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## CULTURE



# Pat the bunny

Come as you are to Portland's second annual Masturbate-a-Thon

BY JODI DARBY

*Mamuxorate: male using hand*  
*Maritate: female alone*  
*Siphnianize: anal*  
*Syntribate: rubbing thighs together*  
*Amatripsis: rubbing labia together*

Is Portland ready for an all-out, honest-to-goodness Kink-o-Rama? Have we blossomed as a community to embrace a safe, all-inclusive public play space? Have we even waited far too long for such a venue—a space to bring friends, make new ones, dance, play games and get our proverbial boats floated?

Portland sexpert Darklady, aka Theresa Reed, answers all three questions with a resounding "Yes!"

Darklady is the host of Portland's second annual Masturbate-a-Thon, a one-night fund-raiser May 31 where revelers can pat the bunny, spank the monkey, polish the pearl, butter the potato and do it all in a fun, festive and safe space.

It promises to be the "come as you are" event of the year.

Historically speaking, Masturbate-a-Thons are nothing new. Five years ago, the fine folks of San Francisco sex toy and education shop Good Vibrations declared May "Masturbation Month." People were encouraged to get pledges from their friends for time spent masturbating at home. Proceeds were donated to a sex-positive cause.

In 2001, sex educator and Good Vibrations worker Carol Queen took the idea a step further and invited people to do their fund-raising masturbation together at the Campus Theater, a space in San Francisco's Tenderloin district. The event was a huge success and raised a significant amount of cash for her nonprofit organization, the Center for Sex & Culture.

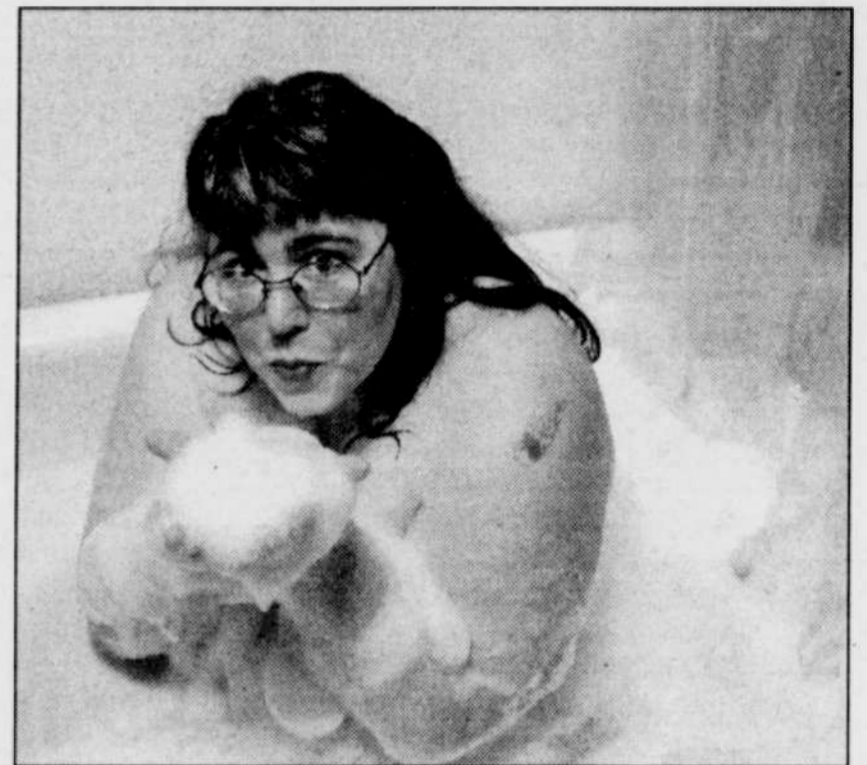
"It's like a walk-a-thon," says Queen. "Except when it's over, your feet don't hurt."

Darklady has waved Queen's (magic) wand over Portland and has been working around the clock to provide locals with a fun, kinky space to get off while raising funds for four nonprofits: Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette, Cascade AIDS Project, the Center for Sex & Culture and the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom.

You get to support healthy sexuality while sticking it to a conservative right wing that consistently strives to undermine that freedom. (Imagine the possibilities: a masturbation-based tax credit, maybe? What a wonderful world.)

Portland's Masturbate-a-Thon looks a little different from Queen's brain-child. Instead of mats on the floor and hours of sustained self-pleasure, Portland's venue will be set up as an erotic playground featuring two floors of naughtiness.

Catering to exhibitionists and shrinking violets alike, the event will let people indulge in a fully furnished S/M play space, make-out rooms, live music, DJs, dancing, fire spinners, exotic dancers, an art show, massage therapists, vendors, gay model Jonathyn Andrews and plenty of opportunities for consensual voyeurism.



Meet a woman who knows how to throw a party: Darklady's second annual Masturbate-a-Thon is May 31

Guests will also be encouraged to test-drive a plethora of sex toys, magic wands, eroscillators and Chi machines and to take a trip on everyone's favorite fuck machine, the Thrillhammer Orgazmatron. Touted as a breakthrough in simulated sex, the customized chair seats one satisfied customer who is strapped in while a close-up camera and variable-action vibrator is controlled by an Internet user for \$3.99 a minute.

The Masturbate-a-Thon is a larger, more sprawling version of the erotic parties regularly arranged by Darklady, who hopes it will provide first-timers with a positive impression of public erotic functions.

"Some folks might be nervous or apprehensive at first," notes the self-appointed Margaret Mead of porn. "But the events are safe, fun and friendly, and people generally leave feeling pleasantly surprised."

A pioneer of the "sex positive" movement, Darklady has edited and written for YesPortal.com, AdultBuzz.com and *Playtime* magazine. She just returned from Los Angeles, where she served as a judge for *Adult Video News* magazine's eighth annual Gay VN awards—the Academy Awards of gay porn.

But most importantly, Darklady knows how to throw a party. "We're not trying to target any certain audience here," she says from her home, where she does most of her work surrounded by 350-gallon tubs of porn. "We hope to see members of all communities—GBLT, poly, swingers, B/D/S/M, straight, multiethnic folks—come out and have a good time."

Make a statement for self-love, help area nonprofits continue to educate and empower around issues of sexuality, make new kinky friends, and stick a finger in John Ashcroft's eye at Masturbate-a-Thon. You'll be glad you did. ☑

The second annual MASTURBATE-A-THON will be held from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. May 31. RSVP is required at 503-975-3275 or [darklady@darklady.com](mailto:darklady@darklady.com). The sliding-scale fee is \$15-\$30. Ages 21 and over. Find out more at [www.masturbate-a-thon.org](http://www.masturbate-a-thon.org).

JODI DARBY is a Portland writer, graphic artist and radio producer.



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