



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM
WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755

Graphic by Lincoln Cushing

WILPF FRESNO SUPPORTS PRIDE

On June 3, we celebrated and supported our LGBTQ+ community by joining Fresno Rainbow Pride's "Qu33r All Year" parade and festival. Leni and I carried our Fresno WILPF banner in the parade on Olive Avenue through the Tower District.

The parade had more than 100 entries, lasting about two hours this year! The festivities continued up the street at the festival, held again outside at Fresno City College, where we had a booth to share info about our branch and offer free ice water, which surprised and pleased so many warm festival attendees.

The festival was bigger than ever, with 200 vendors including schools, banks, churches, community organizations, healthcare, artisans of all types, creative treats and baked goods, clothing, body care and food trucks. Plus entertainment from our local drag queens was offered at the main stage for all to enjoy and in the beer garden, which offered pop-up drag shows and dancing.

It was a good rainbow Pride celebration day, but we also encourage all to celebrate and support our LGBTQ+ community year-round! Standing behind our WILPF values, we express the importance of being an active ally and supporter.

With our country's current climate of phobia, hate and fearmongering against trans folk and drag queens, it's more important than ever to take a stand for justice—to be an ally to help protect against violence and false narratives.

Currently, we support the request that the Fresno City Council add an LGBTQ+ liaison to the Office of Community Affairs. Representation matters and can only come through fair and equal policies and treatment, but it cannot happen when voices are silenced.

We ask all to do what you can to help. Fresno Rainbow Pride, Community Link and Fresno EOC Sanctuary LGBTQ Resource Center are a few places to look for info, to volunteer and/or to support all year.

—Teresa Castillo, Fresno WILPF Branch Chair



The Fresno WILPF booth at the Fresno Pride Festival featured a hydration station. Photo by Teresa Castillo



Fresno WILPF President Teresa Castillo and Secretary Leni Villagomez Reeves marching in the Fresno Pride Parade. Photo by Peter Maiden

FRESNO FREEDOM SCHOOL

Fresno Freedom School was founded by Rev. Floyd D. Harris Jr. and Dr. Jean Kennedy, with Maria Else, who has joined the ancestors, essential to its development. Rev. Harris, Freedom School Chair Aline Reed and volunteers, led by Shi Joyce, are keeping the dream alive.

The Fresno Freedom School uses agricultural training, vocational training, educational and cultural enrichment projects, and field trips to teach and reinforce concepts of positive self-identity, respect for nature and appreciation of the contributions of those who've come before us.

The first session of Summer 2023 featured composting and gardening, a class in nutrition with Nutritionist Sarah and a cooking class with Chef Celeste.

This year's schedule: June 10, June 24–July 8, and July 22

Free nutrition, gardening, composting and cooking classes for youth ages 5 and up!

Contact Aline Reed to register or volunteer at 559-470-5172.



Freedom School students with volunteer master gardener Nancy Godwin. Photo by LVR



Rev. Floyd Harris teaches use of a cultivator. Photo by Shi Joyce



Freedom School students ready to learn to cook with Chef Celeste. Photo by Shi Joyce

TEATRO DE LA TIERRA OFFERS FREE MUSIC CLASSES IN JULY



Teatro de la Tierra co-founder and instructor Patricia Wells-Solorzano with students. Photo by Richard Iyall

Would you like to learn to play guitar (or baritone ukelele) and sing? Teatro de la Tierra will be offering free music lessons every Friday in July at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence (1584 N. Van Ness Ave., Fresno). Classes are at 5 p.m., and all ages from 7 to 100 are invited. The first class is July 7! For more information, contact Teatro de la Tierra at 559-485-8558 or visit <https://teatrotierraonline.org>.



Students of all ages learn music with Teatro de la Tierra classes. Photo by LVR

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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 information updates, contact Nancy Hatcher at nhatcher46@gmail.com or Kyla Mitchell at kyla.noelle@gmail.com.

Find us on Facebook!

WILPF Fresno: [facebook.com/Wilpf-Fresno-395764603812264](https://www.facebook.com/Wilpf-Fresno-395764603812264)

WILPF Fresno Earth Democracy: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064718887419](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064718887419)

WILPF Fresno Library Committee: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068554147255](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068554147255)

Fresno WILPF Cuba Solidarity Committee: [facebook.com/fresnosolidarity](https://www.facebook.com/fresnosolidarity)

WILPF SMART: [facebook.com/groups/517970832069659](https://www.facebook.com/groups/517970832069659)

WILPF MEETING

July 13 (second Thursday), 7 p.m., online and in person at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence. Watch your e-mail for an announcement with a link and call-in number. For more information, contact Teresa at taca_03@ymail.com or Leni at lenivreeves@gmail.com.

STIR IT UP—WILPF KFCF 88.1 FM

July 26 (4th Wednesday), 3 p.m. Jean Hays highlights people and events important to our WILPF community.

UNPACKING RACISM

August 27 (last Sunday), 6:30 p.m. With Dr. Jean Kennedy. To join and get a link, RSVP with your e-mail address to drjeankennedy@yahoo.com or text 559-270-1023. No July meeting. In Cuba with Pastors for Peace Caravan!

WOMEN IN BLACK

July 5 (first Wednesday), noon, Courthouse. Check first with Sue Kern at skern@netptc.net or 559-349-3777.