



# Eva



This organization is inspired by, and dedicated to the memory of, the life of Eva Gunther, who was killed by a drunk driver at the age of 12-1/2.

Eva was an avid reader, an athlete, a loving family member, a true friend and a good student. She had a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do, studied piano, was committed to Judaism and to education—her own and teaching others. She enjoyed baseball, bicycling, skiing, science fiction, mathematics and history. Eva had a strong sense of fairness and justice, tempered by a compassionate and loving nature. Her family has established the Foundation to remember Eva by sharing with others the chance to develop excellence.

### Our Mission:

To support the physical, social, moral, intellectual, creative, spiritual, psychological and emotional growth of motivated girls between the ages of 11 and 18 who have a demonstrable financial need. The Foundation supports the expression of girl's inner selves in a variety of contexts, and with its awards hopes to fuel their motivation and passion to reach their dreams.

To fuel hope  
in the heart  
of a girl...



# HOPE



Dear Friends,



I have much to report about the Eva Foundation's accomplishments of 2005, as we mark the beginning of our sixth year of full operations. We have established our small but significant role in the Bay Area grantmaking world, conducted a very successful gathering of grant recipients, colleagues and friends, and look toward a solid future while contemplating a potentially expanded role for the Eva Foundation.

First, as always, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Board, our generous donors and our inspiring grantees for helping us realize our purpose. The Board gives their time, experience and guidance with true spirit, making our mission come alive in every meeting. Mark and I are blessed to have such strong companions helping us stay clear about the purpose of the Foundation as it steadily grows. Nearly 40% of our donors have given to us each year; their support is meaningful for remembering Eva, but also makes it possible for us to deliver on our mission. Finally, our grantees really make us feel a part of the community of people who support the dreams and aspirations of teenage girls. We are not isolated in our 'ivory tower' foundation, but feel connected in a network of relationships dedicated to common concerns and goals.

This was strongly illustrated on November 3, 2005, when we held our biannual reception at the Presidio's Golden Gate Club in San Francisco. The event brought together the three constituencies of donors, Board and grantees, and was really energized by the presence of nearly 40 girls from several programs the Foundation supports. In addition to enjoying food, drinks and conversation, the attendees were treated to two dynamic performances; an uplifting and exhilarating dance powerfully performed by Dimensions Dance Theatre's Rites of Passage dancers ([dimensionsdance.org](http://dimensionsdance.org)), and a beautiful rendering of "Just One Person," from the musical "Snoopy," by the talented singers of the San Francisco Arts in Education project ([sfartsed.org](http://sfartsed.org)). The beauty, intelligence and creative engagement of each of the performers brightly shined through; that the Eva Foundation was part of the circle supporting these girls to shine was a very affirming experience for all in attendance. An evocative exhibit of photographs taken by participants in "Fostering Art," a program of A Home Within ([ahomewithin.org](http://ahomewithin.org)) was on display.

A highlight of the evening for many was the talk given by our dynamic keynote speaker, Lateefah Simon, 2003 MacArthur Fellow and former Executive Director of Center for Young Women's Development. Lateefah's steadfast leadership has inspired communities to engage low-income young people in social change work and by her own example, is changing the way the world views young women of color. As she spoke about "what it takes" to change your life, her message was delivered through her positive attitude, her charismatic expressiveness, and her depth of heart and soul. Lateefah's narrative about how the relationship with the Eva Foundation helped her at a critical point made us realize that our mission and function has taken on a broader

role than we initially had hoped.

We continued to ponder thoughts of expanding our role at our January Board meeting devoted to planning. Our current vision contains two main components:

1. Creating a legacy for Eva
2. Giving girls opportunities that Eva had.

The question of whether our original vision may be fulfilled, or if there is another step to take stimulated a lot of discussion about renewal and re-evaluation of our mission. We recognize that our style of operation moves beyond conventional foundation practice, in that we have incorporated some of Eva's personal qualities into our culture. Touched by the fall gathering, our trustee Alissa Bernstein noticed how connected people felt to us, particularly to the human bond which we project. Inspired by Eva's loyalty and strong connection qualities, we can extend our vision to incorporate her life attitude. This might manifest in program expansions and lead a future vision to include:

1. Extending and deepening our relationships with Eva's style of love
2. Advocating for and uniting girls' organizations and their leadership
3. Crystallizing Eva's ideals into a larger context of bringing people together.

While these ideas are still taking form, they have raised issues linked to expanding our vision. A stronger administrative structure would allow us to spend more time exploring new ideas, such as restoring the girls funders network, supporting young leaders with mentors/consultations, having an annual event with different formats, giving multiyear fellowships and grants, developing more strategic promotion or reaching out nationally to build an advocacy network. Such growth would require significant changes in our operations, including hiring a program director or executive director; accounting or administrative office support, enlarging the board with the right people, developing fundraising activity, and doing a five year plan. Despite considering these possibilities, we continue to stay committed to our basic practices of maintaining engagement with grant decisions and grantees, and above all, to stay balanced with a focus on our vision. We'll be thinking about this over the next year, and expect to meet with grantees and colleagues for input and ideas.

In closing, it's been a productive five years, and I anticipate continued fulfillment of our legacy for Eva. Through it all, we remain enveloped in Eva's love, and in the love that she has generated in our supporters and friends. We thank you again from the bottom of our hearts, for your love and support in making this vision a reality.

Thank you all,

Dear Friends:



2005 was another good year for the Eva Foundation. Total giving, at \$195,348, was slightly above 2004's level of \$187,942, but both years fall within our target of "Around \$190,000." Since November of 2000 the Eva Gunther Foundation has given over \$700,000 to 41 organizations; \$96,000 of that has been given in about 75 Fellowships. In 2005, we also produced our bi-annual event, so total program spending reached \$204,192, our highest level since inception. Revenues increased by nearly \$21,000 over 2004, although the reported amount is reduced to about \$17,000 due to a prior year adjustment. Our level of public contribution also continues to rise; in 2005 114 donors contributed over \$31,000, all of which went directly to our grantmaking efforts. Our year-old policy of giving most of the entire earnings on our investment accounts paid off in sustaining our level of giving; good returns resulted in a slight increase on our investment accounts. As in 2004, we again posted a 'net loss' of about \$20,000; in non-profit terms, this "reduction in net fund balance" had the effect of reducing our net asset balance, but did not affect our overall health and stability.

Within that, one of our continuing goals was not met, in that Fellowships dropped from \$43,662 to \$25,608. Our interpretation is that this demonstrates that applying for and administering a Fellowship is an extra burden for the sponsoring organization in that it falls somewhat outside of the regular way of doing business for a non-profit; competing demands on the time of non-profit staff makes finding the extra time to shepherd a girl through the Fellowship process challenging. However, we believe in the program and still will champion it to our grantees and other interested parties. It's clear that a Fellowship can have a significant effect on the life of a girl for a range of reasons; the little bit of extra effort goes a long way toward accomplishing the goal of a Fellowship, so we don't see changing our practices any time soon.

In this light, we also should note that the bias in our program grants is toward programs that spend directly on benefiting girls, so in many cases the money that we give to a program can make a girl feel recognized and honored as she would with a Fellowship. At SF Arts in Education ([www.sfartsed.org](http://www.sfartsed.org)), for example, under the extraordinary patronage of its Artistic Director Emily Keeler; six years of self-

described "Gunther Girls" have been able to participate in this summer arts program with the relationship to the Foundation clearly acknowledged. We consistently get two or three letters each summer from each of the participants, and there is no doubt about how they feel about the program and our sponsorship.

Generally, our funds are spent by grantees in one of three areas: scholarships or support to programs within the grantee organization, leadership development, and mentoring. We don't limit program grants to these areas, though, and one of the great benefits of doing this work is when we are discovered by new and exciting programs doing great things with teenage girls. One of my recent favorites is Girls for a Change ([www.girlsforachange.org](http://www.girlsforachange.org)). This program brings together 1,000 girls, splits them into teams of 10-12, each with one or two adult sponsors, and offers each team a social service challenge within their local community. The girls define the scope of their response to the challenge, devise a program to address it, then raise funds and implement their chosen response. GFC offers a lot of help and assistance along the way, and there's lots of public recognition as well. These programs enable girls to take a part and place in a society, whether the small one of a stage or larger one of community action, and both feel and see that they have made a difference.

In any case, as we look to 2006 operationally, we anticipate very little change in the focus and activities of the Foundation; we still expect to give about the same amount and to be running on a volunteer basis. I really appreciate the opportunity you all have given me to develop this response to Eva's death; although I live with her absence daily, the Foundation has created a legacy for her that is stronger and more vibrant than I could have hoped for. The support of our donors, Board and grantees continues to be an extraordinary strength of the Foundation, and the Gunther family is extremely grateful that so many of you share and support our goals and practices.

Warmly,

**FELLOWSHIPS**  
(sponsoring agencies)

Purpose	# of Grants	
GirlSource	College Tours	5
GirlSource	Dance	1
Peters-Wright Dance Center	Dance	1
Presidio Hill School	Athletics	1
Presidio Hill School	Writing	2
Presidio Hill School	Music	2
Project Avary	Travel	1
SF Arts In Education	Music	1
Francisco Connection	Camp	3
Wilmar Center	Music	1

**PROGRAM GRANTS**

GirlVentures	Leadership Development
Blue Bear School of American Music	“Girls Rock” Music Program
Francisco Connection	Buddy Program—Mentorship
Dimensions Dance Theatre	Rites of Passage
Diversity Works	The Works
Girls For A Change	Office Intern & G.A.T. support
GirlSource	Technology training program
ICRI—HOMEY	General Program Support
James Lick Middle School PTSA	Costa Rica Travel Fund
New Conservatory Theatre Center	Scholarships
Oakland Children’s Hospital	FACES
Oasis For Girls	General Program Support
Project Avary	General Program Support
SF Arts In Education	Scholarships
St. John’s Educational Thresholds Center	Talking Circles
Tall Ships Education Academy	Scholarship program
Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center	Leadership Development
The Marsh	Marsh Youth Theatre
Trips For Kids	Girl’s Day in the Dirt

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

10/31/2005

**ASSETS**

Cash and Bank Accounts	46,397
Investment Fund	358,089
Pledges Receivable	7,500

**TOTAL Assets 411,986**

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts Payable	10,373
Grants Payable	114,290

**TOTAL LIABILITIES 124,663**

**FUND BALANCES 287,323**

Permanently Restricted	104,150
Unrestricted	183,173

**LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES 411,986**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

12 months ended 10/31/2005

**REVENUES**

Gift Received, Foundation	87,500
Gift Received, Family	15,000
Gift Received, Public	27,488
Investment Income	60,390
Return of Unused Funds	4,883

**TOTAL INCOME 195,261**

**EXPENDITURES**

Communications	3,668
Events	9,564
Other Costs	986
Professional Fees	6,447

**Operating Expenses 20,665**

Grants, Individual	25,608
Grants, Institutional	169,740

**Grantmaking 195,348**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES 216,013**

**NET INCOME (20,752)**

EVA FOUNDATION FIVE YEAR CELEBRATION!



*"Thank you for inviting us to the Eva Gunther Foundation Reception. We were so touched by the program we witnessed...congratulations on the clear positive impact the Foundation is having on so many young women."*



Trustees Charlotte Burchard, Nancy Rubin & Mark Gunther with Girlsource girls & ED Aisha Bilal



Lateefah Simon

*"It was a wonderful experience to attend the event and have an opportunity to see such talented performances and to hear such an inspirational speech. My student, [a foster child herself] told me it was absolutely amazing to see someone from the foster care system [Lateefah Simon] stand in front of a room and command it with such love and wisdom."*  
 —Liz Bernstein, Program Director, Fostering Art



EGF Trustee Susan Andrews and SFAEP Founder Emily Keeler



Anne Krantz and SFAEP performers listening to Lateefah



Dimensions Dance Theater 'Rites of Passage' dancers



SF ARTSED singers perform "Just One Person" from the musical "Snoopy"

*"What I remember about Lateefah's speech is her comments on the remarkable amount of faith you have in your grantees to use your funds to develop programs in the ways that work best for them. . . that you use your instincts and personal contact to support the director of the programs you select. Lateefah expressed her thanks to you for both "dollars and sense" which are essential to any youth program's survival."*

—Emily Klion Program Director, Marsh Youth Theater

*"I wanted to write you both and thank you for your tremendous commitment to improving the lives of Bay Area girls. Your event was inspiring, a great venue to network, and lots of fun! It amazes me how you both have transformed your personal tragedy into inspiration for others."*

—Aisha Bilal, ED, GirlsSource



Aisha Bilal, ED, GirlsSource



Diversity Works ED Ariana Proehl and EGF President Anne Krantz

THE EVA FOUNDATION AT WORK

"I cannot express how much you have helped me with my musical studies. There is no way I would be able to do this without you"  
 —Khadejha, EGF Fellow



Girls' Inc. rockers kicking it at "Girls Rock" day at the Blue Bear School of American Music.

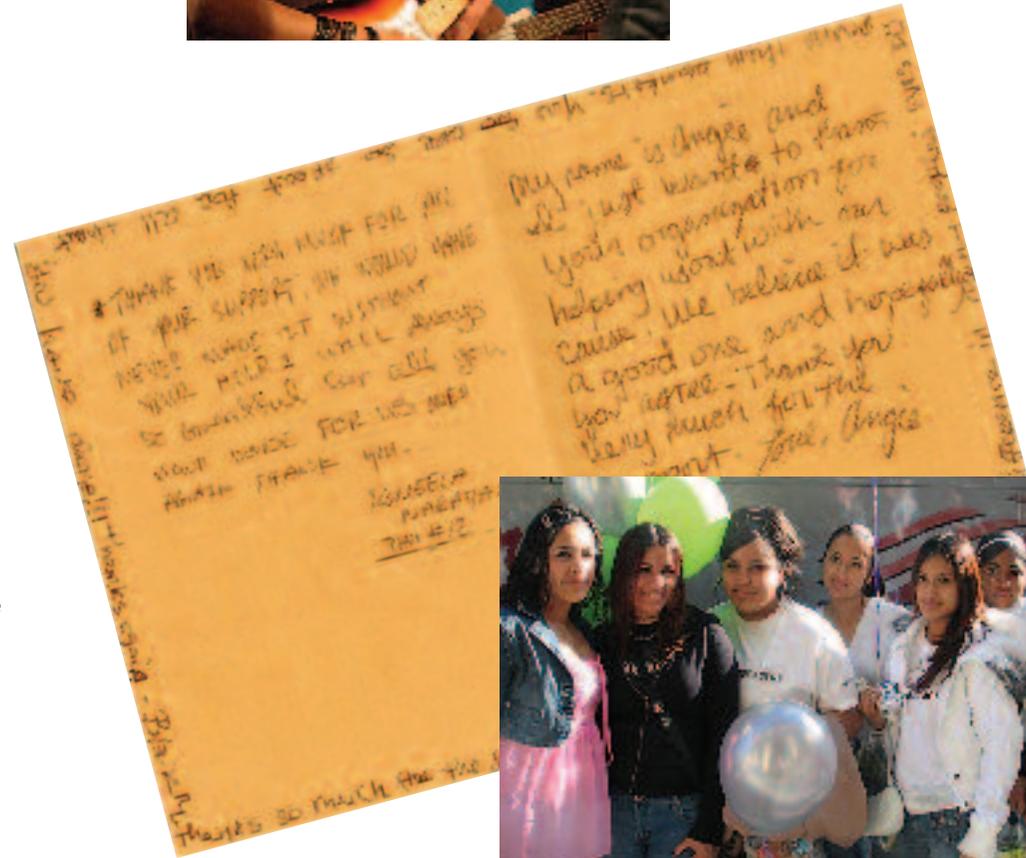


Dear Gunther Foundation:  
 My name is Kelli. I live in San Francisco and I am a senior, which makes me seventeen years old. Growing up in the city has been one of the greatest experiences in my life. It has allowed me to be part of the greatest group in the city, which is the GirlSource team. This experience is something that I wouldn't mind repeating over and over again.

I have gained so many friends and two mentors, along with computer skills and leadership skills. I have learned to trust and let go. I appreciate my GirlSource team and I recommend this to any girls out there who wish they had the chance to be free.

Thank you to the foundation for helping make it possible for me to be at GirlSource.

Sincerely,  
 Kelli Benard



Girl's Action Team 12, Girls for a Change.

THE EVA FOUNDATION AT WORK



Dimensions Dance Theater's Rites of Passage student trip to Washington D.C. for the Kankouran West African Dance Conference

*"I am eternally grateful for the opportunities this grant has opened for me. I have grown as a dancer and a person. I feel more confident of pursuing my goals and I have a greater appreciation for dance as a whole."*

—Delia

*"I want to become a professional dancer, own my own dance studio, and teach children how to dance in different varieties and styles- Ballet, West African, Jazz, Tap and Haitian."*

—Oumou

*"Since I was chosen to receive this award, I can now achieve one of my goals....I told myself to keep working on getting even better if I wanted to become a dancer. This scholarship has helped me in many ways that I could not imagine."*

—Ebonie

30 yrs

