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CIIS Alumni Newsletter

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CIIS Alumni Newsletter March 2011

Letter from the Dean of Alumni

Dear Alums,

CIIS hosted the second annual conference on “Expanding the Circle: Creating an Inclusive Environment in Higher Education for LGBTQ Students and Studies” at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco from March 3 to 6, 2011, with ten partnering organizations cosponsoring the event. With thirty-five concurrent sessions, the conference served as a national forum for dialogue with more than 300 colleagues representing more than 100 colleges, universities, and other collaborating organizations. CIIS alum **Judy Grahn** (WSD '00) was a plenary speaker. While **Lyne Desormeaux** (CLN '91), **Nicholas Carlisle** (ICP '01), and **Jonathan Mills** (EWP '09) offered concurrent sessions.



ETC Photos of Judy Grahn (left) and Nicholas Carlisle (right)

We would like to thank CIIS alums, faculty, and staff for their insightful presentations and tireless effort to make this year's conference a memorable experience and huge success.

Richard Buggs (CLN, '96)

Help CIIS with its Ongoing Re-accreditation

This is the final week to participate in the alumni survey. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) seeks information on our alums as part of its evaluation process. To fill out the survey, lick on this [link](#). The survey is completely anonymous. Results will be shared here in the April newsletter. Thank you to the 278 alums who have already completed it.

Lovely Psychotherapy Office in Rockridge

Sublet available in beautiful office, located near the heart of the charming Rockridge neighborhood in Oakland. The suite has wheelchair access, a code at the front door, and a comfortable waiting area. Call **Gisele Fernandes-Osterhold** (SOM '04) at 510.595.5507 or email giseleconnect@yahoo.com.

STAFF NEWS

LU GREY STEPPING DOWN AS CHURCH STREET ICC DIRECTOR

After twenty-one years as director of the Church Street Integral Counseling Center, Lu Grey will be stepping down from that position at the end of the spring 2011 semester. She will remain a member of the ICP core faculty, and will continue to teach Gestalt therapy in that program. She will also continue working with the Church Street associates program and lead weekly supervision groups for the interns there.

She has been responsible for training a number of good Gestalt therapists in her time as ICC director, and has secured a place in the hearts of many. We all wish her well as she moves into the next phase of her life, and we are grateful to remain a part of it.

UPCOMING ALUMNI ACTIVITIES



Kelly Nguyen (ICP) is starting a group in early April called **Asians in America**. It's a group for Asians to share what is real for them. Kelly's passion is in bridging psychotherapy with the Asian community. For more information go to:

<http://itherapyroom.com/workshops.php>.



Expressive Arts Therapy Spring Community Gathering and Alumni Talkback

Wednesday; March 30, 2011 at 6:00PM in Room 606, CIIS Main Building, 1453 Mission Street, San Francisco

The Expressive Arts Therapy program will begin the evening with mingling and a meal. (The program will provide a main course and beverages— please bring appetizers, salads, snacks, and desserts if you so desire!) For more information, please contact **Kasey Petteys** (EXA '06).



Mariana Caplan (ICP '94) Presents CIIS World Spirituality Lecture Series

This **groundbreaking series** of dialogues features author **Mariana Caplan**, PhD, and three of the cutting-edge teachers and innovators of our time, representing diverse religions and spiritual traditions.

April 7: **Tami Simon**: Many Voices, One Journey

April 28: **Roger Walsh** and **Frances Vaughan**: Essential Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life

All lectures are 7:00PM–9:00PM; CIIS Main Building, 1453 Mission Street, San Francisco

Kristin Ihlenfeld-Young (ICP, '06) is starting a psychotherapy book club for CIIS alumni, meeting in the North Bay. If interested, please contact Kristen at 707.326.2383 or Kristinyoungmft@gmail.com.



Nicholas Walker (SOM '10) moved his aikido dojo to a new shared studio space in Berkeley. CIIS community members receive a discounted rate of \$60 per month. The first class is free. 2525 Eighth Street in Berkeley. Classes are Tuesdays, 6:30PM–8:00PM; Fridays, 6:00–8:00PM; and Sundays 1:00PM–2:30PM. For more details go to <http://www.aikiarts.com>.



Eva Neuhaus (SOM '10) is offering a workshop entitled “Build a Thriving Private Practice as a Form of Creative Expression” on alternate Wednesday evenings from March through May. Anam Cara Center, 2915 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley (near Ashby BART). sensitiveuniverse@gmail.com



Tamara Thebert (ICP '08) is offering astrologically-based counseling for new mothers. For three intensive sessions, she will explore the energies in this new relationship using the natal chart and transit chart of the mother and child. Mamas name the fee.

Contact Tamara at tamara@couragousearth.net.



Phil Weglarz (EXA '06) is offering “Kids who Fly,” children's creative movement classes, including dancing on low-flying trapeze, swings, and aerial slings.



ACOUSTIC AFRICA AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

Don't miss three African musical superstars, March 25, 2011 at the fabulous Paramount Theatre in Oakland. As a CIIS community member (faculty/staff/student) you can receive a 20% discount on tickets to this show. Simply enter the code “CIISP2” in the promotional code box when you are on Ticketmaster.

THE ARTS AT CIIS FEATURES CHICACHIC

The Arts at CIIS has developed insightful media clips for its current exhibit, ChicaChic, on contemporary Chicana art. The clips were developed partially in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission.

CultureWire segment on ChicaChic

Interview with curator **Raquel de Anda** by **Josué Rojas** on New American Media

CIIS ONLINE



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Official CIIS Alumni Association Page. Click the “Like” button and bookmark the page for easy access.



Official CIIS Alumni Association LinkedIn Page



ALUMNI EVENTS



CIIS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REUNION
Saturday; April 9, 2011;
2:00PM–5:00PM

Join us for an afternoon of refreshments and lively conversation. **Maureen Kellen-Taylor** (EWP '99) will present on the topic of “The Art of Spirited Aging.” \$20 Donation benefits the Alumni Scholarship Fund. [RSVP online](#)



CIIS SEATTLE ALUMNI REUNION
Friday; April 15, 2011;
6:00PM–9:00PM

Join us for an evening of conversation, wine, and hors d'oeuvres at the Integral Loft. Reconnect and network with fellow classmates. Alums Richard Buggs and Susan Cannon will draw from their work with couples and groups to lead an interactive discussion about relationships as a path to wholeness and healing. \$20 donation benefits the Alumni Scholarship Fund. [RSVP online](#)



ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT EVENT THE HEART OF BUDDHA, WITH NOAH LEVINE (ICP '04)

Friday; April 29, 2011;
7:00PM–9:00PM; Room 550, CIIS Main Building
In the Buddhist tradition of overcoming hatred with love, fear with verified faith, ignorance with understanding, and greed with generosity, this evening lecture will focus on cultivation of the heart's natural qualities of wisdom and compassion. We will learn to develop a greater sense of care for ourselves and for our world through the revolutionary spiritual practices of the Buddha. Noah Levine will discuss how true spiritual practice is an engagement with life that goes against the norms of our confused world and is therefore an act of rebellion. \$10 donation benefits the Alumni Scholarship Fund. [RSVP online](#)

SONOMA ALUMS

Save the date for the Sonoma alumni gathering on **Thursday; May 19, 2011, from 5:30PM–7:30PM at Cellars of Sonoma.**



THE INNER ADVENTURES OF BALI
May 16–29, 2011

Eat, pray, love among the vibrant spiritual traditions and cultural offerings in Bali. Enjoy gamelan music and mask dancers, bask in the sun on pristine beaches, take an early morning dolphin-watching boat ride. Price: \$3,300. Single supplement \$866.



LUCIA BIRNBAUM RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Celebrate with us as we give tribute to Lucia Birnbaum, author of *Dark Mother: African Origins and Godmothers*, for her years of service as core faculty of the Women Spirituality Program. **Thursday; May 19, 2011; 6:00PM; Namaste Hall, CIIS Main Building.**

CLASS NOTES



Samantha Smithstein (CLN '01) has published a new article in *Psychology Today* entitled, “Charlie Sheen: We are ‘sick and tired,’ but is he? What does it take to make a change?” Smithstein is a regular contributor to *Psychology Today* and is founder of the Pathways Institute for Impulse Control (www.pathwaysinstitute.net), which specializes in assessment and treatment of impulse disorders.

Nora Archambeau (EWP '97) has recently moved to Healdsburg and is interested in organizing a Sonoma alumni circle. Contact Nora at worldwidewoman8@yahoo.com.



Tina Stromsted (TLR '00) is a Jungian analyst and Board Certified Dance Therapist with a private practice in San Francisco. Past cofounder and faculty member of the Authentic Movement Institute in Berkeley, she teaches at various universities and healing centers in the Bay Area and internationally. With thirty-five years of clinical experience, her clinical work, teaching, and publications explore the integration of body, mind, psyche, and soul in healing and transformation.

Eugene Herrington (CLN '89) is owner of Herrington Consultants & Psychological Associates at Peachtree in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Clinical Hypnotherapist and licensed Reiki master. He is an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at Morehouse School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.



Kevin Hibbitt (ICP '04) recently received his license as a Marriage and Family Therapist and works as a psychotherapist in private practice in San Francisco. He continues to teach vinyasa-based yoga at International Ords and the Jewish Community Center and holds seasonal restorative yoga workshops at the Mindful Body. www.kevinhibbitt.com

Alan Baiss (ICP '92) and other CIIS alms have created Integral Inspirations, dedicated to producing films grounded in the belief that an evolutionary leap in human consciousness is humanity's potential and birthright, and may be our best hope if we are to continue the human adventure. The website features videos and information on films, including *Integral Consciousness: Sri Aurobindo's Yoga and How Haridas Chaudhuri Brought it to the West*. www.integralinspirations.com



Marcia Beauchamp (TLM '00) has a new job as Midwest coordinator for the Face to Faith Program at the Tony Blair Faith Foundation.



Subhana Ansari (ODT '97) is a grower, hybridizer, and owner of Flourishing Daylilies. She previously was an editor and research assistant at The Book Foundation, and manager of training and development at Terayon Communications Systems. In the past, she worked as a training projects manager at Adecco Employment Services, as an area administrator at Apple Computer, and as a lab manager assistant at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center.

Michael Loeffler (ICP '11) created a LinkedIn page for CIIS psychotherapists. He participated in the admissions information day alumni panel at CIIS and is expanding his psychotherapy practice in Hayes Valley to include depth psychology and dream work. Contact him at www.michaelmloeffler.com or 415.937.0309.

To send a class note, please email **Richard Buggs** (CLN '96).