



I G L H R C

International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission  
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## A CELEBRATION OF COURAGE 2007

### Master of Ceremonies – San Francisco

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*JEWELLE GOMEZ*

[www.jewellegomez.com](http://www.jewellegomez.com)



Jewelle Gomez is a writer and activist and the author of the double Lambda Award-winning novel, *The Gilda Stories* as well as *Don't Explain*, *Oral Tradition* and *Forty Three Septembers*. Her fiction, essays, criticism and poetry have appeared in numerous periodicals, including *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *The Advocate*, *Ms Magazine*, *ESSENCE Magazine* and *Black Scholar*. She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts literature fellowship and two California Arts Council fellowships. She is currently on the national advisory boards of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, *Poets & Writers, Inc.*, and the Human Sexuality Archives of Cornell University. She has presented lectures and taught at numerous institutions of higher learning including San Francisco State University, Hunter College, Rutgers University, New College of California, Grinnell College, San Diego City College, The Ohio State University and the University of Washington (Seattle). She is the former director of the Literature Program and the New York State Council on the Arts and most recently served for three years as executive director of the Poetry Center and American Poetry Archives at San Francisco State University. An early member of the board of the Astraea Foundation, she is currently on the funding board of the Open Meadows Foundation. Her new projects include a comic novel about black activists of the 1960s as they face middle age. She is also working with actor Harry Waters, Jr. and director, Arturo Catricala on a collaborative performance piece based on the life of author James Baldwin.