Lifting Up BUSD LGBT Of Voices

Hasmig Minassian

Berkeley High School Teacher, Universal 9th Grade



Hasmig Minassian pictured here with her wife, also a Berkeley High School teacher, Susi López



"I grew up in a home where Family was First so when I first came out as a lesbian, and the gay community called one another "Family", I felt right at home. Sexuality is complicated and fluid but it was and still is, also Political. To be a lesbian means belonging to a group of people who are advocating for rights on multiple fronts--rights for women and their freedom to do what they want with their bodies; legal rights for safety, autonomy, citizenship, and the freedom to thrive where and however you choose to live; rights for children to express themselves and identify as their most authentic self; and the knowledge that this band of people--this family--they are your Justice Army and you are in this together. It's about who you love but it's also about who you stand with and who stands up with you. especially when everything is going down. The Indigo Girls said it best, "A lesson learned, a loving god(dess) and things in their own time. In nothing more do I trust."

