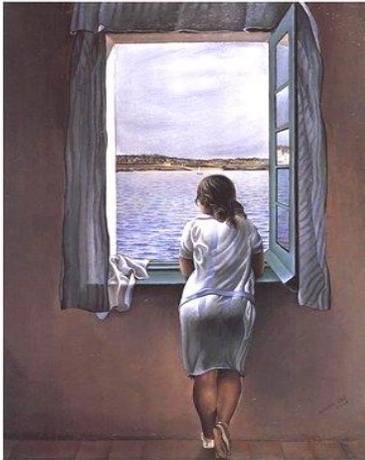


Quaker Center is proud to present an important weekend program about the search for authenticity and acceptance.....



Salvador Dalí, The Person at the Window, 1925

Gender, the Search for Self, and the Search for Acceptance with Chloe Schwenke September 10 - 12, 2010

While most reasonable people see women and men as equals, few (if any) dare to claim that femininity is masculinity's equal. — Julie Serano

What is this program about? Gender is a complex topic. We joke about it, simplify it through stereotypes, and structure social and economic roles based on it. Often we separate gender into opposites, and claim – with little thoughtful justification– that these opposites are irreconcilable. Even among Quakers and other faith-based societies that are committed to equality between the sexes, a deeper understanding seldom emerges regarding the equity and dignity issues that define gender disparities in our society.

Transgender people have an important story to share. Daily, they confront unspoken challenges to their gender authenticity, their gender identity, and their gender consciousness. This wall of silence is breached by occasional accusations of deviance, deception, or sinfulness. The idea that transgender people might have important insights about the meaning of gender that are relevant (even centrally so) for all people is seldom considered....but it just may be true! The messages that spring from the lives of transgender persons describe a hero's journey of survival across an unforgiving divide: the gender barrier.

Who is this program for? This program is open to anyone, Quaker or non-Quaker, religiously active or not, who is interested in exploring the meaning of gender in our lives and in our religious institutions. We particularly invite persons for whom this is a new and perhaps somewhat uncomfortable topic.

Who will be leading this program? Quaker Center is honored that **Chloe Schwenke** will be facilitating this weekend retreat. Learn more about her on the other side of this flyer.

Will there be any leisure time at the program? Quaker Center's programs allow time for participants to enjoy the natural beauty of our redwood forest, our trails, and our labyrinth.

What is the cost for this program? The fee is a suggested sliding scale of between \$150 and \$230 per person, based on your discernment of your financial status. Nobody will be turned away because of inability to pay the fee. The fee includes the program, semiprivate accommodations, and six meals.

Questions? Call or email us at Quaker Center. We'll be happy to answer any questions you have.

QUAKER CENTER

Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005 (831) 336-8333 mail@quakercenter.org

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

I/we plan to pay \$ _____/person on the \$150-\$230/person sliding scale. (More on this below)

Diet/accommodation needs: _____

Check here ___ to receive Quaker Center announcements solely by e-mail, and verify the e-mail address to which announcements should be sent _____

----- Detach Here and Return with Deposit (\$50) -----

Mail this form and your deposit to: Quaker Center, P.O. Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005, or e-mail to mail@quakercenter.org. **You may also register by e-mail to mail@quakercenter.org. Your e-mail registration will hold your place for a week pending receipt of your mailed registration and \$50 deposit.**

- **Schedule:** Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 10. The program begins with dinner at 6:00 on Friday and concludes about 2:30 p.m. on Sunday after brunch, cleanup, and worship.
- **Accommodations and food:** Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard Lodge (semi-private rooms). Bring a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets, pillowcase, towel, soap, flashlight, and slippers. No pets please except for certified working animals. Inexpensive housing may be arranged the night before or after the program; linens may be rented for a modest fee. All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. Participants share in kitchen chores before and after each meal. Please tell us in advance about special dietary needs.
- **Refund Policy:** All but \$15 of your deposit can be refunded if you cancel more than one week before the program. After that the full standard deposit will be retained.
- **Transportation:** See our website, www.quakercenter.org for directions. If you are arriving on public transportation let us know and we will provide whatever help we can.

ABOUT THE LEADER



Chloe Schwenke is a transsexual woman, parent, and spouse. She is also a longtime Quaker, an ethicist, and an expert in international development in the fields of gender, governance, peace-building, and human rights. She has lived and worked in Africa for 14 years, and has carried out project assignments in 34 developing and transitional countries worldwide. She has published extensively on topics of transgender people and international development, on moral values in international development, and on leadership and integrity. In addition to her work as a development practitioner, she has served for ten years as an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University, Georgetown University, and the University of Maryland. She was also a Fulbright professor at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda from 2005-6.