

# KATE FRITZ

**Gallatin School of Individualized Study**

**Bachelor of Arts, May 2010**

**Concentration: Environmental Policy and Political Philosophy**



Kate Fritz's individualized course of study integrates Environmental Studies, Urban and Metropolitan Studies, and Political Philosophy. She is particularly interested in the complex interplay between social justice and environmental movements in the public policy arena. Her work centers around the recognition that the environmental challenges facing urban areas disproportionately affect low-income communities and people of color, both internationally and in New York City.

Kate was inspired from childhood by 1960's icon and Woodstock emcee Wavy Gravy at Camp Winnarainbow in northern California. In addition to teaching her circus skills like juggling, trapeze, and stilt walking, Camp Winnarainbow strove to create a safe environment for children and stood as a microcosm of a just society with an emphasis on non-violent conflict resolution. The camp's emphasis on fun and spirit has been a guiding force in her life.

In December 2007, Kate traveled to Peru with Gesundheit! Institute as a clown ambassador to the Amazonian community of Belen near Iquitos, where she clowned for hospitals, hospices, and safe houses and taught circus skills to local children. The devastating environmental conditions in the community she visited strengthened her commitment to environmental policymaking and environmental justice.

In Spring 2009, Kate studied with the School of International Training (SIT) in Yunnan Province, China. In addition to studying Chinese, she researched China's nascent national park system, and the complex balance of conservation and development in relation to China's burgeoning civil society. The experience helped shape her career goal of building cross-sector relationships between business, government, and academic leaders in both the United States and China to facilitate technology transfer, research, and political dialogue towards climate neutrality.

This summer, Kate will intern with West Harlem Environmental Action (WEACT for Environmental Justice) to develop a sustainable development plan for the abandoned 135<sup>th</sup> street waste transfer station. In addition, she will work with the Joint US-China Cooperation on Clean Energy (JCCCCE) to create a model environmental purchasing policy for mid-sized Chinese cities. Kate is a proud 2009 Morris K. Udall Foundation Scholar.

# KATE FRITZ

## **EDUCATION**

**New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York, NY**

Candidate for Bachelor of Arts, May 2010

Major: Environmental Policy and Political Philosophy

**School for International Training, Yunnan Province, China**

Chinese Culture and Ethnic Minorities Program, Spring 2009

## **HONORS/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS**

- Morris K. Udall Foundation Scholar, 2009
- NYU Reynolds Undergraduate Scholarship in Social Entrepreneurship, 2008
- NYU President's Service Award Recipient, 2008
- Gallatin Dean's Honor List

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

**New York University Sustainability Task Force, New York, NY**

**Outreach Assistant, Oct. 2007 – Jan. 2009**

- Formulated and drafted environmental purchasing policy for \$5 million budget
- Trained and managed 100 NYU administrators in monitoring and increasing energy efficiency
- Conceptualized programs that contributed to a 5% decrease in NYU's energy use
- Assessed NYU's environmental impact based on analysis of raw data from departments including operations, dining, finance and accounting, transportation and curriculum planning

**Camp Winnarainbow Circus and Performing Arts Camp**

**Berkeley/Laytonville, CA**

**Counselor, Summer 2006 and 2007**

- Designed and lead 2-week ecology curriculum for children ages 7-14 to instruct in environmental awareness, preservation, and appreciation

**Briar Rose String Quartet, Sonoma County, CA**

**2nd Violinist, Sept. 2002 – June 2006**

- Played in professional youth string quartet
- Special events, weddings, volunteer engagements, etc

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**NYU Sustainability Task Force (STF), New York, NY**

**Nov. 2008 – Present**

- Student Representative of STF Steering Committee
- Organized scientists and planners to make sustainability recommendations for NYU Abu Dhabi campus; rated architecture firms based on commitment to sustainable design
- Collaborated with Gallatin Dean to launch Gallatin Greening Committee

**Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Conference 2008**

- Attended conference as NYU student delegate, liaised with university staff creating environmental purchasing policies, began plans for NYU regional student environmental association

**Clown Ambassador, Gesundheit! Institute, Belén, Peru**

**Dec. 2007**

- Traveled to underserved urban area to participate in ongoing service project to build infrastructure and improve community relations
- Clowned in hospitals, AIDS hospice, teen safe house

**ACTIVITIES**

**Gallatin Peer Mentoring Program, 2008**

- Collaborated with Gallatin Student Life to found Peer Mentoring Program Peer Mentor

**Gallatin First Year Orientation**

**Orientation Leader, Summer 2008**

**(Dis)course: Deconstructing our Similarities and Differences**

**Participant, Fall 2006**

**Classical Violinist and Old-time/Scottish Fiddler**

**1994-present**