

# ON THE

# horizon

SPRING 2007 NEWSLETTER OF HORIZONS FOUNDATION

## REMEMBERING ARTHUR LAZERE, HORIZONS CO-FOUNDER

**A**rthur Lazere, one of Horizons Foundation's co-founders, passed away last year, but his legacy lives on—both in the historical significance of the foundation's work and in a generous bequest he left to help ensure Horizons' future.

*“The driving theme in all of Arthur’s work was his ability to give voice to the LGBT community.”*

Born and raised in New York City, Arthur graduated from the University of Michigan, received an MBA from Columbia University, and served in the US Army. Professionally, he worked as a CPA and taught accounting at Fordham University, Brooklyn College, and Columbia University. According to his

nephew, Jeffrey Reichwald, the practice of accounting was primarily “a means to an end” for Arthur, allowing him to focus on his passion for the arts and on giving back to the community. He opened his own accounting firm in San Francisco in 1977 and added freelance journalism to his activities in the early 1980s.

When Arthur became president of the Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA) in 1979, he “brought it screaming out of the closet,” as he put it, and helped it grow tremendously. During his tenure, he also recognized that members of the GGBA had resources that could greatly benefit nonprofits in the nascent LGBT community. He saw the value not only of helping the organizations financially, but also by setting standards that would help them raise their level of professionalism, an invaluable asset for their long-term growth. Arthur was frustrated as well that the LGBT community

received neither acknowledgment nor funding at that time from the United Way; having our own foundation would focus LGBT dollars on LGBT needs. In 1980, the GGBA's philanthropic committee formally became the GGBA Foundation—later renamed Horizons Foundation.

Roger Gross, who worked together with Arthur to establish the GGBA Foundation and served as the first board president, felt personally inspired by Arthur, particularly around leadership. I learned what it means to be a leader from Arthur—what they do and how they do it. He taught me that leaders groom other leaders to be successors.”

In 1981, Arthur became the first openly gay board member of the Bay Area United Way. His outspokenness pushed the United Way to fund more LGBT organizations and address the needs of the LGBT community, and he got more LGBT people involved in the organization. “He did not find it acceptable to be discriminated

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## Letter from

## the Executive Director



DEAR FRIENDS,

Just a few days ago, I returned from an extraordinary trip to Israel, where I'd traveled with a delegation of LGBT leaders sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council. Over nine days, we heard from an array of remarkable speakers about everything from the country's ever-shifting political scene to relations with neighboring states to the complex dynamics of Israeli civil society.

We also had the good fortune to spend time with numerous LGBT leaders. As you may know, the struggle of Israeli LGBT people is an amazing and very difficult one. While Tel Aviv has a thriving and open gay community, most of the country does not. Nor certainly do the territories under Palestinian control.

In 2005, protestors stabbed several people at Jerusalem's Pride Parade. And when activists announced plans to host World Pride in Jerusalem, right-wing Jewish, Muslim, and Christian leaders found a rare source of agreement: stopping the World Pride parade. But led by a visionary organization, Jerusalem Open House, our community kept fighting. They weathered the scornful opposition of the city's mayor; they appealed to the nation's Supreme Court for the simple right to march. And they dealt with their own fears, as their phone lines clogged with death threats and they walked the city streets covered with posters putting a \$5,000 price on the heads of those who dared to march.

What we saw again and again among those we met was courage, strong and proud. They know the risks they are taking. When Jerusalem Open House staff toured us through new office space, they worried that the second-story offices might allow someone from the street to toss in a firebomb. So they are spending extra on a major security system. They also know how critical their struggle is, not just for themselves, but because Jerusalem itself is one of the world's great symbols. Their message, in the end, is simply this: We belong here, too.

These activists are inspirations. So, too, are so many brave LGBT activists throughout the world. Living in the Bay Area, it can be easy for us to see the challenges faced by LGBT people in Israel and across the globe as worlds away—literally and figuratively. Yet for all the vast differences of culture, history, and experience, LGBT people are part of a worldwide movement toward equality and freedom—we're tied by a common demand to express our love and live as equals, without shame, without fear.

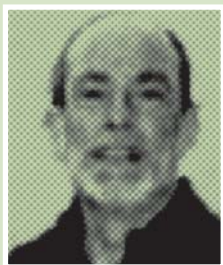
Of course, donors and activists alike can find plenty of work—and abundant inspiration—right here in the Bay Area. Israeli activists told us repeatedly how inspired they are by San Francisco, which is a unique international symbol of LGBT freedom. The inspiration and learning go in both directions. And our movement—here and everywhere—is stronger for it.

With gratitude, as always, for all your gifts, near and far,

ROGER DOUGHTY

PS – If you are interested in supporting some of the critical work being done on LGBT rights in Israel or around the world, please let me or Julie Dorf know. We would be glad to share some possibilities.

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against,” noted Gross. The media attention surrounding Arthur’s involvement with the United Way Board of Trustees also became the catalyst for his coming out to his family. “It was a big relief for him afterwards,” said Reichwald.

In recent years, Arthur was devoted to CultureVulture.net, a web-based arts and entertainment site he created and for which he served as publisher and editor. He loved the arts—especially the opera, theater, and film—and was a member of the Online Film Critics Society, the San Francisco Film Critics Circle, and the International Association of Art Critics. His work as a reviewer was appropriate for a man who didn’t shy from sharing his opinions.

“You always knew where you stood with Arthur,” laughed Reichwald.

Gross agreed. “Arthur was wonderfully intense, sometimes edgy, and charismatic all at the same time. He had no hesitation about telling you what he thought.”

Arthur’s dedication to the LGBT community will continue even after his death. Through the bequest he left to Horizons Foundation, we have established the Arthur Lazere Fund of the LGBT Community Endowment Fund. According to Arthur’s wishes, the income from this fund is completely unrestricted, giving the foundation the flexibility to use it for the most pressing needs at any time. Such gifts are enormously

helpful to our work and demonstrate a profound trust in Horizons’ ability to be a long-term resource for the LGBT community.

His legacy reflects the focus and goals he brought to his life.

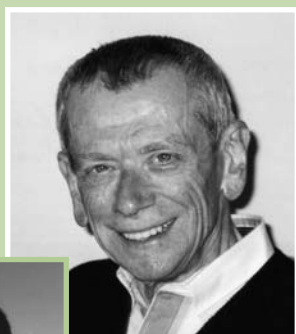
“The driving theme in all of Arthur’s work was his ability to give voice to the LGBT community,” Reichwald noted. “When Art Agnos spoke at the memorial service, I really understood the power of Arthur’s commitment. He was key in crystallizing the LGBT community’s presence here.”

“Arthur was such a force,” said Gross. “He was bigger than life.”

**To read more donor legacy stories visit [www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/donors/donorlegacies](http://www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/donors/donorlegacies)**

## In Memoriam:

### William S. Bason



**B**ill Bason’s generosity, already apparent during his life, continued even after he passed away last year. In fact, he gave 90% of his estate to nonprofits close to his heart, including Horizons Foundation and several other LGBT community organizations. Such a legacy speaks volumes about the soft-spoken, elegant man who grew up in a small North Carolina town.

Bill came to San Francisco in the 1990s, starting anew after his long-time partner, Joe Muir, died. They had lived together for 25 years in New York City, where Bill worked as the patient advocacy director at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital. Bill loved spending his retirement years in San Francisco, enjoying the arts, the people, and the landscape. “Every morning, Bill would take the N Judah to the ocean, have coffee, and walk along the beach,” said Stephen Wagner, Bill’s cousin and executor.

“He was a gently sophisticated, polite Southern gentleman with old-school manners. He could also be a little ornery, like a Southern grandmother, but I loved that,” Wagner joked. In addition to being relatives, the two had bonded over being gay.

Bill was especially devoted to the arts. For example, he regularly supported the San Francisco Symphony and San Francisco Ballet, held season tickets at the Berkeley Rep and American Conservatory Theater, and remembered several arts organizations in his estate.

As Wagner talks about his cousin, there’s no mistaking the warmth in his voice. “Bill had particular ways and habits about him, and by the time he died, he was ready. He’d gotten everything settled beforehand. He was as dignified as ever.”



# MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT

**D**onor-advised funds (DAFs) are a powerful and flexible giving vehicle that can help you reach your philanthropic goals. Too often, though, misconceptions about DAFs keep people from exploring them and how they can help you support your favorite nonprofits. Below, we've addressed some of the most common myths.

Horizons Foundation is currently home to more than 40 donor-advised funds.

## MYTH:

*Donor-advised funds are just for rich people.*

## FACT:

*With Horizons' low minimum for opening a fund, many people can enjoy the benefits of giving through a DAF.*

You can open a donor-advised fund at Horizons Foundation with as little as \$5,000. You can give the fund a name that's meaningful to you, and recommend grants throughout the life of your fund. A DAF also has the potential to enhance your giving power—any growth in the fund's assets means more potential for charitable grants in the future.

Contributions to a donor-advised fund are irrevocable gifts made to Horizons Foundation, so be sure to consult with your legal and tax advisors about your individual finances.

## MYTH:

*I'm already giving to my favorite organizations—I've nothing to gain from opening a donor-advised fund.*

## FACT:

*Horizons' DAF program adds value to your giving in several ways.*

Opening a DAF can actually simplify your giving. Instead of writing multiple checks, you make a single contribution that can benefit multiple organizations—and you receive a single receipt for tax purposes. Horizons' state-of-the-art online system lets you set up a fund, make contributions to it, recommend grants, and recommend select investment options, all from your computer.

But the value of a donor-advised fund at Horizons goes well beyond convenience:

- Horizons staff can provide important expertise and up-to-date information about many different types of organizations, and can assist you in creating a strategic giving plan aligned with your values and interests.
- Every grant to every organization demonstrates support for the LGBT community because it comes through Horizons Foundation. Depending on the name you choose for your fund, this “stamp” can become even more explicit (for example, Horizons is home to the Gay Moral Values Fund).
- Horizons verifies that our DAF grantees do not discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity, or that they are currently working to implement such policies. This opens conversations about anti-LGBT discrimination with organizations that might never discuss it otherwise.
- You automatically become part of a community of givers who are seriously committed to supporting the LGBT community and other causes.

# DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

## MYTH:

*I can only give to LGBT organizations.*

## FACT:

*Horizons' donor advisors give to many different kinds of nonprofits.*

Part of Horizons' mission is to increase LGBT giving in general, and we know that LGBT donors are passionate about a wide range of issues and causes. In fact, every year a substantial portion of our DAF grants go to non-LGBT community organizations, from college alma maters to film projects, international women's organizations to public-policy think tanks. In 2006, for example, the largest recipient of DAF dollars was the Twenty-First Century Foundation (a national public foundation that advances strategic giving in the African-American community) for rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina.

## MYTH:

*I'd be limited to supporting Bay Area organizations.*

## FACT:

*Location doesn't matter—donor advisors can recommend grants to qualified nonprofits anywhere.*

While many of our DAF grants go to organizations in the nine-county Bay Area, a significant number also go to nonprofits working elsewhere in California, state-wide, nationally, and even internationally. The only requirements are that the organization can receive tax-deductible contributions under IRS regulations and that it doesn't work against Horizons' mission of justice and equality for LGBT people.

If you're interested in opening a donor-advised fund, please visit [www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/donors/daf](http://www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/donors/daf) or contact Julie Dorf, Director of Philanthropic Services, at 415.398.2333 x103 or [jdorf@horizonsfoundation.org](mailto:jdorf@horizonsfoundation.org).

## Horizons Celebrates

## LGBT Pride Month with KQED



Every year, KQED celebrates Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Month in June, as part of their series of Heritage Months that honor the diversity of cultures in the Bay Area. KQED's LGBT Pride Month will feature culturally specific programming, resources for educators and the community, and Local LGBT individual awards to LGBT individuals who have demonstrated leadership and a strong commitment to community service.

Horizons Foundation is proud to be a sponsor of KQED's 2007 LGBT Pride Month. Please join us for a community celebration at the KQED studios:

**Thursday, June 7, 2007, 6:00–8:00 pm**  
**2601 Mariposa Street, San Francisco**

For more information, contact [www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/events/2007\\_kqed](http://www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/events/2007_kqed)

# 2007 PHILANTHROPY SERIES DEBUTS



**WELLS  
FARGO**

**H**orizons Foundation's popular Philanthropy Series has returned for another year of exciting and informative sessions about giving and the LGBT community. Please take a moment to mark your calendars so you won't miss any of these free workshops, once again generously hosted by Wells Fargo.

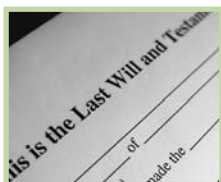
All San Francisco sessions will be held from 12:00–1:30 p.m. (except May 15, 12:00–2:00 p.m.) at the penthouse of the Wells Fargo Building, 420 Montgomery Street (at California). Food is served at these no-charge events.

**Capacity is limited, and an RSVP is required.**

**WEB:** [www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/events/rsvp](http://www.horizonsfoundation.org/page/events/rsvp)

**EMAIL:** [events@horizonsfoundation.org](mailto:events@horizonsfoundation.org)

**PHONE:** 415.398.2333 x350



## **APRIL 30** Leave Your Story in Trust: Writing an Ethical Will

Your legacy is about more than just leaving money to your loved ones and community—you can also share the gift of yourself. Your personal story will be an invaluable resource for future generations looking for validation and inspiration. This fun, interactive, and informative workshop will show you how to leave your story for your community, family, and friends.



## **MAY 15** Caring for Community and Self: Giving as Spiritual Practice

Generosity is seen by many spiritual traditions around the world as how we nurture our community and ourselves. Those who give and those who receive are both transformed, whether the gift involves food, service, or money. This panel discussion will explore spiritual insights on giving and transformation from leaders of various faiths.



## **JUNE 13** Socially Responsive Investing for the LGBT Community

Sometimes we find ourselves wanting to create more alignment between our values and how we live. This session will provide information and a variety of perspectives on how to align your financial investments with your values as a person and as part of the LGBT community.



## **SEPT 6** Life Income and Testamentary Giving – Charitable Trusts

Learn more about how charitable trusts work and how they can provide you or your loved ones with income while providing valuable resources for your community.



## **OCT 25** How to Evaluate Nonprofit Organizations: How Does Horizons Foundation Give Away Money?

Many generous people want to give effectively but just aren't sure which organizations to support. This session will examine what online research tools like GuideStar and Charity Navigator tell you about nonprofits (and what they leave out), how donors can share their knowledge with each other, and what other resources are out there.



## **NOV 9** 2007 Legislative, Electoral, and Judicial Update

Please join Horizons for our annual state of the union report. Get the latest analysis on the changed assembly and senate seats across the state, ballot initiatives, key legislation, court decisions, and more. Think about your political giving plans as they relate to our community's most pressing political priorities.

*We are in the midst of finalizing details on the Philanthropy Series sessions held outside San Francisco. As soon as the dates and locations are confirmed, we will post the information on our website.*

## Gary Page Joins Horizons' Team



**H**orizons Foundation is delighted to welcome Gary Page as our official Director of Finance and Operations, following his interim tenure in the role. He brings with him more than 25 years of experience in financial services, executive management, and non-profit training. "The opportunity to work at an organization whose mission promotes sustainability and supports leadership is a dream come true for me," he

said. "It puts my past experience into action on a larger, community-wide scale."

Gary has served as an interim executive director or chief financial officer for a range of nonprofits, providing overall leadership, vision, and financial and managerial oversight. Before returning to San Francisco in 1996, he offered complete financial services as the proprietor of his own business.

Over the years, Gary has been a member and board member of LIFE/AIDS Lobby; a trained hospice volunteer and board member; and a member of California's HIV/AIDS Comprehensive Care Working Group, including serving as co-chair for nearly three years.

At almost every opportunity, Gary travels to visit his friends and second home in Conwy, North Wales.



## Looking Ahead to Gala Lead-Up Events

**T**his summer, please join Horizons at one of our fun and unique gala lead-up events. Each will have its own flavor and style, and all will inspire you to learn more about becoming an event captain.

We're asking our event captains to get five friends join them at this year's gala, which will take place on October 6 at the historic Regency Center in San Francisco. "The most important thing our event captains can do is talk to all their friends and share their excitement about Horizons' work," said Wendy Storch, one of the Gala Co-chairs. "That enthusiasm is infectious, and helps get more and more people involved in supporting the LGBT community."

This year's entertainment will include San Francisco's own Paula West, renowned DJ Page Hodel, and the exuberant Montclair Women's Big Band. And in response to overwhelming demand, we'll be putting the Grand Ballroom to its original use—as a dance floor! Although this means that event captains won't have assigned tables due to space limitations, we're delighted to add dancing to the evening's festivities.

All event captains will receive our warmest thanks and recognition for their leadership on our website and in the gala program (if desired). Most importantly, in reaching out to their friends and family, this dedicated group will know that they're playing a vital role in strengthening the LGBT community all across the Bay Area.

June 12, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

### House party for women in the Castro

July 23, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

### Pre-gala gathering at Citizen Cake

San Francisco

August 5, 12:00–4:00 p.m.

### Summertime bocce ball

(all levels welcome!)

Marin Bocce Federation,  
San Rafael





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THOUSANDS OF LGBT PEOPLE  
HUNDREDS OF LGBT ORGANIZATIONS  
ONE LGBT FOUNDATION