for girls’ organizations that serve the critical development needs of teenage girls. The luncheons we have hosted for grantee program leaders have clearly crystallized a few recurrent themes, developing our role as an engaged advocate for the invaluable work being done by these effective and dedicated organizations. We were actively developing this line of work when the bottom fell out last fall.

So now we face a world where we have both vastly curtailed funds and a developing mission backed by the credibility we’ve developed over the years. Our challenge is to determine how best to reconcile these realities while also insuring that our dollars are put to their highest, best use.

Our decision is, first to continue to promote and support the Fellowship program. This is the part of our programming that is the closest to our heart, and best way to manifest Eva’s love that we can imagine. Second, to embrace our role as networker; convener of and advocate for girls’ development programs, with the goal of creating synergy and leverage for girls’ development programming. To this end, our plan is to hire a Community Collaboration Coordinator to actively create this role. We believe this action ultimately will deliver more value than giving significantly smaller Program grants, and that the need for this has appeared through the work we have done to date. Our general plan is to continue to listen fiercely to the people who are creating possibilities for at-risk girls, and subsequently to adopt appropriate actions to ensure that every teenage girl in San Francisco can be given opportunities to develop their potential and their passions.

Mark Gunther, Managing Director
Anne Krantz, President

A Supporting Foundation of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin & Sonoma Counties

The Eva Gunther Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

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 girls’ inner selves in a variety of contexts, and with its awards hopes to fuel their motivation and passion to reach their dreams.

The past six years have been tumultuous ones for the non-profit world, and the Eva Foundation has not been immune. Since we last communicated with you, there has been a major change in our circumstances. The economic situation has, for 2009 and probably 2010, dried up the regular funding we had available to us for grantmaking. Although we hope to be able to resume this activity in the 2010-2011 timeframe, for now we have been forced to indefinitely suspend our Program grantmaking. Fortunately, we have been able to continue funding all of the qualifying Fellowships that have come in the door to date and expect to be able to continue to do so.

However, the cliché is that every crisis breeds opportunity and we’re actually getting pretty excited about the prospects for deepening our mission. As you will recall, we began the Eva Foundation to remember Eva for the person she was; our idea was to offer other girls opportunities similar to those that she had, guided by Eva’s love.

We started with two grantmaking Programs: 1) supporting existing organizations operating programs that were dedicated developing girls’ inner strength and self esteem, and 2) offering small Fellowships to girls to help them do cool things they were motivated to do but were unable to pursue because of lack of funds. By any reasonable measure, with the unstinting help of our donors and the engagement of our grantees, we have been successful both in animating Eva’s memory and in delivering solid support to some pretty wonderful programs and girls.

Over the years, we’ve discovered that in style and in substance EGF has carved out a particular place in the Bay Area funding landscape. Our singular focus on aiding the creative, spiritual, physical, psychological, social, moral and intellectual development of girls, coupled with the distinctive relationships we’ve developed with the program leaders in the grantee organizations, has created a third Program for the Foundation: that of a networker; convener and potentially an advocate.
In 2008 we were able to give one round of program grants; this giving was about 35% of our past annual giving to programs. Foundation funding held steady; it has averaged $20,000 throughout the years of the program. Foundation giving for the period is listed below. We also convened our annual luncheon, attended by about 40 program leaders. Attendees heard a presentation from Niko Everett, on tools and tips for keeping the internal passion for the work alive despite the grueling pressure of managing and caring for the survival of their organizations.

Friends of the Children, San Francisco $300.00 Cooking class
Friends of the Children, San Francisco $2,000.00 Tech summer camp and Hidden Villa Summer Camp
Girls Incorporated of Alameda County $1,800.00 Club Kalani
Girls Incorporated of Alameda County $2,000.00 Smith College Summer Science and Engineering Program (SSEP)
Oasis For Girls $600.00 Willie Mae Rock Camp, Brooklyn, New York
Oasis For Girls $2,000.00 Barbizon School of Modeling and Acting
Presidio Hill School $575.00 Private music instructional
Presidio Hill School $1,275.00 Private music instructional
Presidio Hill School $1,580.00 Tutoring for sorting and standardized test preparation
Presidio Hill School $1,110.00 To support vocal lessons
Project Amigo $1,835.00 Project Amigo week in Colima, Mexico
Tail Ship Education $500.00 Participation on the high school wrestling team
Terra Linda High School District $1,500.00 Trip to Nicaragua with El Hogar de Ninos
Community Music Center San Francisco $1,375.00 Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music’s 2009 summer program in New Hampshire

Sub-total (Fellowship Grants) $20,200.00

Blue Bear School of American Music $8,310.00 To support music education programs for young women through need based scholarships and music education at the YMCA Bayview

Dimensions Dance Theater Incorporated $10,000.00 To support the education of four young girls enrolled in the Comprehensive Musicship/Inter City Young Musicians Program

My New Red Shoes $5,000.00 To support the Clothing for Confidence Program

New Conservatory Theatre Center $7,500.00 Support for Theatre Arts Training and performance scholarships program for young women

San Francisco Arts Education Project $10,000.00 To provide 10-12 scholarships to a group of young women who wish to attend the 2008 SF ArtEdSummer Camp

The Crucible $7,700.00 To provide 35 full scholarships to participants in the 2008 youth summer camps.

Sub-total Program Grants $58,510.00

Grand Total (Fellowship & Program) $78,710.00

Thanks to all our donors and friends; this list includes all donors between January, 2008 and April, 2009.


With great sadness we acknowledge the recent passing of an extraordinary man and guide to us; Robb Alem Lew. Rabbi Lew helped us through the devastation of Evil’s loss and continued to support her memory in ways large and small throughout his years of service to our community.

– Mark & Anne