



## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

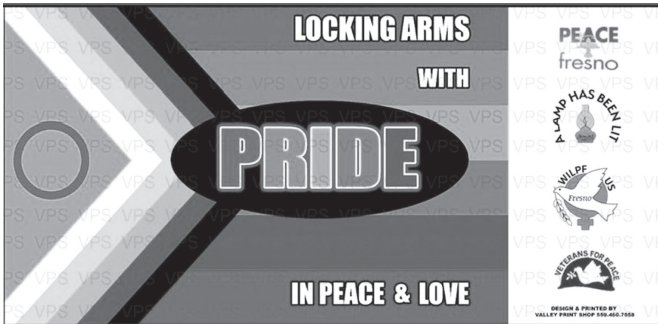
WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755

Graphic by Lincoln Cushing

### FRESNO WILPF WILL BE THERE!

#### Marching with Pride June 1

WILPF Fresno joins forces with other peace groups to better support and participate in the Fresno Rainbow Pride Parade and Festival. The Fresno Center for Nonviolence, Veterans for Peace Chapter 180 and WILPF-Fresno will show pride and unity under a single banner on June 1, as the Parade starts at 10 a.m. at Olive and Palm avenues. (Gather at 9 a.m. if you don't want to miss the chance to march with peace and pride; contact Teresa for details.)



### RAGING GRANNIES

The Fresno Gaggle has been singing everywhere in the past year, and there's no sign of any slowdown. They were most recently seen at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence 32nd Anniversary Celebration on May 11 and



Pat Wolk and Kay Pitts



are scheduled for some special June events, including Juneteenth and the Stone Fruit Jubilee, plus some important birthdays. Check with Nancy Hatcher for details!

### TEATRO DE LA TIERRA

Patricia Wells-Solorzano with Teatro de la Tierra/Generaciones has been learning, teaching and sharing music everywhere. They were featured at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence 32nd Anniversary Celebration on May 11, with Familia Vasquez. Classes with the Generaciones Music Project take place every Friday evening at the FCNV. Instructional videos for online use are being filmed, too.



Patricia Wells-Solorzano with Leoncio, Angel and Dhalia Vasquez

### WILPF NATIONAL CONGRESS

Check the Congress schedule at [wilpfus.org/35thCongress/schedule](http://wilpfus.org/35thCongress/schedule). This year is the WILPF-US 35th Triennial Congress, from May 29 to June 2. The theme is Water on the Frontlines for Peace. Two National Issue Committees with WILPF Fresno members among the leaders will be organizing presentations.

Fresno WILPF member Jean Hays is part of the leadership team of the Earth Democracy Committee. WILPF-Fresno's Earth Democracy Committee would like to share some of the many worthwhile presentations with other environmental group members. Check the WILPF Facebook page for the time and location of the viewing party.

The Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance Committee with Leni Villagomez Reeves will be presenting a webinar on Cuba as a Zone of Peace as part of the Congress. This will be an interactive presentation. What do you know or believe about Cuba? What questions

do you have? Did you know that Latin America and the Caribbean have been declared a nuclear-free area and a Zone of Peace by all 33 nations of the CELAC? Is there a reason why the United States should conduct siege warfare against the nation that leads the world in women's rights and LGBTQI+ rights, a nation that shares doctors with poor countries all over the world?



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### LIBERATION THROUGH SOLIDARITY

#### Commemorating the 99th birthday of Malcolm X with a call to end the genocide in Palestine

This event took place on May 18 at the Free AME Social Hall in Fresno. There was a potluck, excellent speakers, unity, community and a chance to see the tree we planted for Malcolm one year ago.

Malcolm X el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz was born on May 19, 1925. He traveled to Gaza on Sept. 5, 1964, and afterward wrote an essay including the words, "Did the Zionists have the legal or moral right to invade Arab Palestine, uproot its Arab citizens from their homes and seize all Arab property for themselves just based on the 'religious' claim that their forefathers lived there thousands of years ago?"

In his spirit, we recognize and express our solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people against the Israeli attempt to exterminate them and to rip away the shreds of their homeland that still remain.



Planting a tree to commemorate the birthday of Malcolm X. Photo by Peter Maiden

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chaired by Jean Hays, this committee has identified a legislative threat to free speech in a current attempt to falsely conflate criticism of Israel with antisemitism and is delivering the following letter to our California senators:

*WILPF Fresno is extremely concerned with the recent attempt to repress the constitutional rights of WILPF and all Americans calling out Israel's genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. We strongly urge you to do everything you can to prevent H.R. 6090 from being brought to a vote on the Senate floor. Free speech is one of America's core values and you must protect it!*

*This anti-free speech bill would set the stage to criminalize protests that demand an end to Israel's genocide in Gaza and support for equal rights in Palestine.*

*The "Anti-Semitism Awareness Act" has an extremely misleading title, and would criminalize language that is, really, not antisemitic at all. Introducing this bill to the Senate would prioritize the interests of a foreign nation, Israel, which is committing genocide in Gaza, over the constitutional rights of Americans. This legislation would adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Act definition to bring together anti-Semitism or bigotry against Jews with anti-Zionism or political opposition to a state that privileges one ethnicity over another. It is clearly in response to the movement in the US against Israel's genocide as well as its occupation of Palestine. Americans should be able to protest and speak freely without fear of repression. Israel has murdered nearly 40 thousand Palestinians in Gaza since October 7, and it is every person's responsibility to call attention to it, not repress those that do.*

*Again, we strongly urge you to NOT bring this anti-free speech bill to a vote in the Senate—and to pledge to vote no on the Anti-Semitism Awareness Act should it ever hit the Senate floor. Please, please protect free speech!*

You, as members and supporters, can also contact the Fresno and D.C. offices of Senators Padilla and Butler and express your opinion on this issue.

#### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW! HERE'S HOW

Send dues to WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755. WILPF-US membership is \$35/year. WILPF-Fresno sponsors a low-income rate of \$20.

For questions and/or information updates, contact Nancy Hatcher at [nhatcher46@gmail.com](mailto:nhatcher46@gmail.com) or Kyla Mitchell at [kyla.noelle@gmail.com](mailto:kyla.noelle@gmail.com).

#### WILPF MEETING

June 13 (second Thursday), 7 p.m., Zoom, and usually also at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 1584 N. Van Ness Ave. This meeting is open to all members. Watch your e-mail for an announcement. For info on the in-person option, contact Teresa at [taca\\_03@yahoo.com](mailto:taca_03@yahoo.com).

#### STIR IT UP-WILPF KFCF 88.1 FM

June 26 (fourth Wednesday), 3 p.m. Jean Hays highlights people and events important to our WILPF community.

#### UNPACKING RACISM

With Dr. Jean Kennedy. Moving toward community event participation. To join, RSVP with your e-mail address to [drjeankennedy@yahoo.com](mailto:drjeankennedy@yahoo.com) or text 559-270-1023.

#### WOMEN IN BLACK

June 5 (first Wednesday), noon, Courthouse. Check first with Sue Kern at [skern@netptc.net](mailto:skern@netptc.net) or 559-349-3777.

#### Find us on Facebook!

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