

works hard in her capacity as human resources director to ensure that OPB is a good, safe and fair place to work—for everybody.

Maynard Orme is at the helm of one of the most diverse workplaces anywhere in Oregon, I'd wager.

It is a shame to see a rare mention of OPB in *Just Out* publicizing an isolated, negative incident perpetrated by a single individual (it is assumed), when the station does so much to enrich and support diversity in our community.

SARAH BOTT
Portland

Editor's note: Bott is employed by Oregon Public Broadcasting.

OPB not cool with me

TO THE EDITOR:

Some weeks ago, a documentary aired on OPB concerning the history of the Castro in San Francisco. [*The Castro*, which aired June 16], tastefully covered the late 1800s to the present. It ran one and a half hours and started at 11 p.m.

The only reason I knew this show was to air was because of a radio broadcast on National Public Radio in which the writer of the documentary was interviewed. Not a word was mentioned promoting this program by OPB, let alone any previews to whet the potential viewers' appetites.

Contrary to the popular belief that we "diverse" folks stay up late swinging from chandeliers, some of us do go to work in the morning like everyone else. For a documentary this clean and neat, an 11 p.m. starting time is outrageous.

The previous evening, OPB aired a show at prime time about the most horrific and inhumane event of the last 60 years: the Holocaust. Now, tell me why the history of the Castro is so much "worse" than the Holocaust that it should air at 11 p.m. and not earlier?

Once again, we are told we're insignificant—not important. Do you suppose OPB realizes just how much diverse people like us have contributed to the arts monetarily as well as artistically? (I do recognize OPB as the offender, not PBS as a whole—my father watched the very same documentary in Fresno, Calif., where it aired at 8 p.m.)

I feel I've been ushered to the back of the bus and told where to sit. And you should too. I urge everyone reading this to take a moment to call OPB and tell them you're dissatisfied with their weak attempt to appear liberal; request they repair the program at a reasonable time; make them aware of your contributions. Be heard. Aren't you tired of being invisible?

KELLEY BEGLEY
Portland

Editor's note: Susan Thomas, OPB's director of corporate communications, says mention of The Castro was included in the June issue of OPB's member guide, Oregon Focus. An OPB ad also appeared in our June 5 issue.

Bruner a great choice

TO THE EDITOR:

I was surprised and gladdened to read that Thomas Bruner will be the new executive director of Portland's own Cascade AIDS Project. ["Movin' On Up," *Just Out*, June 19]. If anyone can make an organization straighten up and fly

right, he can.

I had the pleasure of knowing Bruner when I lived in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1989 to 1992. During that time, I saw Bruner take the AIDS Outreach Center in Fort Worth to new heights of service, effectiveness and caring. He greatly expanded its on-site food pantry and generated massive cooperation from various food vendors. He persuaded a local media firm to donate AIDS messages, in English and Spanish, on huge billboards located on major freeways around Fort Worth. He built a superb corps of volunteers to work one-on-one with those in greatest need.

Beyond the world of HIV/AIDS, I saw Bruner rebuild and re-energize the Tarrant County Lesbian-Gay Alliance, Fort Worth's gay and lesbian general-interest umbrella organization, which provided the community with monthly meetings, relationship seminars, plus many other activities to serve people living in the western half of the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He also gave me invaluable assistance when I started Texas Gay Veterans, which at the time was the only gay veterans group between the Appalachians and the Rockies.

He is a genuinely caring individual whose high level of organizational skill is outshone only by his diplomatic prowess.

RON RASMUSSEN JR.
Vancouver, Wash.

He's no friend

TO THE EDITOR:

I was shocked when I saw that you gave an editorial to the president of the United States as if he were some sort of friend ["Now, a few words from the president," *Just Out*, June 5]. While I understand that you may be excited that he wrote to you at all, I wouldn't consider him a friend of the gay community. He may have signed it, but I doubt, seriously, that he wrote it.

Remember that this is the same president who promised to lift the ban on gays in the military in his first 100 days in office, only to sell out the entire community in exchange for a few votes on his economic package.

This is the same president who ordered his staff of attorneys to file briefs in no less than three civil suits supporting the military's desire to dishonorably discharge military personnel for being gay. This is also the same president who supported the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act and filed a brief to the Supreme Court in support of Colorado's Measure 2.

I'll grant you that he has appointed a few gay people to important offices and made a few rhetorical speeches, but in every instance when he has had the opportunity to enact an actual law that would protect gays from discrimination, he has used the power of his office against it. When I read his rhetoric on your editorial page, it enraged me that I was reading it at all, much less in a gay publication. I'm a gay man—I know decorating. I can recognize window dressing when I see it, and this tripe is a perfect example.

GREGORY FRANKLYN
Portland

correction

In the feature story "Are You Game?" in the July 17, issue of *Just Out*, triathlete Ellen Carder was incorrectly identified as Ellen Carter. *Just Out* regrets the error.



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