

# Public Education Service Award

*In Memoriam*

*Alameda County Superintendent of Schools and  
the Alameda County Board of Education honor*

## Dr. Eric Rofes

We, at the Alameda County Office of Education, would like to participate in celebrating the life of Dr. Eric Rofes. We were lucky enough to be able to contract with Dr. Rofes who served as facilitator and author extraordinaire of the Superintendent's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Charter Schools. He brought a diverse group of stakeholders together who worked to find a common ground between district and charter public schools and produced a report for Superintendent Jack O'Connell and the Legislature – "Finding Common Ground, *Working Through Complex Issues To Learn From Each Other.*" His significant and numerous accomplishments and commitments include:

- Faculty member at the Humboldt State University's (HSU) Department of Education
- Coordinated the Multicultural Leadership Studies Program
- Served as an affiliated faculty member in Women's Studies, Ethnic Studies and Multicultural Queer Studies
- Co-authored the following text with his students: "The Kids' Book About Parents"
- Coordinated HSU's highly acclaimed North Coast Education Summit
- Co-chaired the new Diversity Plan Action Council (DPAC) and HSU
- Founder of the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance
- Served as the Executive Director of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center (described as the "largest gay organization of it's kind in the world")
- Directed the Shanti Project, San Francisco's path breaking AIDS organization
- Most recently published the following books: *The Emancipatory Promise of Charter Schools: Toward a Progressive Politics of School Choice* and *A Radical Rethinking of Sexuality and Schooling: Status Quo or Status Queer*
- A teacher, organizer and prolific author

Eric was unique, dedicated and multitalented.

He will be missed by many.

*Presented on July 15, 2006.*



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**Yvonne Cerrato, President**  
**Alameda County Board of Education**

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**Sheila Jordan, Superintendent**  
**Alameda County Office of Education**