

**A** Portland State University student group is promising six days full of fun and educational speakers and workshops from April 23 to 28 on the downtown campus.

This year's Queer Awareness Week theme is "Body, Mind and Soul in the New Millennium," a holistic approach to queer health. The events are open to people of all ages and orientations.

Shaun Marks, who is coordinating the week with Meredith Roller, said Queers and Allies has been working overtime putting the activities together. Although the event has been held in the past, it never has been this involved.

"This is definitely the most ambitious," Marks said. "The main thing we're hoping to accomplish is to interact with more people on campus and off campus."

Marks said that Queers and Allies even turned to other student groups and to other institutions for assistance and that the sponsors came through. "The university has been very helpful."

The biggest coup was booking *The Preacher's Son* author Marc Adams and his partner, Todd Tuttle, who are flying in on their own dime. "They're losing money to come see us," Marks said.

Another popular draw should be author Lesléa Newman, whose controversial book *Heather Has Two Mommies* celebrated its 10th anniversary last year. "I'm hoping to get a big turnout," Marks said.

All events are in Smith Memorial Center, 1825 S.W. Broadway, unless otherwise noted:

**APRIL 23**

- **Guess the Straights:** Panel discussion seeks to answer the questions, "What do straight people look like?" and "Can you spot one?"

# BODY, MIND AND SOUL

**Students stage Queer Awareness Week** by Jim Radosta

(Noon-1 p.m., Commons.)

- **Safe Space Network:** Reception invites students to come meet with faculty and staff who have gone through the Safe Space training. Poetry and open mike readings will follow. (5 p.m., Room 238.)

**APRIL 24**

- **Hermaphrodites Speak!:** Presentation screens the world's first documentary film created by activists to share their stories about growing up intersexed. A facilitated discussion will follow. (3-5 p.m., Room 290.)

- **The T in LGBT! Who Put It There and Why?:** Presentation helps debunk the myths of trans people and gives an accurate look at the movement. The panel will offer definitions and language on how not to be offensive, share personal stories about day-to-day life and conclude with a question-and-answer period. (7-9 p.m., Room 238.)

**APRIL 25**

- **Heterosexual Privilege:** Workshop looks at the more than 1,049 privileges guaranteed by federal law for married opposite-sex couples but

not same-sex couples. (3-5 p.m., Room 238.)

- **Queers of Color:** Students, staff and faculty share their stories, listen and learn in a relaxed atmosphere. (5-6 p.m., Meetro Coffee, 1809 S.W. 11th Ave.)

- **Fundamentally Queer:** Presentation features Lambda Literary Award finalist and Silver Pen Award winner Marc Adams, whose autobiography, *The Preacher's Son*, is now in movie production. He will discuss growing up fundamentalist and gay as well as the hopes and angers gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth are facing in religious American culture. Adams' partner of 13 years, Todd Tuttle, will join him for an open question-and-answer session after the talk. (7-9 p.m., Room 238.)



Marc Adams

**APRIL 26**

- **Being Out on Campus:** Discussion focuses on the moral and legal issues surrounding being out on campus and in the classroom. This brown bag luncheon is for faculty and staff; however, students are welcome to listen in. (Noon-1:30 p.m., Room 238.)

- **Sex Toys:** Holly Mulcahey of It's My Pleasure shows participants how to expand their repertoire on the use and care of sex toys while

becoming more sensual. (5-7 p.m., Room 238.)

**APRIL 27**

- **Queers of Color:** Roundtable discussion focuses on serving groups within the queer community. (Noon-1:30 p.m., Room 238.)

- **Heather's Mommy Speaks Out:** Lesléa Newman discusses *Heather Has Two Mommies*, one of the most controversial books of the 20th century, and the issues of homophobia, censorship and family values for the 21st century. The lecture will include a slide show and video. (7-9 p.m., Room 238.)



**APRIL 28**

- **Queer Desires and Feminist Perversions:** Porn-writing workshop teaches queers, trannies, whores, sluts and allies how to express and own their deepest desires, lusts and fantasies. The size of the group is limited, so arrive early to ensure a spot. Send e-mail to [conspire@transfeminism.org](mailto:conspire@transfeminism.org) for more information. (3-5 p.m., Room 238.)

- **Queer Millennia, Dancing Through the Decades:** Festive prom includes queer DJ Lauren, entertainment and a raffle. Retro wear is encouraged. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door. (7 p.m.-midnight, Commons.) j

Direct all QUEER AWARENESS WEEK questions, comments, suggestions and ticket requests to 503-725-5681 or [queersandallies@mail.pdx.edu](mailto:queersandallies@mail.pdx.edu).

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