



Poison Marie Waters certainly did not look like a grilled cheese sandwich at Peacock in the Park



Maria got it on and infected the crowd with it—as usual

Proud as a... well, you know

Peacock in the Park brings in a huge crowd and a lot of money for college kids

PHOTOS BY MARTY DAVIS



Sensory Perceptions' Debbie Caselton helps out her daughter, Morgan, before the 12-year-old's big Peacock debut. Morgan helps raise money for various local organizations.



What can one really continue to say about Peacock in the Park? If you're looking for a four-hour drag extravaganza and a chance to hook up with all the cuties you met at Pride, this is it—year after year.

The June 29 event at Washington Park Amphitheater saw sun, food, fun and unique performances, 4,000 queers, students getting college funds. Who could complain?

Certainly not the petite Salem woman who walked away with the top raffle prize of two round-trip tickets to anywhere Alaskan Airlines flies. Other donated prizes included tickets to this fall's Cirque du Soleil and a basket o' lube. Who could complain?

Certainly not the recipients of this year's Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund: Miriam Volpin (nursing), Kelly Hoeppner (art), Trevor Cords (psychology), Wayne Bund (theater), Leah Kristine Rivendell (biology and Japanese), Jodi Russell (psychology), Becky Van

Wormer (electrical engineering), Dyana Mitchell (medical administration), Jaye Sablan (human services) and Joel Vasquez Reyes (nursing). In all, the gang of queer students (or kids of queer parents) shared \$18,000 raised at last year's event. Who could complain?

Certainly not co-hostesses Maria or Poison Waters, who once again pulled it off without a hitch. Well, except for some technical issues involving microphones. ("The excuses I received were just that...it will be handled," assures Poison.)

And, OK, maybe it was a little hot, especially if you're wearing a lot of clothes and a heavy wig. "I felt like a walking grilled cheese sandwich," Poison laughs, "but everyone kept saying how good I looked! I think, regardless of how you really look, if you have a smile and a positive attitude...you can't help but look good."

That ought to keep Peacock looking good for a long, long time.

—Lisa Bradshaw



Patti O'Dora broke away from Embers long enough to make quite a scene in front of just everybody



Where the money goes: Peacock organizers congratulate scholarship recipients



One of the day's most memorable performances was Darcelle XV's rendition of Chicago's "The Cell Block Tango," with Darcelle as Matron "Mama" Morton, of course



Cher stopped by the amphitheater and, as expected, she takes the backup dancers everywhere (just in case)