

**JANUARY 21, 2002 HAIR PARTY AT BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY**

**FACILITATED BY UBW COMPANY MEMBERS WANJIRU KAMURU AND FRANCINE SHEFFIELD**

**Some of the comments from participants, paraphrased:**

“My mother would iron my hair to take the curls out”

“I really prefer women with long hair but I find gray hair sexy”

“My grandmother and mother grayed early and so did I. I thought of coloring my hair when I started to see the gray but as I entered the administrative role of the art world, leaving behind the performance aspect, I Re-evaluated my decision. I decided to leave my hair graying because it represented wisdom and gained respect from my peers”

“My hair fantasy is to go bald and have tattoos on my head.”

“My hair fantasy is to still have hair when I am older because my brothers and father are all losing their hair.”

“Boise is a very conservative city and I found that I had to cut my hair because of the stigma of males with long hair conjured like I was dirty, unambitious, rebellious and strange.”

“As a woman who lves to wear her hair short I believe I wear my hair fantasy every day, but I do pay the price. People tend to think I am a lesbian, who I happen to be, and I get very little attention from men as opposed to when I used to wear my hair long.”

“Hair is not only influenced by society’s notion of beauty but cultural influences such as in the Latino community long hair is the preferred for women and cutting your hair as a woman is almost taboo, marring you beauty.”