

OASIS LEADERSHIP

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Ly Nguyen Co-Founder
Lupe C. Garcia

EXECUTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Elizabeth Misner

**Thank you Rachel Ebor of the Tides Center
and Workteam 1!**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 25:** Leadership Institute begins
- June 26:** Arts Apprenticeship Begins with artist Ana Fernandez
- July 4:** Oasis for Girls Closed
- July 26:** Oasis for Girls recognized at IPE Productions event
- August 13:** Advisory Board Meeting
- August 27:** Back to School!
- September 27:** Oasis for Girls Fundraiser: Moving Beyond Boundaries
- October 10:** Leadership Institute Graduation/Celebration

THANK YOU DONORS:

Junior League Enabling Grants Committee, Irene Scully Family Foundation, Louis R. Lurie Foundation, PG&E Women's Network Employee Association, Hot Topic Foundation, the San Francisco City and County Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, van loben sels/Rembe Rock Foundation, San Francisco Foundation, Haas Jr. Fund, San Francisco Arts Commission Cultural Equity Initiative, TJX Foundation, Northern California Grantmakers Association Summer Youth Program, Bothin Foundation, UCSF AANCART program, Starbucks Make Your Mark Program, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, Gap Matching Gift Program. And to the many individuals - Your contributions, energy and support go a long, long way: Elizabeth Misner, Daniel Dadoun Meeta Arcuri Anna Luera James Robertson, Elaine Serina, Elizabeth Padilla, Marian Mullaly, Carrie Chen, Bryan Dean, Nicole Lambrou, Meeta Arcuri, Wendy Jordan, Maru Salazar and our amazing contribution from our Anonymous Donor.

Check out our Partners page at <http://www.sfoasis.org/partners.php>

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JULY 2007 / ISSUED SEASONALLY



LEADERSHIP THROUGH THE ARTS



Back in 1999, the South of Market was a thriving community filled with many children, youth and families, Oasis for Girls and other community organizations rose up and survived the rise and fall of the dot coms. Back then, we were called, Offering Arts for Sistahs in Soma. At the time and without a physical home, Oasis conducted arts programming at various neighborhood sites like the South of Market Recreation Center (now the Gene Friend Recreation Center) and Columbia Park Apartments.



Throughout the years, families have come and gone and the South of Market has become a haven for developers. But somewhere like the charming homes in the alleys, there are still children, youth and families making it work in the city. Oasis for Girls, along with our partnering community-driven agencies, continue to be committed to working with the girls and young women in the neighborhood while outreaching to, answering requests and supporting the calls out from girls and young women throughout the City and County of San Francisco.

For the past eight years, Oasis has established itself as safe, welcoming space where girls and young women can freely express themselves as leaders whether it be through sharing literary pieces at a community event, through mural painting and learning about women of influence with the Clarion Alley Mural Project or demonstrating their own physical strength and agility performing aerial dance. The arts have been a catalyst for personal and community change.

Oasis Arts and Arts Education programs have consistently celebrated the artistic accomplishments of young women. The work continues to shine both within and outside of our walls. Through identity portraits, body life maps, creative writing and zines, the arts have a place throughout all of Oasis for Girls programming including Leadership Development and Life Skills Education. Since 2006, Oasis for Girls has celebrated the creation of three zines, the successful completion of three arts apprenticeships addressing issues from the affects of genetically modified foods on your health, to aerial performance to immigration; the Rise Life Skills Education program created posters for their teach out with topics from self-defense to living a healthy life, and explored the culinary arts cooking a meal and understanding why a healthy, hearty breakfast is an important way to start the day. The girls and young women's work has been displayed at the San Francisco Airport addressing war and peace in two-dimensional drawings; the work has been performed at Bindlestiff Studio in the South of Market addressing improved parent/caregiver communication and voicing what the perfect world would like like from the perspective of a 12-year old young woman.

2007 already started off on a high note with the Moving Stories arts apprenticeship culminating in January's amazing performance at the Zeum in collaboration with World Savvy and the Global Media Arts Festival. Through this experience, middle school girls, exercised their voice and leadership by informing the script and engaging the community in their personal lessons and challenges about immigration, identity, and girls and young women rights through autobiographical fiction performance pieces. The momentum continued throughout the school year with the creation of "confessions of a teen gurl" zine by Oasis' Girl 2 Girl middle school group at Bessie Charmichael School. Fifteen young women this summer have begun to learn the fundamentals of illustration with the ambitious and attainable goal of creating a mobile mural.

We also celebrate the accomplishments of the many women artists who are committed to our mission, to the development of girls and young women and to making change through their art--Marisa Jhan, Megan Wilson, Ana Fernandez, Mariel Zambrano, Sara Whoo, Tracy Wood, Mary Teruel, Jill Pfeiffer, Ly Nguyen, Maria Del Carmen Carrion, Rupa Mayra, Cricket, and Jo Kreiter.

Oasis for Girls continues its commitment to the arts as a way to engage generations of young women leaders to inform the community and make impact with the ongoing practice of freedom, creativity and risk (from www.mediaartsmovement.org).

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DEDICATED COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS:

From January 2007 through May 2007, the following groups have helped us achieve our mission : Tai Tokahashi of the Vietnamese Youth Development Center, Coleman Advocates for Youth CBO Leadership Academy Crew, Galing Bata after school program of Bessie Charmichael School especially Glen Jermyn Andag and Vice Principal Kristin Tavernetti, Starr Plaxton of USF Service Learning Center, the South of Market Youth Task Force, Boys and Girls Club of Columbia House, Falilah Aisha Bilal and the crew at GirlsSource, Lisa Juachon of the Bayanihan Community Center, Mariel Zambrano, Marcus Shelby and Rupa Mayra and Kate Dumbleton, Def Ed/Sistaz of the Underground, Spark SF, Powwow Network, and Megan Wilson, and our dedicated Advisory Board Members and new Board Emeritus, Andrea Shorter, Destiny Arts Center, Ann McCormack (tutor extraordinaire), MET West School in Oakland, CA, Sheefteh Kahlili, Yael Villafranca, Angelic Brown, Planned Parenthood, Joanne Tong of the SF College Access Center, Enterprise for High School Students and City Girls Guide, and the women of color leadership circle (Maru, Renee, Marlene, Ariana, Aisha, Alex, Dereca, and Takai), Intersection for the Arts, and Rebekah Rodriguez. THANK YOU!



WISH LIST:

pro-bono printing services for our annual zine (estimated at \$500), shelving (3-4 units), cubby holes and hooks for book bags and jackets, ergonomic computer or desk chairs (4), chairs that fold or stack easily, standing lamps (3-4), bright color area rug (1), futon cover that matches our blue and orange walls, IKEA gift certificates , SAT and, ACT prep books , board games and puzzles , Girl Trouble-Documentary Film, leads for 2000 - 2500 square foot space preferably in the South of Market Neighborhood.

ALL 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.



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 Art and Arts and Education, Leadership Development, and Life Skills Education.

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YOUTH SPOTLIGHT:



Oasis for Girls has been honored to have Ngoc Thao Phan as an active participant since October 2006. Ngoc Thao immigrated to the United States from Vietnam with her family in 2005. She joined Oasis because she wanted more opportunities to practice her English.

Ngoc Thao has shown her exemplary leadership, enthusiasm and commitment through active participation in two consecutive Oasis for Girls program areas. From October through December 2006, she came onsite two times a week to engage in the fall arts apprenticeship called "Moving Stories." During this program Ngoc Thao worked with other middle school students to improvise, write and produce a theater piece to address the effects of sexism on young women.

Then in the spring of 2007, through a collaboration with the Galing Bata after school program at the Bessie Charmichael School, Ngoc Thao actively participated in Girl 2 Girl. She collaborated with other young women to create a zine depicting the honest trials and tribulations of being 11, 12, and 13 years old. She is role model to her peers. We truly appreciate you and are glad that you are part of Oasis for Girls! We look forward to working with Ngoc Thao this coming fall as we strengthen our relationship with Bessie Charmichael School to become a leading partner in their after school programming.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

After receiving over thirty applications and conducting interviews, fifteen young women will be diving head first into the **Young Women's Leadership Institute** for an exciting summer of activities. From late June to the end of September participants will be building community across neighborhood, ethnicity and a wide spectrum of life experiences to make a collective plan of action on an issue that impacts young women in San Francisco.

Program Manager Ly Hoang and Program Coordinator Tina Bartolome will work closely with participants to facilitate a supportive learning space that nurtures both personal and social transformation. The combination of workshops, skills building and field trips will expose participants to the basics of making social change, local youth organizing efforts and opportunities to flex their own power and voice. Workshops include: Public Speaking 101, Understanding Sexism and How to Identify an Issue. Field trips include attending the Youth Empowerment Conference, Girl Fest Bay Area and visiting youth organizations such as The Center for Young Women's Development, Youth Making A Change and the Youth Commission.

The Young Women's Leadership Institute will cultivate a new generation of youth leadership and marks an exciting time of growth. We will hire 2-4 youth staff from this pool of trained young women to launch a youth membership initiative as we move from a direct service, drop-in model to a true youth empowerment model that supports the collective power of young women as decision-makers and agents of change in their own lives and communities.

SAVE THE DATE!

Oasis for Girls Annual Fundraiser

"Moving Beyond Boundaries"

Celebrating and empowering girls and young women

Presenting the inaugural "Community Leadership Award"

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Sponsorship opportunities available