Faithful Fools

LIVIN' OUT LOUD IN THE TENDERLOIN SINCE 1998

Faithful Fools
Mission Statement

We are called to a life of presence that acknowledges each human's incredible worth.

Aware of our judgments, we seek to meet people where they are through the Arts, Education, Advocacy, and Accompaniment.

We participate in shattering myths about those living in poverty, seeing the light, courage, intelligence, strength, and creativity of the people we encounter.

We discover on the streets our common humanity through which celebration, community, and healing occur.

In the very first days, Kay Jorgensen and Carmen Barsody, co-founders of the Fools, walked from the Unitarian Universalist Society Center to the Tenderloin. There they spent their days, just meeting people, all kinds of people. They listened to the stories of people who lived in and around the poverty of the Tenderloin. They heard common myths about why people live on the streets and the causes of poverty.

On long and welcoming strips of newsprint they wrote their impressions, sometimes sentences and sometimes single words. They noticed how the words "presence," "community," and "common humanity" appeared time and again. After a while, the Fools Mission Statement emerged from their wanderings in the streets of the Tenderloin and their daily reflections. We still anchor all that we do in those words.

Carmen & Oscard 1998ish

Here's some Fools & Foolishness for you this evening

Carmen Barsody

Melanie DeMore

Sam Dennison

Welcome!!!

Our Mission Statement
(Let's read it together)

T. Mychael Rambo

Home

Skywatchers

Linda Chrisman

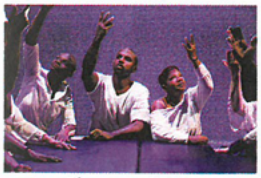
A moment with Carmen

Rebecca Noon

The Witness
(a scene from a play by Martha Boesing)

Karina Durán

Celebrating Nicaragua



Skywatchers Ensemble

7 Letter Words
(a poem)

Joe Wilson

A moment with Sam

Wishing you well

Leah Laxamana

The Family Hove-Darr

Max Jerez

Silena Layne & Kay Jorgensen aka Oscard

TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM
THE QUEST
by
Joe Darion

beloved around the world

To dream the impossible dream
To fight the unbeatable foe
To bear with unbearable sorrow
And to run where the brave dare not go

To right the unrightable wrong
And to love pure and chaste from afar
To try when your arms are too weary
To reach the unreachable star

This is my quest
To follow that star
No matter how hopeless
No matter how far

To fight for the right
Without question or pause
To be willing to march, march into Hell
For that Heavenly cause

And I know if I'll only be true
To this glorious quest
That my heart will lie peaceful and calm
When I'm laid to my rest

And the world will be better for this
That one man, scorned and covered with scars
Still strove with his last ounce of courage

To reach the unreachable
The unreachable
The unreachable star
And I'll always dream the impossible dream
Yes, and I'll reach the unreachable star

What holds us separate?
What keeps us separated?

As we walk the streets, what still connects us?

Wherever you put your feet on the street,
you are connected to us.
Your presence and your generosity are what keeps
the Faithful Fools strong and in community.
We are so grateful for your support.

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS

Barbara Cannella
Geri Barsody
John Cove
Gathering Thyme
Jill Davey
Ade Kroll

Heidi and Mike Lippitt
Jennifer Mei and Hanmin Liu

GREAT GRATITUDE TO OUR NEIGHBORS

Coalition on Homelessness
Duemey Family Charitable Fund
Mercy Ministry Corporation
Tenderloin Museum
The Healing WELL

OUR APPRECIATIVE TIP O' THE HAT THANKS SO MUCH!

Costco
World Centric
Thrivent
Punzalan Homes

THANK YOU EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS!! YOU'RE GREAT!!

Marshall-Riley Living Learning
Community Students
&
Leo T. McCarthy Center
at
THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

~

Alt Break Students from
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

~

The Center for Community Engagement
THE UNIVERSITY CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO

~

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
OUR VERY GOOD FRIENDS OF
First Unitarian Universalist Society
of San Francisco

AND TO ANDREA JORGENSEN THANK YOU FOR
YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND THE GOOD FOOD, TOO!