

**NORTHWEST news**

**BRO RECEIVES \$5,000 GRANT**

The Human Rights Campaign announced Jan. 8 its final round of 2001 Equality Fund grants for sexual minority advocacy groups throughout the country.

Basic Rights Oregon received \$5,000 for early messaging research to defeat an anticipated 2002 anti-gay ballot initiative, the Student Protection Act II. The Oregon Citizens Alliance is gathering signatures for the watered-down version of 2000's failed Measure 9, which would have prohibited public schools from encouraging, promoting or sanctioning homosexuality or bisexuality.

"We are pleased that in this second year of the Equality Fund grant program we were able to support so many great projects," said Seth Kilbourn, HRC national field director. "The Equality Fund grants, along with strategic staff support, help build the partnerships that are essential to making progress on the issues our community faces at the local, state and federal level."

The fund provides assistance for organizations in undertaking legislative and regulatory policy initiatives. Unlike other financing that often cannot be used to support political work, the grants are unrestricted and can be used specifically for lobbying and issue advocacy.

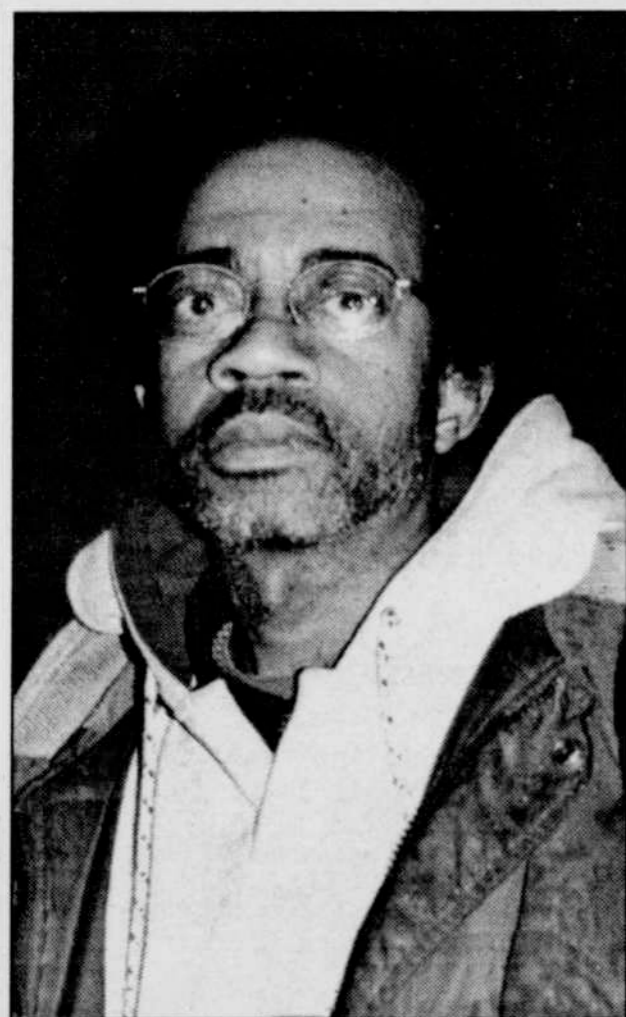


PHOTO BY MARY DAVIS

The Rev. Cecil Prescod will be honored during the 2002 Human Rights Awards ceremony Jan. 21

**BRO, PRESCOD RECEIVE HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS**

The 2002 Human Rights Awards will be presented from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 21 at the Portland Conference Center, 300 N.E. Multnomah St. County Chair Diane Linn and the Rev. Matt Hennessy have been invited to speak.

Basic Rights Oregon will receive a Community Harmony Recognition award. The organization was nominated for embodying "the concept of diversity through its work to ensure that all Oregonians, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, are accorded the basic human rights enjoyed by Oregon's heterosexual citizenry."

The Russell A. Peyton Award will be presented to the Rev. Cecil Prescod, who has worked extensively with the queer community since his 1986 arrival in Portland. He has been active in People of Faith Against Bigotry, which organizes the religious community against anti-

gay ballot initiatives; Brother to Brother, an advocacy group for African American gay and bi men; and Love Makes a Family, which helps sexual minority parents.

The awards ceremony will be preceded by the "Joining Communities Together" march, which will start 6 p.m. at both Sisters of the Road Cafe, 133 N.W. Sixth Ave., and Immaculate Heart Catholic Church, 2926 N. Williams Ave., and converge at the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. statue. All of the events are free.

For more information about the awards call the Metropolitan Human Rights Center at 503-823-5136.

For more information about the march call Keith Bernhardt at 503-222-5694, ext. 14.

**BURNSIDE TRIANGLE ADVISERS NEEDED**

The Burnside Triangle Advisory Group is seeking volunteers who want to participate in plans to redevelop Portland's gay district. The neighborhood is located along Southwest Stark Street between 10th and 12th avenues.

Anybody can join—service providers, business owners or operators, residents and patrons. The group's purpose is to:

- Inform the process of implementing the West End Plan with a valuable community perspective.
- Develop creative ways to effectively gather broad-based input on the development of the Burnside Triangle.
- Help shape the future of Portland's West End.

Amalia Alarcón-Gaddie, Metropolitan Human Rights Center manager, hopes to find a total of 18 people who have a vested interest in the Burnside Triangle. She says the group will hold a half-day retreat to form a vision for streetscape improvements, nurturing new businesses and ensuring the neighborhood is respectfully redeveloped.

Interested people should contact the center for an application. Positions are being filled now.

For more information call 503-823-5136 or e-mail mhrc@ci.portland.or.us.

**CAP OFFERS ADVOCACY WORKSHOPS**

Cascade AIDS Project will hold a series of "AIDS Advocacy 101" workshops next month for people with HIV, caregivers, family members and volunteers.

The events will give attendees a voice in the political process on the local, state and national levels. They will have the opportunity to join a network of advocates; learn how to speak up for HIV issues and educate elected officials; share their experiences; and get Oregon, Washington and U.S. updates.

The free workshops will be held Feb. 6 in the auditorium at Southwest Washington Health District, 2000 Fort Vancouver Way, and Feb. 7 in the gymnasium at McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave. Both will last from noon to 4 p.m., and lunch will be provided.

Two other public policy advocacy functions will be held Feb. 7. CAP will play host to a brainstorming session for staff leadership of area HIV organizations exploring how they might collaborate to have a stronger collective voice.

Also planned is a public policy reception for elected officials. CAP will announce its partnership with Seattle's Lifelong AIDS Alliance on the national level, introduce local lobbyist Paul Cosgrove and discuss HIV needs.

To register call executive assistant Wambui Machua at 503-223-5907, ext. 216, by Jan. 31.

Continued on Page 9

**Worried About Your Rights?**

Gay and Lesbian couples need to take extra precaution when creating an estate plan. Why? Because the government doesn't provide equal rights to same sex couples, and it's essential that you're prepared for the legal battle that may ensue when you or your partner die.

**Rely on Someone Who Knows Your Rights**

Richard Schneider, a local attorney with 20 years of experience is well versed in the legal dilemmas that the gay community faces and can help you arm yourself against intervention by the courts. He'll be happy to provide you with a FREE one-hour consultation, advising you and your partner of your rights and show you the best way to protect them.

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