

AIDS educators at House of Light Benefit

Founder of San Francisco's Wedge Program, Christian Heran, and author Lynda Madaras, to address teen AIDS issues

BY JAY BROWN

AIDS prevention educators Christian Heran and Lynda Madaras will be present at a benefit for House of Light, an extended-care facility in North Portland, on February 27. The two educators will talk about adolescents, HIV and AIDS and will host a showing of the award-winning video "Teen AIDS in Focus."

Christian Heran, who lives in San Francisco, is a founder of the Wedge Program, a unique and unprecedented approach in delivering AIDS education to school age youth. Heran's program brings school children face-to-face with specially trained PWAs to learn about the epidemic. Heran and his Wedge Program have received commendations from the City of San Francisco, the San Francisco Unified School District, the State of Utah, the US Secretary of Health's "American Volunteer Award," the American Legion's "Outstanding Contribution to Youth" award, a special citation from former US Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and numerous other awards and citations.

Heran, a former model who was the original "Marlboro Man," is an openly gay man who visits schools and tells teens about his own battle with AIDS. Diagnosed with the disease in 1986, Heran, 54, was told he had three years to live. In his appearances he emphasizes the importance of self-esteem and self-respect.

Lynda Madaras is the author of the two

What's Happening to My Body? Books for Boys and Girls and six other books, including *Womancare* and *Lynda Madaras Growing-up Guide for Girls*. Madaras most recently published *Lynda Madaras Talks to Teens About AIDS: An Essential Guide for Parents, Teachers, and Young People* (Newmarket Press, 1988).

Madaras began teaching and writing about health and parenting more than 15 years ago and has been teaching sex education and puberty education to teens and pre-teens for the past ten years.

Madaras tells her young audiences "that the future course of this epidemic will depend largely on the decisions their generation makes about sex and drugs" and "that we're all in this together."

The benefit will be held at the House of Light, 597 N. Dekum, on February 27, at 7 pm. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 18 and under, pre-schoolers free. For more information call 289-3370

Christian Heran will also be plenary session speaker during the Conference on AIDS/HIV Prevention Strategies for Reaching High-risk Oregon Adolescents sponsored by the Oregon Department of Education Task Force on Out-of-school, School-age Youth to be held at the Valley Conference Center in Beaverton. For information on the conference call Jerry Warren or Cheryl Eby at the Oregon Department of Education, (503) 378-8870.

Episcopal gay, lesbian clergy increases annually

The ordination to the priesthood of the Rev. Robert Williams by the Rt. Rev. John S. Spong, Episcopal Bishop of Newark, has been widely misrepresented in the media. Contrary to assertions by United Press International, Reuters and others, Williams is neither the second open, non-celibate homosexual person nor the first such gay man to be ordained in the Episcopal Church.

Integrity, the nationwide ministry of and to the lesbian and gay community in the Episcopal Church, applauds the ordination of the Rev. Robert Williams on Saturday, December 16, at All Saints Church, Hoboken, New Jersey. Fr. Williams, 34, is a long-time member of Integrity. He was a founder of Integrity/Dallas, is now a member of the New York chapter, and was an Integrity lobbyist at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Detroit in 1988.

Fr. Williams's ordination was only the latest in a long series of ordinations of self-affirming, non-celibate lesbians and gays in the Episcopal Church since 1977. In January of that year, the Rev. Ellen M. Barrett, an open lesbian and first co-president of Integrity, was ordained a priest by the Bishop of New York, the Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Jr.

Ms. Barrett's ordination engendered considerable controversy. Partly in reaction to it, in 1979, the Episcopal Church's House of Bishops approved a "sense of the House" resolution that non-celibate lesbians and gays should not be ordained. That proscription was not binding on individual bishops and dioceses, however, and has been widely ignored. Several leading bishops, including Bishop Spong and the Most Rev. Edmond Browning, now Presiding Bishop of the Church, signed a statement opposing the 1979 action and stated that they would not be bound by it.

The same month that the Rev. Ellen Barrett was ordained in New York with widespread media coverage, the Rev. Susan Bergmans, another open, non-celibate lesbian was ordained to the priesthood in San Francisco by the Bishop of California. Her ordination received little media attention.

"Since 1977, on average at least five open, non-celibate lesbians or gays have been ordained every year in dioceses from coast to coast," said Integrity's President Kim Byham. "Such ordinations have occurred in the Dioceses of Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, California, Chicago, and Western Massachusetts, among others."

While Fr. Williams is the first person in the Diocese of Newark who declared himself to be a non-celibate gay at the time of his ordination, there is an active lesbian/gay

clergy group in the diocese. One of the most widely known openly gay priests in the country is a priest of the Diocese of Newark, the Rev. L. Paul Woodrum, Integrity's National Treasurer.

"Since Integrity's founding in 1974, scores of lesbian and gay clergy nationwide have publicly declared themselves, and hundreds more have acknowledged their sexuality in less public ways because of fear of homophobia in the Church," said Fr. Woodrum

—Integrity

New legal director takes reins at NGRA

David A. Bryan, former executive and legal director of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, has moved into the top legal position as Legal Director of National Gay Rights Advocates. NGRA is the nation's largest public-interest law firm protecting the rights of lesbians and gay men.

Bryan replaces former legal director, Leonard Graff, who held the position for seven-and-a-half years and is currently serving as interim executive director. Bryan will direct the organization's legal program from NGRA's San Francisco office.

The 34 year-old attorney graduated from the Texas Tech University School of Law in 1981 and practiced corporate law in Houston for five years. He joined the Texas Human Rights Foundation as a member of the Board of Trustees in 1984.

While a trustee, Bryan contributed to the litigation work challenging the Texas sodomy statute. Bryan also worked on cases resulting in the recognition of lesbian and gay student organizations at Texas A & M and Texas Tech Universities. In 1984 and 1985, Bryan was active in the Houston referendum campaign to save a city ordinance prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Bryan assumed his position as head of the Texas Human Rights Foundation in 1989. As legal director, he helped to prosecute a discrimination complaint against Midland National Life Insurance Company for AIDS zip code "redlining." Bryan also helped prosecute the Texas Human Rights Foundation's disciplinary complaint against Judge Jack Hampton of Dallas, who was publicly censured last November for anti-gay bias.

Founded in 1977 in San Francisco, National Gay Rights Advocates fights for the rights of gay men, lesbians and, through the AIDS Civil Rights Project, persons with HIV disease. NGRA aggressively pursues impact litigation in employment and housing discrimination, family partnerships, reform of sodomy laws, anti-gay violence, and first amendment rights.

DOUBLE TEE PRESENTS

GET READY FOR SOMETHING STRANGE.

The STRANGE ANGELS TOUR Feb. 22 Schnitzer Hall

LAWRIK ANDERSON

Willamette Week KBOO

Fred Meyer Everybody's

For ticket info call 224-TIXX
Tickets also available at PCFA Box, Coliseum & Civic Auditorium. Call 248-4496. Tickets subject to service charge.

BARBARA G. ISAACS, Ph.D.
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
2250 NW FLANDERS, SUITE 103 ■ PORTLAND, OREGON 97210
(503) 248-0775

Café Mocha
An alcohol free space to dance & play
288-9950
4108 NE Sandy Blvd.