



## Kris Hayashi Heads to NYC

**W**estern States Center congratulates Kris Hayashi on Kris' appointment as Executive Director of the Audre Lorde Project. Kris departs the Northwest in May after a year as Trainer/Organizer with Western States.

The Audre Lorde Project is a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two Spirit and Transgender People of Color center for community organizing based in New York City. Through mobilization, education and capacity-building, the Project has worked since 1994 for community wellness and progressive social and economic justice.

Kris will continue work with Western States Center as a trainer with the Western Institute for Organizing and Leadership Development. Highlights of Kris' last year include support for youth organizing in the region. Kris helped the Nevada Young Activist Project develop a strategic plan and facilitated a planning committee of young people who designed the structure and content of youth workshops at the upcoming CSTI.

Kris says, "I'm leaving with great respect for all of the amazing, strong organizing that people are doing in really hard places throughout the region."



## Introducing This Year's WILD Participants

*The Western Institute for Organizing and Leadership Development kicked off its seventh class with a residential retreat in early May at the Menucha Retreat Center in Corbett, Oregon. This year's class includes:*

Adrienne Thompson, *Citizen Alert*, Las Vegas, NV  
Amy Herzfeld, *Idaho Women's Network*, Boise, ID  
Andrea Hackett, *Las Vegas Dancers Alliance*, Las Vegas, NV  
Andrea Shipley, *Working for Equality and Economic Liberation*, Missoula, MT  
Ari Rapkin, *Community Alliance of Tenants*, Portland, OR  
Bob Maureen, *Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Utah*, Salt Lake City, UT  
Cara Shufelt, *Rural Organizing Project*, Scappoose, OR  
Carlos Marentes, *Comite Pro-Amnistia General y Justicia Social*, Seattle, WA  
Gloria Munoz, *United Vision for Idaho*, Boise, ID

Josie Margallo-Michael, *Oregon Action*, Portland, OR  
Mary Martinez-Wenzl, *Community Alliance of Lane County*, Eugene, OR  
Moon Vazquez, *NW Labor and Employment Law Office*, Seattle, WA  
Patricia Dowd, *Sierra Club Wyoming Chapter*, Sheridan, WY  
Roberta Hedges, *Converse County Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*, Glenrock, WY  
Rose Spears, *Oregon Action*, Portland, OR  
Shannon Bedard, *Odyssey Youth Center*, Spokane, WA

### **WILD is designed to:**

- Sharpen the organizing skills and political analysis of emerging leaders in a cross-constituency, cross-issue and peer-supportive environment
- Move toward a shared language for organizers from different backgrounds to talk about organizing, power and vision to contribute to the progressive movement in the West
- Provide an environment for self-development through varied curriculum and experiences in order for participants to determine how they can best contribute to the organizations working for social change in the region
- Build relationships between organizers and leaders in the region with a commitment to long-term action for change
- Increase the base of knowledge of the issues confronting justice organizers across the region while distinguishing the differences and similarities between geographic, identity and issue communities