

just out
since 1983

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

Renée LaChance

COPY EDITOR

Kelly M. Bryan

REPORTERS

Inga Sorensen
Bob Roehr
Rex Wockner

CALENDAR EDITOR

Kristine Chatwood

PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Kliewer

OFFICE MANAGER

Cory Murphy

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Meg Grace

ADVERTISING REPS

C. Jay Wilson Jr.
Marty Davis

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

E. Ann Hinds

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Rupert Kinnard

FORMATTER

Christopher D. Cuttone

TYPESETTER

Christopher D. Cuttone

DISTRIBUTION

Kathy Bethel
Rachel Eborá
Darla Moyer-Sims
Donald Rogers
Megan Weber

CONTRIBUTORS

The Boston AIDS Writers Group
Christopher D. Cuttone
Rachel Eborá
Michael Thomas Ford
Richard Shumate
Daniel Vaillancourt

just out is published on the first and third Friday of each month. Copyright © 1996 by **just out**. No part of **just out** may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

The submission of written and graphic materials is welcomed. Written material should be typed and double-spaced. **just out** reserves the right to edit for grammar, punctuation, style, liability concerns and length. We will reject or edit articles or advertisements that are offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action. **just out** consults the *Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual* on editorial decisions.

Letters to the editor should be limited to 500 words. **Deadline for submissions** to the editorial department and for the **Calendar** is the Thursday before the first and third Friday for the next issue. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The **display advertising** deadline is the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue.

Classified ads must be received at the **just out** office by 3 pm the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

Ad policy. No sexually exploitative advertising will be accepted. Compensation for errors in, or cancellation of, advertising will be made with credit toward future advertising.

Subscriptions to **just out** are available for \$17.50 for 12 issues. First Class (in an envelope) is \$30 for 12 issues.

A copy of **just out** is available for \$2. Advertising rates are available on request.

The **mailing address and telephone numbers** for **just out** are PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400; (503) 236-1252. The phone number for the advertising department is 236-1253. Our fax number is 236-1257. Our e-mail address is JustOut2@aol.com.

steppin' out



PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

editorial

A reason to give

Local queer service organizations, struggling under the burdens of increased need and decreased funding, need our help

by Renée LaChance

Last July, when it was determined that Oregon would not have to fight a third discriminatory ballot measure sponsored by the Oregon Citizens Alliance, a tight place in my chest let go. Having long worried about the financial health of our local service organizations and the effect on them of massive community funds being siphoned off to fight ballot measures 9 and 13, I naively thought my worries were over upon hearing this announcement.

Since 1992, local service organizations for sexual minority communities have experienced annual financial shortfalls. Actually, such is the nature of nonprofit organizations, which continually have to search for creative funding solutions through government and foundation grants, membership fees and fees for client services rather than rely on the community for support.

It was my idealistic vision that now that lesbians and gay men had become accustomed to allocating dollars to their community they would continue to do so by sending those same dollars to our local service organizations, enabling groups to get on a stable financial track and, eventually, thrive. Unfortunately this does not seem to be the case.

Government funding is continually shrinking. Money is being denied to organizations in the wake of Measure 47, which voters passed in November. National and regional foundation grants are being prioritized elsewhere, since our organizations are no longer dealing with a community in turmoil over attacks

through the legislative process.

One of our oldest lesbian and gay service organizations, Phoenix Rising, announced this month that it will be facing a significant budgetary shortfall next year that may force it to limit the resources it provides. One of the many services Phoenix Rising provides is counseling on a sliding-fee scale to individuals who would otherwise not be able to afford these services. Many of the clients Phoenix Rising serves pay at the low end of the scale while the cost of such services are higher. In addition, Phoenix Rising facilitates groups for children and adults on topics representing a multitude of social and mental health issues. Phoenix Rising depends on client fees, grants and donations from the community for its support.

There are many other organizations that serve our community which continually must be pulled up by the financial bootstraps to continue their important work. It is appalling that hundreds of thousands of dollars had to come from our community to fight measures 9 and 13 while our service organizations drowned in red ink.

This is the season of giving. Why not make a deposit into your cosmic karma bank and secure another 1996 tax write-off by sending a check to your favorite lesbian and gay service organization. Just think about how much money ballot measures 9 and 13 cost you, and send that amount or a portion of it.

And please, make a point of donating yearly. The health of our community is at stake.

contents

VOL 14 NO. 4 DECEMBER 20, 1996

FEATURES

Off the screen and back to the closet?

This year's queer-themed cinema pales in comparison to the visibility explosion of 1995
(p. 19)

Working together

U.S. groups contribute medical supplies to Mexican AIDS service providers strapped for resources
(p. 17)

DEPARTMENTS

World news

Brazil appears ready to legalize same-sex partnerships
(p. 5)

National news

Community leaders huddle in Washington, D.C., to work up a game plan for '97
(pp. 6-10)

Local news

A local chapter of the transsexual-rights group It's Time, America! debuts to discord
(p. 15)

COLUMNS

Eye hard right

Keep a watch on those pesky right-wingers in this new column
(p. 11)

Reasons for hope

A look at the debate on the "hit hard" model of HIV therapy
(p. 13)

My queer life

Different cultures have different holidays, but dysfunction reigns supreme
(p. 34)

ARTS

Books

Dr. Betty Berzon wants your relationship to last
(p. 29)

Theater

Open wide, it's Little Shop of Horrors (gulp!)
(p. 31)

Entertainment

News for Deadheads, bowlers and culture mavens
(p. 32)

Tongue in groove

Theresa Demarest and The Third Sex sing out proud
(p. 33)