1994 RESIST Grants and...

A Look at the Year in Rhetoric

This is our annual special issue of the newsletter, listing the grants and loans we gave out in 1994, as well as brief descriptions of each project funded. We thank everyone who sent in photographs of their work, and wish we had room to print more of them.

Each year in this issue, we try to provide a perspective on world and national events from the vantage point of the RESIST office. We also summarize our own work over the past year.

As always, we welcome your letters on this year's wrap-up, as well as on everything you see in the newsletter.

In this winter of 1995, many of us haven't stopped reeling from the elections of 1994. But this is still a world, to paraphrase Grace Paley, where enormous changes can happen in what looks like the last minute. If 1994 was the year of Proposition 187, it was also the year that Latino high school students in Los Angeles and Northern California led democratic, highly visible opposition to the anti-immigrant measure. At the same time, they demanded school programs that respect their lives and Chicano/Mexicano history. Thousands of students all over the state continued to meet and demonstrate and educate, and solidarity groups in Texas, Pennsylvania and other states have begun to grow.

If 1994 was the year NAFTA fulfilled its promise of widening the gulf between rich and poor in Mexico and the U.S., it was also the year that the indigenous people of Chiapas captured the attention of the world with their eloquent bid for the broadest possible platform of social and economic rights. Not just for Chiapas, not just for all of Mexico, but for struggling people anywhere. In the process, they proved—and they are still proving—that poetry and theater are powerful (see "Our Kind of Rhetoric" sidebar).

If 1994 was a year of disappointment in the Middle East, as violence never slowed and justice for Palestinians seemed more and more elusive, it was also the year that Black South Africans.

continued on the next page
began to run their own country. The year that world powers ceased their categorical dismissal of the notion of a Northern Ireland without its British colonizer. Despite huge unknowns and terrible compromises exacted by the U.S., it was the year that Aristide returned to Haiti and Haitian life stopped being defined by military terror.

In the U.S., neighborhood and community activism exposing the realities of environmental racism and breast cancer increased, as did student uprisings over issues of free speech. Against the apparent odds, gay people and supporters in Washington State managed to keep an anti-gay initiative from ever getting on the ballot by believing in the power of talking openly about their lives. The scrappy “Bigot Busters” shocked a well-funded, well-organized rightwing campaign by speaking to people at malls and other public places about what was at stake for gay people and the principle of equality for everyone.

What Newt's “normal people” really said

Maybe the good news doesn’t quite stack up against the bad news, but we can't afford despair, or the resignation that usually comes quick on its heels. Especially now, we can't afford not to gather our best hopes and our best imagination—of the kind of world we want to live in. We don't deny the catastrophic change in political atmosphere in the U.S., but we do want to remind ourselves that part of the strategy of the powers that be is to make us feel that we have already lost everything. That the concept of “rights” has already been so debased as to become synonymous with charity. That there’s no crossing out the new line drawn in the sand between the “deserving” and the “undeserving.” That politics as punishment has won the faint hearts and minds of Newt’s “normal people,” and marginalized groups have split apart and begun devouring each other.

We don’t believe this is true. For one thing, the Republicans are currently mired in their own internal clash over abortion, with bigwigs from the Christian Right threatening to withdraw support unless the Party toes the anti-abortion line. And, as many analysts have pointed out, the “slide” on the Right represented only a small change in U.S. voter demographics, and few voters knew the Republicans had signed a contract with/on them. Rather, many of the small minority who voted were rejecting a Democratic leadership that felled to deliver on almost everything. Moreover, sizable majorities in this country do not approve of “welfare reform,” the balanced budget amendment, or increases in defense spending—when they know the details and impact of those policies. They remain queasy about NAFTA and they even keep saying they want health care reform.

In addition, while there's been a lot of teeth-gnashing about the Right's inroads within communities of color, these claims have been overstated—and progressives' willingness to accept them perhaps reflects a need for someone to blame other than the obvious targets of greedy politicians and corporations. Black voters in New York, for example, cast ballots at higher rates for progressives—like Jewish, lesbian candidate for Attorney General Karen Burstein—than any other demographic group. A majority of Black, Asian and Latino voters in California voted against Prop. 187. And at least two-thirds of gay voters did not vote for Republican candidates.

A battle over the place and power of people of color and women

Given the level of rhetorical ammunition ranged against us, we might, in fact, view all of these results as extraordi-

narily heartening. Yet if the increasingly rightwing mainstream cannot claim wholesale victory, we do confront a new wall of sanctioned hate, and degrading/degraded speech is fast becoming law. In order to effectively resist further attacks, we have to confront the symbols and images that work to justify policy. More and more, this is a war based on exploiting fear and resentment—not a battle over the facts of how pitiful welfare allotments really are, the evidence that harsh prison sentences and the death penalty do nothing to stop crime, or the actual steady decline in teenage pregnancy since the 60s. This is a battle over the place and potential power of people of color and women in the United States—as racist and sexist bias is used to underpin every major policy initiative from “welfare reform” to Prop. 187, to the crime bill (and its even nastier new cousin), to attempts to completely eliminate funding for the arts.

For the Record

Thanks for all the wonderful recent letters from readers and thanks to those who pointed out, re: our editorial on the firing of Joycelyn Elders, that Hazel O'Leary, an African-American woman, continues to serve in the Clinton Cabinet as Secretary of Energy.
The Year in Rhetoric

Just as batterers make a habit of using derogatory speech both as its own weapon and the necessary preamble to other kinds of violence, so the media hoopla over books like The Bell Curve—blithely positioning as science the genetic inferiority of Black people—does its own damage while fueling punitive welfare and crime policies. The bigtime comeback on the Congressional stage of words like “bitch” and “fag” and “illegitimate” (applied to mothers and children, not authority) should be a wake-up call to all of us.

In the reproductive rights arena, the rhetoric of “abhorrence” for abortion, by Surgeon General nominee Henry Foster Jr., works to shame women while validating rationales for violence against clinics and murders of staff. Foster’s (and Clinton’s) avid distaste also adds “moral” fuel to Republican efforts to reinstate “the gag rule” denying information about abortion services to low-income women. So damaging are these patronizing declarations that it’s hard to see value in any “pro-choice” position Foster may actually hold.

Similarly, the proposal in and of itself to put poor children in orphanages is a form of coercion. Floating the concept is a threat to women who choose independence from men, and a way to inflame and to see their children as morally tainted by their mother’s sexual ‘sin’ and therefore lucky to get whatever grudging help is doled out to them...No one, even a child, deserves anything. That is what orphanages mean.”

The scapegoating rhetoric heaped on unmarried young mothers on welfare also diverts attention from the discomfort many people feel in the face of changes in sexual mores, greater autonomy for economically and sexually independent, i.e. “uppity” women.

We can skip over the complex reasons teenage women have sex with men and have children. As young women tell us, these include their desire for sexual pleasure, attempts to escape sexual abuse in their homes, the culture of sexual coercion of young women by young men, homophobic pressures to “have a man,” domestic violence, the lack of jobs and limit of hope for both girls and boys—particularly those who are of color and poor, the desire for love, the desire for self-determination, the lack of sex education and accessible birth control, the lack of accessible abortion services, etc. (And we can also ignore the fact that in European countries where women receive higher wages, and where there is national health coverage that includes abortion and day care, teenage pregnancy is not considered a problem and rates are low.)

Demonizing language lets lots of people off the hook. Just as the promotion of “personal responsibility” really signifies a blanket denial of social responsibility. It means refusing to recognize society’s responsibility for poverty, and for all of the other effects of racism, sexism and homophobia on people’s lives. The message is that what’s so unfair is any effort to redress injustice. Under this logic, prote-

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racist stereotypes of “lazy” and “incompetent” mothers of color pulling scams on the “generous” system. (No surprise then, that Bell Curve co-author Charles Murray suggested the orphanage idea back in 1984.) As Katha Pollitt writes in The Nation, “Even if we never see the actual orphanages, we are being taught to think of children who have living parents as ‘orphans’ just because those parents are young, female, unmarried and poor. We are thus also being taught to see those women as having no rights and nothing to contribute—as being, in effect, dead—women, and widespread, if ambivalent, attention to child sexual abuse and domestic violence. If unmarried teenage mothers—most often depicted as Black or Latina—can be cast as our biggest social problem and the supreme evil, we can ignore the discomfort and simply punish them for “personal irresponsibility” and “lack of (family) values.” We can avoid confronting the mess of social fears about young women’s right to sexual happiness and control of their bodies, about loss of parental control, loss of male control, loss of white control—about eco-

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tion from discrimination—on the basis of sexuality, and also race, class, you name it—amounts to "special rights" which victimize "real Americans." The message is that the playing field was fair all along and if you're not doing nicely, it's because you're one of those people who—in the words of Bill Clinton—just won't "play by the rules."

Practices of poetry and social responsibility

What the politicians are banking on is that we'll buy into the idea of limited rights, and the idea of people who "deserve" them, versus people who don't. We'll all look down at whoever is poorer and more disenfranchised and more stigmatized than us, instead of up at those who profit. We'll spend our time worrying about people who don't "deserve" rent control or food stamps, or to say they're gay out loud, or to ever get out of prison, or to come into this country at all—and blink at the dazzling entitlements, enormous power, and acts of aggression permitted to property owners, big business, and politicians—what Ralph Nader calls "Aid to Dependent Corporations."

And when we open our eyes again, the clock will have been turned back 50 years and poor people will no longer have the right to assistance based on need. Few women will be able to leave abusive husbands, the Christian Coalition will be running the public schools that have enough funding to stay open, and everyone will have to carry a national i.d. card. Prisons will be the only new public housing being built in this country (and soon, perhaps—with the planned decimation of HUD—the only public housing at all).

Even more rigid hierarchies of race and sex and sexuality will be in place, and it will make all the sense in the world that the campaign in California to end affirmative action calls itself "The Civil Rights Initiative." More and more cities will become militarized zones, full of more and more desperate people and more and more guns and more and more police. And even if we're not the most desperate people, our lives will be controlled by walls and borders of all kinds, and fear.

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¡Vivan Los Zapatistas!
(our kind of rhetoric!)

O

n January 1, 1994, the Zapatistas burst onto the world stage from the mountains of southeast Mexico. Their brilliant theatrical style and the impassioned eloquence of their communiqués—often addressed to "the peoples of the world"—account in large part for their success to date. Penned by subcomandante insurgen te Marcos (or el Sup), the communiqués describe the aspirations of indigenous Chiapans for dignity, democracy and decent standards of living. These writings have helped to mobilize Mexican society and international supporters, making it far more difficult for the government to crush the Zapatista movement.

As of this writing, President Zedillo has yet to retract warrants for the arrest of Marcos and other leaders in Chiapas. But as protests against the government's war on the Zapatistas continue daily across Mexico—with more than 100,000 marchers rallying in Mexico City on February 10th—the government has been forced to back down from its brutal military sweep. (Public outcry also grows against NAFTA-induced austerity measures, increasing U.S. control over the country, and the free fall of standards of living for most Mexicans.)

In April of last year, the San Francisco Chronicle published an interview with Marcos that included his statement that he had once worked in a restaurant in San Francisco, but had been fired for being gay. Pro-government press in Mexico picked up the story in an effort to smear him, so Marcos issued a communiqué in response. The following excerpt comes to RESIST via Gay Community News.

"About whether Marcos is homosexual: Marcos is gay in San Francisco, Black in South Africa, an Asian in Europe, a Chicano in San Ysidro, an anarchist in Spain, a Palestinian in Israel, a Mayan Indian in the streets of San Cristobal, a gang member in the shanty-town of Neza, a rocker in the National University, a Jew in Germany, an ombudsman in the Defense Ministry, a feminist in political parties, a communist in the post-cold War era, an artist without gallery or portfolio.... A pacifist in Bosnia, a housewife alone on Saturday night in any neighborhood in any city in any Mexico, a striker in the government-controlled union, a reporter writing filler stories for the back pages, a single woman on the metro at 10 p.m., a peasant without land, an unemployed worker...an unhappy student, a dissident amidst free market economics, a writer without books or readers, and, of course, a Zapatista in the mountains of southeast Mexico. So Marcos is a human being, any human being, in this world. Marcos is all the exploited, marginalized and oppressed minorities, resisting and saying, 'Enough!'

PS. If you're interested in reading other communiqués from subcomandante insurgen te Marcos, The Anderson Valley Advertiser of California dedicated its August 1994 issue to translations of all communiqués from the Zapatistas that appeared in the Mexican press between January 1 and June 10, 1994. Send $2 for the special issue to AVA, Box 459, Boonville CA 95415.
The 1994 Grant-Giving Program

In 1994 we gave out more money than ever before, a 33% increase over last year, for a total of $149,041.78 to 182 groups. This includes 12 emergency grants that went to groups doing work that reflected some of the major issues of 1994: Haiti, Chiapas, Cuba, homelessness, the environment, labor, Native Americans, the death penalty, and fighting the Right.

You might be interested to know that in 1985 we were able to give out only $49,665. We are delighted by RESIST’s growth in the last ten years. We were able to give out so much money in 1994 because of the generosity of our donors, and because at our January board meeting we agreed to raise our maximum grant from $800 to $1000.

As always, the majority of our money came from residents of New York, Massachusetts, and California, accounting for over 53% of our donor income. We are pleased to report (see chart) that we fulfilled our goal of spreading money around to communities that need it most. We did special outreach this year to groups working against the death penalty, on welfare issues, and for peace and justice in the Middle East—and the results are still coming in. We continued to do outreach to many other sectors as well.

So where do we get our money? From individual donors like you. In fact, in 1994, 80% of our donor income came from those who contributed $100 or less, while 20% contributed over $100.

In addition to regular contributions and pledges, we received contributions from Haymarket People’s Fund, the Tides Foundation, Vanguard Foundation, the Maisel Foundation, and the Lessie Klein Memorial Fund. We also received matching gifts from Apple, Digital, Glenmede Trust Corporation, John Hancock Mutual Life, and Lotus Development Corporation. Several of our supporters made generous donations of stock. Several of you chose to make your contributions anonymous. Havurat Shalom Community Seminary in Somerville, Mass. sent a contribution to RESIST from their annual social justice funds. The Cambridge-Ramallah/El Bireh Sister City Campaign gave us a grant of $1073.38 to give out to a local group doing work on the Middle East.

This year’s Mike Riegle Tribute Grant went to Sister Spirit, Inc. (Ovett, Miss.) to support the costs of an educational and fund raising mailing. Mike was a gay/left/prisoners’ rights activist and those of us who knew him here at RESIST believe he would have felt a strong sense of solidarity with the women at Sister Spirit and their fight against homophobic attacks. Mike was a proud gay man, and he would have respected the courage and energy of the women of Sister Spirit, as well as their hands-on approach to helping people.

Other than that

We see ourselves as an activist organization...encouraging groups to take on new issues, to consider things from a different perspective. We publish a monthly newsletter which we see as a fundamental part of our own work. This year we covered national and international issues, as well as reported on successful local grassroots campaigns. Many of you wrote us and asked us to send multiple copies of a particular issue so that you could use them in your classes, or send them to your friends. You also gave us your feedback—let us know when you agreed or disagreed with something we printed. We appreciate all of your letters to us, and ask that you let us know when writing if the letters are meant for publication or not.

In addition, we published our third updated edition of "Finding Funding, a beginner’s guide to foundation research." We sell the helpful little booklet for $1

continued on page eleven
Grants and Loans 1994

Members of Washington State "Jobs with Justice" mobilize in support of flight attendants facing concession demands from Alaska Airlines. This solidarity effort, a staple of the group's work, helped secure the flight attendants' contract victory. Photo: Lisa Karl

Africa/Asia/International

Mozambique Solidarity Office (Jamaica Plain, MA) $800 toward the cost of distributing their newsletter, Baobab News.

Western Sahara Awareness Project (Jamaica Plain, MA) $800 for the production of a brochure to advertise their documentary video about the Saharawis.

Central/Latin America and the Caribbean

Las Americas Refugee Asylum Project (El Paso, TX) $600 for a modem and a year's subscription to PeaceNet and HandsNet computer networks.

Boston CISPES (Jamaica Plain, MA) $723 for the expenses of local alliance-building efforts through their annual Work-A-Thon.

Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City Project (Cambridge, MA) $700 to help cover the costs of printing and mailing brochures/pledge sheets and letters for a Work-A-Thon.

Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America (Raleigh, NC) $800 to fund the expenses of organizing a youth delegation to travel to Nicaragua.

Center for Information/Documentation & Research on Haiti (Hyde Park, MA) $1,000 toward the purchase of a public address system for their popular debate series in the Haitian community.

Chicago Nicaragua Solidarity Committee (IL) $1,000 toward expenses of a Work-A-Thon at a public housing development.

Cleveland Central America Solidarity Association (OH) $800 for film for their documentation project of the Zamora presidential campaign in El Salvador.

Cleveland InterReligious Task Force on Central America (OH) $1,000 for the cost of a series of direct mailings on their "School of the Americas Campaign."

Colombia Human Rights Committee (Washington, DC) $950 for the production and mailing of one issue of their newsletter.

Colombia Support Network (Madison, WI) $800 for the expenses of a project to increase their outreach and to consolidate their membership.

Compost Magazine (Jamaica Plain, MA) $100 toward the expenses of producing an issue focused on Haiti.

CUSLAR (Ithaca, NY) $1,000 to purchase a computer and a laser printer.

DC CISPES (Washington, DC) $1,000 toward the costs of a Work-A-Thon to promote solidarity between communities in the U.S. and El Salvador.

The Documentation Exchange (Austin, TX) $800 for expenses related to the promotion of a new publication.

Ecumenical Program on Central America & the Caribbean (Washington, DC) $850 toward the printing of a report on Haiti entitled "Beyond the Mountains: Haiti Faces the Future."

Empowerment Project (Chapel Hill, NC) $200* for the expenses of an emergency series of showings of a film on Haiti.

Greater Hartford Coalition on Cuba (CT) $500 for leaflets and mailings for their educational campaign on the issue of the U.S. embargo against Cuba.

Guatemala Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) $800 toward the expenses of educating people in New England about the participation of their states' National Guard and Army Reserve troops in joint military exercises in Guatemala.

Guatemala Human Rights Commission/USA (Washington, DC) $800 toward the cost of free subscriptions to their Spanish-language mailings on political and human rights violations in Guatemala.

Guatemala Partners (Washington, DC) $1,000 toward the expenses of an educational package on Guatemalan/U.S. grassroots partnerships.

Guatemala Support Network (Houston, TX) $1,000 toward the production costs of their newsletter.

The Indigenous Peoples' Support Group (New Prague, MN) $200* for a speaking tour of two speakers from Chiapas, Mexico.

JRC Sanctuary Coalition and the Chicago Metropolitan Sanctuary Alliance (Evanston, IL) $800 toward the costs of producing a study guide for their video about Guatemalan refugees.

Kalfou Kreyol (Washington, DC) $1,000 toward production of their magazine Roots.

Latin America News (Boulder, CO) $1,000 for phone, distribution, and advertising expenses of their radio show.

Mouvement Peyitzan Papay Education & Development Fund (Boston, MA) $1,000 toward the cost of office supplies and postage for mailings.

National Debate for Peace in El Salvador (Washington, DC) $1,000 for organizing a photo exhibition to demonstrate the necessity of implementing the Peace Accords in El Salvador.

Page Six RESIST Newsletter March, 1995
1994 Grants

continued from page six

Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (Washington, DC) $800 to be used for organizing and promoting the visit of Guatemalan activists to various regions throughout the U.S.

New England Central America Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) $1,000 toward the expenses of a tour by two women organizers (from the U.S. and Nicaragua) focusing on the domestic links between the two countries.

New York CIS Pes (NY, NY) $725 toward a project of recruiting local activists to go on delegations to El Salvador, and for follow-up expenses.

Nicaragua-United States Friendship Office (Washington, DC) $1,000 for the expenses of public education projects.

November 12th Coalition (New York, NY) $200 toward the expenses of organizing a national march and rally to end the U.S. economic blockade of Cuba.

PeaceWorks (Morristown, NJ) $900 toward the costs of an educational and outreach campaign on Nicaragua, Mexico, Haiti, and El Salvador.

Pediatricians & Parents for Peace (Los Angeles, CA) $1,000 toward the purchase of a computer and a laser printer.

Project Quetzal, Inc. (Haddam, CT) $950 for the production of a brochure and newsletter on the subject of women and children in Guatemala.

Rochester Peace & Justice Education Center (NY) $1,000 for a national newsletter for movement building and the sharing of resources in the U.S./Latin America solidarity movement.

SEA-GUA (Seattle, WA) $625 for the expenses of a Clean Green Coffee Campaign which aims to improve workers’ rights in Guatemala by promoting consumer actions.

St. Louis Interfaith Committee on Latin America (MO) $320 for the expenses of organizing meetings in the U.S. with local activists who will go as a delegation to urban and rural Missouri and to Nicaragua.

U.S./Guatemala Labor Education Project (Chicago, IL) $750 to produce and distribute a Spanish language version of their basic brochure.

Weavers Project/Women for Guatemala (Chicago, IL) $500 to cover the costs of the creation of a movable mural for their “Youth Training Project” in area high schools.

Wisconsin Coordinating Council on Nicaragua (Madison, WI) $1,000 for the purchase of a computer.

Witness for Peace/Southwest Region (Los Angeles, CA) $800 toward the purchase of a computer.

Community Organizing/ Anti-racism

Delaware Valley Housing Coalition (Philadelphia, PA) $1,000 toward the production of a monthly newsletter for public housing residents.

Empty the Shelters (Chicago, IL) $800 for public transportation costs for participants in the project.

La Escuela de la Comunidad (Pasadena, CA) $1,000 to purchase a scanner and software for their computer, and to assist with their community newsletter.

Green Acres Tenants Association (Richmond, VT) $1,000 toward general operating expenses.

Hartford Working Group on Community Economic Development (Hartford, CT) $1,000 for expenses of a grassroots neighborhood economic development conference.

Homes Not Jails (San Francisco, CA) $1,000 toward organizing and office expenses.

Jews for Racial & Economic Justice (New York, NY) $961 to repair their photocopier, and to purchase an automatic folder.

JOIN: A Center for Involvement (Portland, OR) $900 for stipends to homeless people doing speaking engagements.

Media, Film and Video Group (Mashpee, MA) $800 toward distribution and advertising costs of their Public Service Announcements about police brutality and harassment of men of color on Cape Cod.

Montanans for Social Justice (Helena, MT) $800 toward the purchase of a photo copying machine.

Multicultural Resource Center (Ithaca, NY) $750 toward a project for young people to produce skits on racism for schools in the area.

National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (Oakland, CA) $800 for a part-time staff person’s salary.

Northampton Economic Forum/Community Unity Council (Nassawadox, VA) $800 to assist in the costs of the Council participating in Grassroots Leadership’s “Barriers & Bridges Project.”

On-Campus (Los Angeles, CA) $200* for the expenses of teachers organizing their own Pledge of Resistance against the implementation of California’s anti-immigrants Proposition 187.

Oregon Human Rights Coalition (Portland) $1,000 toward a three-day conference, “Women Taking Charge of the Welfare Reform Debate.”

Pioneer Valley Pro-Democracy Campaign (Amherst, MA) $750 toward the expenses of a series of workshops for trainers for their “Democracy Organizing Project.”

Re-Visioning New Mexico (Albuquerque) $1,000 toward the purchase of a computer and laser printer.

Rural Justice Project (Cottage Grove, OR) $1,000 toward the purchase of a computer and laser printer.

Saint Peter’s Housing Committee (San Francisco, CA) $1,000 for the expenses of the “Latino Code Enforcement Project.”

Somerville Haitian Coalition (MA) $800 to support their Haitian Bilingual Program.

Spare Change (Cambridge, MA) $175* to help with the costs of mailing for subscriptions and renewals for this newspaper and for the homeless.

Texas Alliance for Human Needs (Austin) $1,000 for the costs of production and postage for a fund raising mailing to their members list.

Worcester Area Rainbow Coalition/Clergy & Laity Concerned (Worcester, MA) $1,000 toward the expenses of copying and mailing their newsletter, Rainbow Express.

Cultural and Media

Center for the Study of Political Graphics (Los Angeles, CA) $1,000 to cover the costs of shipping a traveling exhibit of posters produced by progressive printshops.

The Maine Progressive (Belfast) $1,000 to pay writers to do four investigative articles for this newspaper.

New Haven/Leon Sister City Project (CT) $1,000 toward expenses of their Flor de Cana Concert.

PINTIG Cultural Group (Chicago, IL) $800 for the expenses of story-sharing workshops.

Videoteca del Sur (New York, NY) $800 for advertising and telephone costs incurred in organizing a series of screenings/seminars and about Cuban film and video.

continued on the next page
1994 Grants
continued from page seven

Economic Justice

Campaign to Abolish Poverty (San Francisco, CA) $674 for a "Street Economics" project of monthly workshops and demonstrations.

Center for Popular Economics (Amherst, MA) $1,000 toward the expenses of graphics for their book, "A Field Guide to the U.S. Economy."

Dollars & Sense Magazine (Somerville, MA) $800 to purchase a computer printer, as well as software to upgrade their accounting program.

Environmental

Artists for Survival (Waltham, MA) $300 toward the purchase of blank posters for their "Save Life on Earth" project for children.

Austin Peace & Justice Coalition (TX) $1,000 toward printing and postage costs of an issue of their newsletter devoted to environmental issues facing Austin.

Citizens Awareness Network (Shelburne Falls, MA) $1,000 to purchase a photo copying machine.

Citizens for Environmental Justice (Savannah, GA) $800 for the printing costs of their newsletter.

Citizens for Responsible Energy (Burlington, VT) $200 for the expenses of organizing to stop the state of Vermont from sending radioactive waste to west Texas.

Eastern North American Native Forest Network (Burlington, VT) $900 toward the expenses of an Activists Training Week.

Grassroots Coalition to Save James Bay (Leverett, MA) $200* toward the expenses of organizing a picket in Boston to protest the hydro-electric dam projects of Hydro Quebec.

Missisquoi River Project (Swanton, VT) $1,000 for expenses of organizing to restore the river.

People for Community Recovery (Chicago, IL) $1,000 for the cost of producing their newsletter, and toward the purchase of a laser printer.

Political Ecology Group (San Francisco, CA) $1,000 toward translation and production costs of a Spanish edition of an action paper, "Toxic Empire."

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual

AGALA HELP (Haw River, NC) $650 toward the expenses of a documentation project for countering homophobia and empowering sexual minorities.

Asian and Pacific Islander Homosexuality/Homophobia Education Project (Seattle, WA) $850 toward the expenses of their "Speakers Bureau Project."

Austin Lesbian Avengers (TX) $800 toward the expenses of their "Lesbian Pride Ride" through the deep South.

Fight the Right Project (Cambridge, MA) $200* toward mailings for a series of training seminars.

G. L. Friendly (Biloxi, MS) $1,000 toward general operating expenses.

Gay & Lesbian Labor Activist Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) $1,000 toward organizing expenses of a "National Conference for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual People in Labor."

Gay, Lesbian & Straight Teachers Network (Cambridge, MA) $1,000 toward the expenses of celebration events for Gay & Lesbian History Month in New England public schools.

Ground Zero (Colorado Springs, CO) $1,000 for production, printing and mailing of brochures and flyers to defeat Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2.

Lambda Community Center (Fort Collins, CO) $1,000 for production of a brochure for the expenses of a regional forum on anti-discrimination work; and for a printer.

The Media Project (Democracy Media Committee) (Portland, OR) $800 toward distribution costs for a five-part radio program on the religious right.

Men of All Colors Together (Milwaukee, WI) $800 toward production and mailing costs of a brochure on racism in Milwaukee and in the gay and lesbian community.

Missouri Summer '94 (Minn., MN) $1,000 for the expenses of training student activists.

Network of Battered Lesbians (Boston, MA) $1,000 for printing and postage for their bilingual newsletter.

North Carolina Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Equality (Durham) $1,000 for the cost of printing their annual "Hate Crimes Report."

Outreach to Rural Youth (Yakima, WA) $837 for expenses of postage, phone and printing costs of booklets to help youth to speak out against legislative anti-gay initiatives on the November ballot.

Health/AIDS/Disability

Atlantic Coast, Nicaragua/Philadelphia Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation/Prevention and AIDS Project (Philadelphia, PA) $1,000 for phone/fax expenses, and food and health insurance for Nicaraguan women speakers.

Committee for Health Rights in Central America (San Francisco, CA) $775 for an educational and organizing campaign to follow up their 11th Annual North America-Nicaragua Colloquium on Health.

Hawaii Breast Cancer Action (Honolulu) $958 toward the expenses of educational forums on breast cancer and environmental toxins.

Health Security Coalition (Leominster, MA) $800 for the expenses of a project to educate the public about establishing a single-payer health care system in the state.

Treatment on Demand (New Bedford, MA) $800 toward the expenses of a public education and organizing campaign.

Labor

Black Workers for Justice (Rocky Mount, NC) $1,000 for general expenses.

The Ford Worker (St. Paul, MN) $1,000 to produce and mail this newsletter.

Fuerza Unida, Inc. (San Antonio, TX) $800 for preparation and mailing of monthly
newsletter of the “Promotora Leadership Development Project.”

Home Attendants Support Committee (New York, NY) $200* toward the publication and distribution of their newsletter, and for subway tokens for members involved in organizing.

The Labor Page—Workplace Committee (Jamaica Plain, MA) $1,000 toward the production of an issue of the newsletter, which deals with welfare, unemployment and substandard wages.

Massachusetts Coalition on New Office Technology (Somerville) $800 for organizing house meetings for their “Clerical Workers Organizing Project.”

Massachusetts Jobs with Justice (Somerville, MA) $800 toward the salary of an outreach coordinator for presentations of their slide show.

North American Worker-to-Worker Network (Rocky Mount, NC) $800 toward the purchase of a computer.

Pine Tree Folk School (Carmel, ME) $1,000 for the expenses of their “Jay-Livermore Working Class History Project.”

Rhode Island Coalition of Labor Union Women (Providence) $1,000 for the expenses of CLUW’s coffee program for members and for reprinting their brochure.

Washington Committee on Occupational Safety & Health (Seattle) $1,000 as a matching grant to purchase a notebook computer system for training and educational programs.

Washington State Jobs with Justice (Seattle) $800 for mailing costs for an outreach project to increase diversity of constituent groups.

Women’s Institute for Leadership Development (Jamaica Plain, MA) $900 toward the expenses of organizing, training and empowering immigrant women and non-native speakers to become leaders and activists in the labor movement.

**Middle East**

The Middle East Justice Network (Boston, MA) $1,073.38 (Cambridge-Ramallah/El Bireh Sister City Campaign grant) for the printing of an issue of their newsletter, and toward the expenses of organizing a forum for activists for Palestinian rights.

Union of Palestinian Women’s Associations (Chicago, IL) $800 for organizing a human rights project in support of political prisoners in Kuwait.

The Delaware County Pledge of Resistance demonstrates in support of democracy in Haiti. The rally at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia brought together eight local organizations, including several Haitian groups.

**Photo:** Harvey Finkle/Impact Visuals

U.S. Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu (Madison, WI) $750 for the expenses of organizing a nonviolent sit-in campaign at Israeli diplomatic posts in the U.S. in order to engage officials in dialogue about the Vanunu case.

**Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples**

International Indian Treaty Council (San Francisco, CA) $200* toward the expenses of a tour for Indian Peoples in the U.S. addressing the United Nations Study on Treaties & Agreements of Indigenous Peoples.

Native Routes (New Prague, MN) $1,000 for the promotion of their “American Indian History Bus Tours” in Minnesota.

**Peace/Anti-militarism**

Alternatives to the Military (Lincoln, NE) $1,000 toward research, design and production of brochures.

Appalachian Peace & Justice Network (Athens, OH) $800 toward the expenses of an Appalachian Peace Prize contest for local youth.

Change Links Calendar (Los Angeles, CA) $1,000 for the purchase of a computer.

Citizen Soldier (New York, NY) $1,000 for the costs of a special issue of their newsletter.

Committee on the USS Rhode Island (Providence, RI) $500 for the costs of printing and distributing a brochure to counter the myths about the need for nuclear submarines.

Delaware County Pledge of Resistance (Media, PA) $1,000 for the production and mailing costs of a bimonthly newsletter.

Houston Committee for Youth & Non-military Opportunities (Bellaire, TX) $1,000 toward the costs of printing and distributing literature to public high school students in the area.

Institute for Global Education (Grand Rapids, MI) $800 for the costs of printing an organizational brochure, and for the printing of a bimonthly newsletter.

Knolls Action Project (Albany, NY) $1,000 toward purchase of a new computer.

Thomas Merton Center (Pittsburgh, PA) $1,000 toward the cost of a used copy machine.

Midwest Witness for Peace (Casey, IA) $1,000 toward purchase of a computer and printer.

*continued on the next page*
Northwest Veterans for Peace (Portland, OR) $600 toward the mailing of their newsletter about the Persian Gulf Syndrome.

Peace Brigades International/USA (Berkeley, CA) $800 toward purchase of film to further outreach and education efforts in the U.S. about political violence in Guatemala, Sri Lanka and North America.

Peace Education Center (East Lansing, MI) $800 toward the production and mailing costs of their newsletter.

Piedmont Peace Project (Kannapolis, NC) $200* to help them protect their office from right wing attacks.

Project YANO (Encinitas, CA) $1,000 for literature, buttons, and for staff salary.

Witness for Peace—Mid Atlantic (Newtown, PA) $1,000 toward the salary of a regional coordinator for two months.

**Prisoners/Criminal Justice**

American Friends Service Committee Criminal Justice Program (Ann Arbor, MI) $857 for the costs of mailings about issues confronting the state's correctional system.

Bedford Hills Writing Workshop (NY) $800 for the production and distribution costs of a booklet by women in this prison.

Coalition for Prisoner Rights (Santa Fe, NM) $1,000 for the production and mailing of a newsletter.

Coalition to Support Women Prisoners at Chowchilla (San Francisco, CA) $800 for organizing a demonstration at the prison.

Gary Graham Justice Coalition (Houston, TX) $200* for immediate mailings about a new execution date for prisoner Gary Graham.

Let Live: A Maryland Campaign Against the Death Penalty (Baltimore, MD) $900 for the expenses of a computer upgrade and for telephone, printing and mailing costs.

Massachusetts Lifers Organization (Norfolk) $952 for the production and distribution of their digest and newsletter.

Murder Victims Families for Reconciliation (Griffin, GA) $800 toward the expenses of a public education event opposing the death penalty in Georgia.

Prison and Jail Project (Americus, GA) $1,000 for printing and mailing their bimonthly newsletter.

Prisoners with AIDS/Right Advocacy Group (Jonesboro, GA) $1,000 for newsletter expenses.

Robeson Defense Committee (Hamlet, NC) $300 for printing and mailing expenses.

Texas CURE (Austin, TX) $1,000 for the expenses of the salary of the director.

Uncompromising Books (Tao, NM) $800 toward producing a brochure to promote a booklet, "The American Indian in the White Man's Prison."

Wisconsin CURE (Madison) $800 for the promotion and distribution of a series of TV documentaries on prison issues in the state.

**Women**

Balkan Women's Empowerment Project (Chicago, IL) $1,000 for 6 months of phone/fax and internet expenses.

California Pro-Choice Education Fund (San Francisco) $200* for walkie-talkies to track and monitor activities of Operation Rescue caravans.

CARAL—South Education Fund (Los Angeles, CA) $1,000 for expenses of their educational forum on women's health care.

Date/Marital Rape Education Project (Breckenridge, CA) $1,000 for expenses of updating their chart listing states where marital, cohabitant and date rape are still legal.

Encuentro/Encounter—Women Across Borders (Boston, MA) $800 for organizing local events with two Central American feminists on tour in the U.S.

National Lawyers Guild/Massachusetts Chapter (Boston) $800 toward the expenses of a speakers bureau on reproductive rights for women.

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Denver, CO) $1,000 toward the costs of a Domestic Violence Month Packet.

National Network of Abortion Funds (Hadley, MA) $1,000 for the printing of a brochure for distribution at their national conference, and for conference packets.

Pro-Choice Project, ACLU Kentucky (Louisville, KY) $1,000 toward the purchase of a computer.

Survival News (W. Roxbury, MA) $1,000 for expenses of a special issue of this newspaper.

Women's Action Coalition (San Francisco, CA) $100 toward the expenses of advertising and distributing a CD to be used as a fund raising tool.

The Women's Alliance (Framingham, MA) $800 for organizing meetings to educate the public about reform of welfare in the state.

The Women and Cancer Project (San Francisco, CA) $1,000 toward the cost of printed material to organize for a Walk-A-Thon.

Women's Development Institute (Hallowell, ME) $1,000 for the costs of a newsletter.

Women's State-Wide Legislative Network (Boston, MA) $300 toward the purchase of a laser printer.

**Youth/Students**

Campus Action (Albany, NY) $1,000 to help build and strengthen student activist networks in the Capital District.

Collectiva Teson (Boston, MA) $1,000 for the distribution and advertising of a video and manual about the changes in public schools needed by Latino youth.

Detroit Summer (Detroit, MI) $800 for printing and postage costs.

Reach Out Coalition (Franklin, MA) $300 for the expenses of increasing membership and funding.

Todos Somos Raza (Denver, CO) $1,000 for the publication of a magazine for barrio youth.

University Conversion Project (Cambridge, MA) $800 to fund a media campaign as part of their “Right Wing on Campus Alert” project.

**Loans**

Massachusetts Coalition on New Office Technology (Somerville) $1,000 for assistance with a cash flow problem.

**Donor Directed**

National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (Monroe, ME) $1,436.40 for general expenses.

* indicates an Emergency Grant

| Grants | $147,605.38 |
| Donor Directed Grants | $1,436.40 |
| Total Grants | $149,041.78 |
| Loans | $1,000.00 |
and have had many requests for it over the years.

We also continued our effort to support the movements for peace and justice by taking out advertisements in various political journals and program booklets and by publicizing the resources of other groups in our newsletter and pledge letters.

In honor of...In memory of

Over the years we have received many special donations...donations in honor of someone or in memory of someone who had died. We've received gifts to honor people's birthdays, and as a form of war tax resistance. We have always been touched by these gifts, and want to take this space to acknowledge some of them publicly.

In honor of RESIST supporter Ernee Kelly's birthday, we received donations from Jack Arnow and Eleanor Bader, Edythe Quashe and Jacqueline Harris, Agnes Davis, and Rosalie Regal. Jennie Ray Bush and Mark Blumberg each sent donations in honor of Walter Grant's birthday. Ellen Murachuer sent a contribution to honor Nick Thorkelson's birthday. Hilda Silverman sent a donation to honor Gordie Fellman's birthday. Margaret Robertson sent a donation in honor of James P. Whitters. And more people than ever before turned to war tax resistance, and sent us money that otherwise would have gone to the government.

George Salzman made a generous donation to the Frieda Friedman Salzman Memorial Endowment. Renee Weitzner sent in her yearly donation to honor the memory of Rudolph Van Abele. Gail Leonard and Betsy Wright sent a donation in memory of Kaia Ellinger, "born and died 4 years ago today, June 12, 1990." RESIST pledge Steve Oden had requested before his death last year that people send donations to RESIST in his memory. Steve had been a long time supporter of our work, and we all mourn him. His wife sent a donation with a note, "This Christmas contribution is made in loving memory of my dear husband- Steve Oden." The Huntington Theatre Company of Boston sent a donation in Steve's memory. Debby Falconer wrote, "This gift is in loving memory of Steve Oden who was a faithful subscriber to RESIST. He knew how important your work is.

Hillary Derby sent a donation with a note "in memory of my dear brother-in-law Steven Derby Oden. I hope that this will help in the fight for social justice, especially now that we have a more conservative Congress." In addition, we received a generous donation from the Sarah Crome Trust. Sarah, who also died last year, had been a long time supporter of our work.

And then there were the deaths from AIDS of people we knew and whose lifetime work touched us deeply and personally. Siong Huat Chua, 39, a writer, computer analyst and gay activist, died this past year. Many of us knew Siong Huat from his writing in Gay Community News and Fog Rug, as well as from his work with Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders. He was a founding member of the Alliance of Massachusetts Asian Lesbians and Gay Men, one of the first gay Asian organizations in North America. He was also a supporter of RESIST, and an ever present face at local demonstrations. He leaves his family, friends, and companion Victor Boise. Jade Travers also died last year from AIDS. Some of us here at RESIST knew Jade when he lived in Boston and was active in gay liberation, particularly on issues affecting gay youth. He was well known in Boston, and later in San Francisco, among a wide range of people, and he did a lot of work and organizing among day care providers, in addition to his gay activism. Jade's commitment to social justice, as well as his energy, insight, and warmth will be missed. Nancy Wechsler and Kate Gyllensward both made donations in Jade's memory.

We at RESIST would like to express our condolences to fellow peace and justice worker Pat Farren, editor of the local AFSC newsletter. Pat lost his son Gabriel, age eight, to cancer last year. And Pam Chamberlain, long time RESIST board member, lost her father, Joseph W. Chamberlain, age 88.

We also want to acknowledge and mourn the death of Andrew Kopkind on October 23, 1994. Most recently Andrew wrote for The Nation, including pulling together their "Queer Issue", but he had also written for many other radical publications, and been an activist as well. The obit in The Nation included the following: "We honor him here in the editorial space that for more than a decade he filled with a coherent, unembittered, unbowled fundamentalism. Andy came of age politically in the 1960s... and no one more vibrantly reported the upheavals of that era, from the point of view of the upheavers." Andrew read our newsletter, and we will miss reading his words.

How you can help

Giving money to RESIST is not the same as responding to all the other direct mail appeals you get. We actively seek out and fund small, grassroots, radical groups that don't have the time, money or energy to launch major fund raising campaigns. Sometimes the money we give them helps them on their way to more successful fund raising of their own, sometimes it allows them to become more visible and active in their communities, and sometimes it allows them to take on new projects and see if they work. We spend the time to get references for the groups we fund, to make sure that

continued on the next page
your money is being used effectively. And sometimes we use our gut and take chances and fund fairly new projects that sound like they have promise. We are happy to report that many of these "let's take a chance grants" have helped fledgling groups turn into healthy, growing, activist organizations. We make every attempt to spread the money you give us around to areas of the country that have a harder time raising funds. And while we understand that many groups are focussed around a single issue, we encourage them to work in coalition and to have a multi-issue perspective in their work.

The growing conservative climate scares us, and while there are many fine groups out there doing great work, it all does not yet add up to a "movement." Not only is the Left in disarray, but most activist organizations also lack the kind of funding needed to effectively counter the very well-financed Right. Here at RESIST we believe throwing money at a problem can help, if you throw it carefully and wisely. We are asking you to join us in throwing some more money towards the Left this year! Be as generous as you can be in 1995. The more you give us, the more we can give to the groups that need it most. Tell your friends about RESIST and encourage them to support us by subscribing to our newsletter and donating to our grants program. You can even buy them a subscription, or send them a gift of a RESIST t-shirt or sweatshirt. (We still have a few wonderful RESIST anniversary t-shirts, as well as our regular "classic" ones.)

Make a gift in a friend's name for a birthday, or a holiday, or a special occasion. We'll send them a card letting them know. Give us the names of friends who might be interested in RESIST, and we'll send them a packet of information. (Don't worry, we won't call them.) Find out if your employer has a matching gifts program. Give us gifts of stock. Write us into your Will. Let activists in your area know about us, and encourage groups to apply to us for grants. If you live in the Boston area and have any time to volunteer around the office, or are interested in an internship with us, give us a call.

Thanks, and thanks again

To all of you who sent in donations, applied for grants, or simply wrote us letters with your comments and suggestions, we want to once again take this opportunity to say thank you. Your feedback has been most helpful and keeps us on track. Your support means a lot to us and has allowed us to do all we did in 1994. We thank you, in advance, for all your support, energy, ideas, and commitment during 1995. And for those of you for whom it matters, yes, donations to RESIST are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. If you want a copy of our audited year-end financial report, please write or call the office. We will be happy to send it out to you.

—Nancy Wechsler, with input from Nancy Moniz and Stephanie Poggi

Join the RESIST Pledge Program

We'd like you to consider becoming a RESIST Pledge. Pledges account for over 25% of our income. By becoming a pledge, you help guarantee RESIST a fixed and dependable source of income on which we can build our grant-making program. In return, we will send you a monthly pledge letter and reminder along with your newsletter. We will keep you up-to-date on the groups we have funded, and the other work being done at RESIST. So take the plunge and become a RESIST Pledge! We count on you, and the groups we fund count on us.

□ Yes! I would like to become a RESIST Pledge. I'd like to pledge $__________
(circle one)

monthly bimonthly quarterly
2x a year yearly

□ Enclosed is my pledge contribution of $__________.

□ I can't join the pledge program just now, but here's a contribution to support your work. $__________

Name ________________________

Address ________________________

City/State/Zip ________________________

RESIST
One Summer Street • Somerville, MA 02143 • (617)623-5110

Geographically

Midwest & Mt. states 38 (21.0%)
Boston area 28 (15.5%)
New England (outside Boston) 27 (14.9%)
Southern states 27 (14.9%)
California 21 (11.6%)
DC, MD, DE, PA, NJ 16 (8.8%)
New York State 13 (7.2%)
OR, WA, HI, AK 11 (6.0%)

Grants Distribution in 1994

By Issue Area*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue Area</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>(%) of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central/Latin</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(23.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(23.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Empowerment/Anti-Racist</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>(12.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesbian/Gay/Bi</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>(11.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace/Anti-Draft/Anti-Nuke</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(9.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(8.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisoners' Rights</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(7.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(7.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(5.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students/Youth</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>(3.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural &amp; Media</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(2.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health/AIDS</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(2.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa/Asia/International</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.1%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: These are somewhat arbitrary divisions. Generally speaking, we group grants according to the project our grant supported, not according to the group. So, for example, an environmental project done by a Native American group might be listed under Environmental, rather than under Native American; a prison project done by a student group might appear under Prisoners' Rights, rather than Students/Youth.