

YOUTH PROGRAM

@ THE CENTER

SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY

INTERNSHIP ALUMNI

Since 2007, the Youth Program has the privilege of employing local LGBT young people to intern at the San Francisco LGBT Community Center. These youth work hard to serve their communities and provide youth expertise and experience to the Youth Program. They perform a vast array of duties: outreach, program planning, facilitation of groups and services, leading workshops, provision of referrals, and more. Their commitment to social justice, community service and leadership are an inspiration to their peers and elders. We are honored to have worked with them during their term.

2007



Jayr Rosemon

Jayr was part of the Center's first cohort of Youth Program interns and served for 6 months. He came to the Center with a strong longing to make a difference. Jayr learned about the internship through Y.O magazine (Youth Outlook). Jayr enjoyed going to different schools and talking about coming out in school, families and safe ways to do it if you're scared. Jayr helped to put on San Francisco's first queer prom. It was the most exciting part of his internship, and amazed that queer prom has turned into an annual event. Jayr is happy that he worked with a Youth Program staff of 4 cool individuals that he learned a lot from. Jayr is now in school studying law enforcement and sociology. He wants to continue to work with queer youth and open his own after school youth center.

2008



J. Ryan Celis

Ryan applied for the internship when he was encouraged by former Youth Program coordinator Nicole Monroe and internship alumni JayR while at Queer Youth Advocacy Day 2007 in Sacramento, Ca. Ryan interned at the Youth Program for 6 months. What he enjoyed most about his internship was planning 2008 SF Queer prom, organizing field trips, youth meal night, movie night, designing outreach flyers, presenting in SF high schools and promoting events. Meeting other queer youth and hearing their stories about coming out, running away, relationship issues, being transgender touched his heart. Since finishing his internship, Ryan has gone on to intern at LYRIC – a local LGBT youth organization – to continue his work on making schools and organizations more open minded about queer folks and how to be an ally.



Carlos Martinez

Carlos was born and raised in San Francisco. He had never really known much about the Center and had only visited once with his high school's Gay-Straight Alliance. Carlos learned about the internship through an email invite for a Halloween dance. He applied and was hired a month later. Working at the Center for 6 months was an eye opening experience because youth, especially queer youth, face so many issues and being someone that was working to help them was an amazing experience. Working at the Center has also helped him become more tolerant and understand others who act and express themselves differently.



Omega Rae

Omega Rae was an intern at the LGBT center, with a background working in queer youth spaces and doing performing and other kinds of arts. Ze really enjoyed being the harm reduction specialist for the youth program. In per spare time Omega enjoys dancing, singing, music (writing/producing, performing and listening), educating peers (especially about psychoactive substances), art and collection t.A.T.u. memorabilia. Ze interned at the Center for 6 months focusing on harm reduction around psychoactive substances. Per works include the Ecstasy info flyer and the Psychoactive Pocket Guide. Ze plans to continue doing harm reduction and education especially for the EDM (electronic dance music) community.



Chris Twymon

Chris was a homeless youth, who moved to San Francisco. Working his way through Lark-Inn & Hire-Up is where he found the internship at the San Francisco LGBT Center and worked for 3 months. While focusing on the queer youth of the city he found his role of as a storyteller. Overriding some of his natural guards, Chris talked to youth about his personal journeys that lead him to the Center and homophobia in his life. He enjoyed informing youth how to be allies and having a positive attitude towards homosexuality. He is most proud of Starlight Seduction: SF Queer Prom '09 and was extremely privileged to be able to work and help execute prom. Chris plans to use his new found skills and experience to become a youth counselor.