summer Arts Apprenticeship and says, "I had fun, met new friends, and became educated. I'm still a part of O4G and I hope more girls will be too. You'll have fun!"

WISH LIST:

Mac mini to upgrade our server, MacBook or MacBook Pro laptops in good working condition, chairs that fold or stack easily (our red chairs have turned pink over the year), standing lamps (2), bright color area rug (1), goody bags with fun giveaways for program graduates, IKEA gift certificates, Girl Trouble (Documentary Film), 1-2" binders, notebooks for girls' programs.

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Do you share our vision? Join our mission and donate to Oasis for Girls today in your name or in the name of a girl or woman you wish to honor and have listed on our website at www.sfoasis.org