

OUR 15th anniversary



*We're
making
history!*

The fifteenth season of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus continues with a rich shared history for our choral family. We reflect on the rich dynamic experiences that we have shared and look forward to the future.

We invite you to join us in our celebration!

All Portland performances this season are at the Intermediate Theatre, Portland Center for the Performing Arts and are A.S.L. interpreted and wheelchair accessible.

For Portland Tickets
Please Call PGMC
at 699-8586.

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus
Post Office Box 3223
Portland, Oregon 97208-3223

Hidden Legacies
Sunday, March 12 at 7:00 pm
Intermediate Theatre

Additional performance

Salem
Saturday, March 4th at 8:00 pm
Elsinore Theatre
For tickets call Fastixx at 370-7469.

PGMC recaptures the joy of the 70's! Join us as we return to this era and highlight the growing visibility of the Lesbian and Gay Community during that time.

We conclude the evening with the magnificent tribute to our struggle with the AIDS epidemic, "Hidden Legacies." It is an evening that will touch your heart as an affirmation of our strength and a celebration of our collective courage to live.

WORDS OF EXPERIENCE

A new anthology offers teens a sense of being grounded in queer history

by Olivia Alvarez

Hearing Us Out is a collection of insightful and frank conversations with members of the lesbian and gay community and their supporters. Written for teenagers who are gay, straight, or still thinking about it, *Hearing Us Out* chronicles the joys and sorrows of being gay or lesbian in a mostly homophobic world.

Author Roger Sutton, editor of *The Bulletin* of the Center for Children's Books, began the project

community included mistakenly joining several straight softball teams before finding a gay league. Then she stumbled onto a feminist lesbian league. The experience demonstrated the power struggles, on and off the field, that exist in the gay and lesbian community.

Jeff Rivera recounts his outing while still a high school student and the resulting rejection and harassment. Teachers failed to be supportive or even protect him from threats by other students. That lack of support forced Rivera to quit school.

While not all the stories have happy endings, Sutton leaves his readers hopeful. Rivera and the others retain a sense of humor, able to laugh at the insanity and prejudice that sometimes surrounds them, without falling victim to it.

Books

to give teenagers the stories and history of the gay and lesbian community. To that end he conducted interviews with a variety of people, from a 15-year-old to a grandmother. Stories based on the interviews range from heroic to comical.

Hearing Us Out has coming out stories, yes, but also stories about staying out, dealing with AIDS, lesbian separatism, dreaming about first lovers, and the politics of being different.

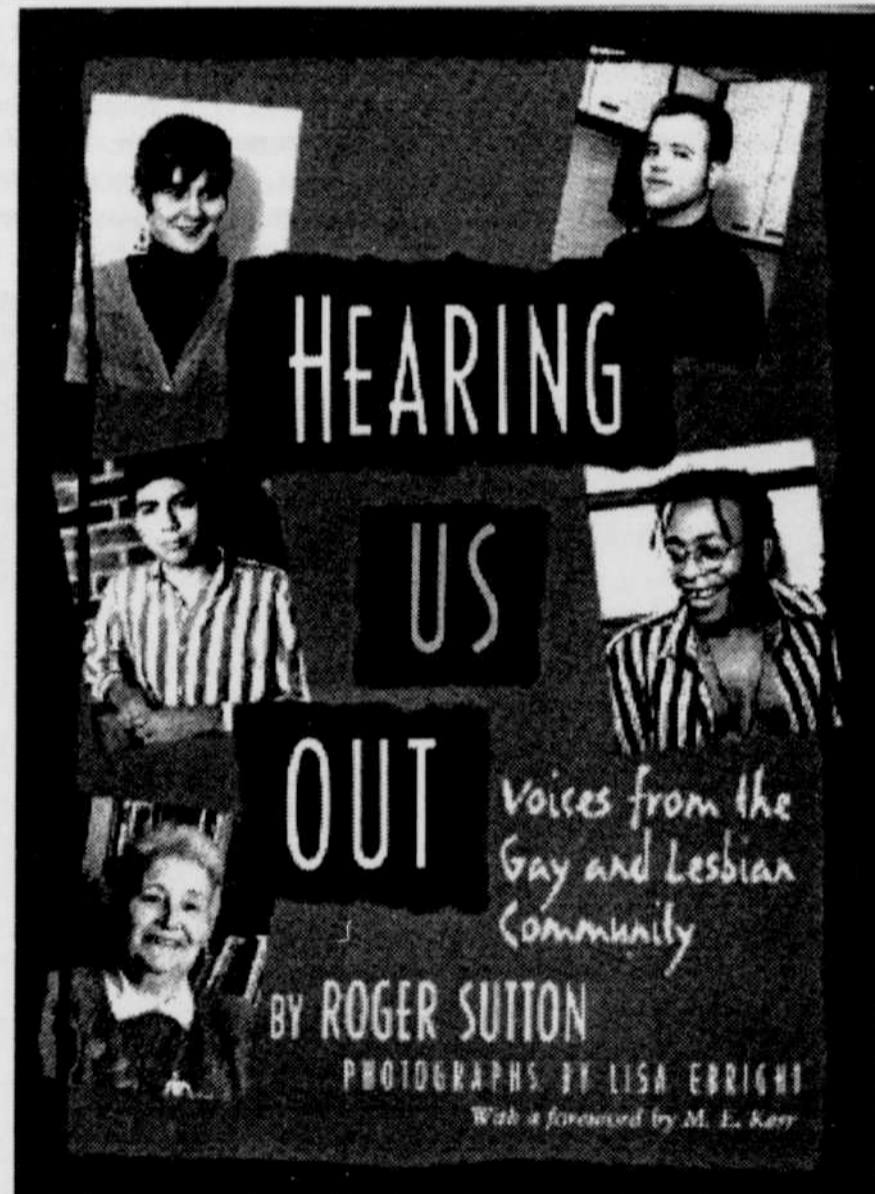
Dorothy Knudson, an openly lesbian police officer from Chicago who founded the Lesbian and Gay Police Association there, discusses the acceptance she has enjoyed from her fellow officers. Knudson, who was out while still in the police academy, says, "I think if you're really comfortable with being out, it helps other people be comfortable with it, too."

Terrence Smith, a self-proclaimed "in-your-face drag queen" and Queer Nation's presidential candidate, recounts his attending the Democratic National Convention in a miniskirt and stiletto heels.

Fred Mitchell, an African American working class father, accepts his teenage son's homosexuality but worries about society's reaction. He says, "People can be very volatile about people who don't fit in. Especially gay. But I want to try to at least be in his corner."

Yvonne Zipter, who wrote *Diamonds Are a Dyke's Best Friend*, a cross-country survey of lesbian softball, discusses the effect of softball on her politics. Her early efforts to find a lesbian

And there is a sense of pride. It is echoed by Terrence Smith when he says, "The fact that we are different is what makes us so special, and it makes being gay very special. It's not just this accident of nature—it's this wonderful thing that's happened."



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