

just out

The IN publication for the OUT population

FOUNDED 1983 • JAY BROWN AND RENÉE LACHANCE
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FEATURE

NOT NARROW: They might be straight, but these allies always have been on our side
p 24

NEWS

NORTHWEST • Lesbian judge recalls child custody cases; Native American from Eugene enjoys life; building Bridges
pp 7-19

NATIONAL • Catholic Church scapegoating?
pp 20-21

WORLD • U.K. pop idol comes out of the closet
pp 22-23

CULTURE

FILM • What's new on DVD
p 34

MUSIC • Queer artist will make you believe in new music again
p 35

PEOPLE • Artist Seda Rhodes puts the "act" in activist
p 37

ART • Mooove over Michelangelo: Queer kow artists are proud of their bovines
p 39

DIVERSIONS • *Portland Taiko Unplugged*; the new electronic Bob Mould; David Sedaris at the Schnitz; make music and meet Motherlode; go *Straight* with David Schmader; new cabaret at Crush; women walk the labyrinth
pp 40-41

THEATER • HIV-positive writers take their stories to the stage
pp 42-43

COLUMNS

MS. BEHAVIOR • Girls don't lie
p 44

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARC • Don't dis *Queer as Folk*
p 45

SPECIAL

EATING OUT • Let someone else cook tonight
pp 36, 38

JUST FRIENDS • Free voice personal ads
p 46

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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.

Letters to the editor should be limited to 500 words. Announcements regarding life transitions (births, deaths, unions, etc.) should be limited to 200 words; photos are welcome. **Deadline for submissions** to the editorial department and for the **Calendar** is the Thursday 15 days before the next publication date. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The **display advertising deadline** is the Monday 12 days before the next publication date.

Classified ads must be received at the *Just Out* office by 4 p.m. on the Thursday eight days before the next publication date, along with payment. Ads may be placed by telephone or via the Internet with Visa or MasterCard payment.

Ad policy: *Just Out* reserves the right to reject or edit any advertisement. Compensation for errors in, or cancellation of, advertising will be made with credit toward future advertising. Advertising rates are available upon request.

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Contact *Just Out* at P.O. Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400; 503-236-1252, advertising 503-236-1253, fax 503-236-1257; e-mail justout@justout.com. Visit our Internet site at www.justout.com.

COMMENTARY

Say cheese!

A snapshot of the new *Just Out* staff

It's spring in the Pacific Northwest, and that can mean only one thing. Yup, it's time for the second annual *Just Out* Amateur Photography Contest.

Response was tremendous last year, and we're all excited about seeing your artistic new works. The amount and quality of entries received last year exceeded all our expectations, and we look forward to an even bigger and better contest for 2002.

The May 3 issue will feature all the details about where to send your entries, deadlines, categories and types of eligible photos. I can tell you that virtually any and all photos will fall into some category and that I plan on even better prizes and recognition for winners this year.

I am going to cling to the old ways for at least one more year, however: Digital entries will not be accepted. Other than that, dust off those cameras, focus your lens, and prepare to show off your stunning new works.

While still thinking of photos I'd like to draw your attention to the one appearing immediately below this commentary. What we have here, folks, is your fine and dandy *Just Out* staff. We've had several changes in staffing here recently, and now seems like a good time to introduce to you the bright, energetic, intelligent and artistic people who create this paper for you every two weeks.

First, I'd like to acknowledge the departure and the many fine years of good work that Meg Grace put into *Just Out*. For 10 years she was a vital part of the staff, the last many years as Advertising Director and computer network guru. Thanks to her efforts we have many well-served advertisers and a bunch of computers and printers named after obscure *Star Trek* characters. Meg has gone off to pursue her dream job of full-time private music teacher and Web site designer. She's available to provide saxophone and clarinet lessons to students of all ages. Check out her ad in the classified section of *Just Out*. The entire staff wishes Meg the best of luck in her new endeavors.

Also kinda-sorta leaving *Just Out* is Melissa Saylor. 'Tis the season to pursue dreams, and she is going off to sharpen her carpentry skills and to increase her volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity. The good news is that although she's saying goodbye to her duties as Office Manager she will be staying on as Production Assistant, so we aren't losing her totally. Melissa is the person responsible for the endearingly odd little messages found in the filler spaces in the classified ads. If you want access to a truly bizarre mind, check out the back of the paper.

Dominoing along, joining *Just Out* as Office Manager is the equally quirky Erin Sexton. She first came to my attention a year or so ago when she fired off a series of angry letters to the editor including my all-time favorite, "fuck you Marty Davis." I think it best to keep Erin close at hand. She is involved with the Hambleton Project, serves on the

board of the Lesbian Community Project and is going to be a valuable addition to the *Just Out* staff. Her arrival guarantees many a lively and heated discussion.

Meg's departure left a sales position open, and that job has been filled by René Serenil. He is relatively new to Portland and comes to us via Houston. René is well experienced in newspaper advertising sales, and his expertise ensures continuity of customer service to our valuable established clients. Though he is still new to us and well behaved and professional in demeanor, we definitely see potential for far more appropriately rowdy office behavior from René.

Not-so-new yet kinda new to *Just Out* is Culture Editor Lisa Bradshaw. She brings an amazing vitality and interest in all matters to the job of putting together the back half of the paper. More importantly, she went along with scarcely a whimper when I informed her she'd be writing about kows this issue. At one point she even admitted to getting into the kow story but denies now ever making such a statement. I ask you, how often does a paper get to write about queer kows?

Now you've met the three newest members of your *Just Out* staff. Previously on board and responsible for excellent work and contributions are Jim Radosta, Larry Lewis, Markie Acevedo and Kevin Moore.

Jim signed on about two years ago as Copy Editor, and his skills and enthusiasm quickly took him to the job of News Editor. Initially reluctant to venture out as a reporter, he has shown great growth in this area and has been relentless in his pursuit of Bonnie and Lon Mabon. You can see the "oh no, not again" look on their faces when they see Jim approach. He is our fearless hero.

Just Out is 100 percent advertiser supported, and our ability to continue and succeed rests on the efforts and abilities of the sales staff. And we are continuing and we are succeeding thanks to Larry Lewis and Markie Acevedo.

Markie joined us a year ago and has shown an undaunting desire to carve out a career. Recession, what recession? Nothing will slow down Markie. You go, girl.

Larry is a hunk—oh yeah, and an excellent salesman who also saves my life several times a year when the phone system needs to be taken apart and put back together again. A gay guy to the core, he can't stand the sight of a messy kitchen, and for this we cherish him (and fully exploit his weakness).

Kevin one day will see fame and glory as a cartoonist and illustrator. His art and eye are right-on, and it is his art that brings even further to life the brilliant works of Marc Acito.

Which brings me to the final thanks and acknowledgment to all the talented free-lance writers who contribute to each and every issue of *Just Out*. Individually and as a whole, you are a tremendous asset.

Thank you all. ☺

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REFLECTIONS



Clockwise from left: Larry Lewis, Marty Davis, Kevin Moore, René Serenil, Markie Acevedo, Jim Radosta, Erin Sexton, Lisa Bradshaw and Melissa Saylor

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