

# NORTHWEST newsbriefs

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addresses historical and contemporary issues of access, social justice, human rights and equality.

Registration costs \$75 for students and \$125 for faculty, staff and community members. Scholarships are available.

During the conference several programs will address issues that affect the sexual minorities community:

- **How Does It Feel to Be Different: Racial and Heterosexist Harassment in the Schools:** What are the subtle and not-so-subtle effects of bullying and harassment in schools on students who are either culturally diverse or who do not conform to stereotypical sexual norms? This panel will present an open discussion of the realities of student harassment over issues of race and sexual identity, and the societal and personal harmful effect of this intense dynamic (3 to 4:15 p.m. Nov. 13).

- **Teen Theater:** Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon formed this company, which explores the wonders and challenges of being young and passionate in today's world. The troupe's blend of outrageous humor, heartfelt true-to-life stories, song, dance and monologues has earned a loyal following and much acclaim (7 to 9 p.m. Nov. 13).

- **Some Impacts of Heterosexism: In the Classroom, on Coming Out and Staying Out, and on the Children of Lesbians and Gays:** This panel presentation will focus on personal experiences and research in the classroom and in the larger community for gays, lesbians and children of queer parents, as well as the effect of heterocentrism and homophobia on those experiences (10 to 11:15 a.m. Nov. 14).

- **Queer Life in Perspective:** Faculty and students will offer political analysis, personal explo-

ration and issues facing queers in southern Oregon. Counseling perspectives are included in this panel presentation (1:15 to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 14).

- **Building an Inclusive Community: The Role of Grassroots Organizing:** Learn about how communities in Oregon have come together to fight hate crimes, prevent discriminatory ballot initiatives, hold institutions accountable and create a culture of respect for human and civil rights. Discuss what it takes to start a group and keep it going, and get ideas for organizing in your community (1:15 to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 14).

To register visit [www.rogucecc.edu/odi](http://www.rogucecc.edu/odi).

## ROP LEADER TO SPEAK AT PROGRESSIVE FORUM

A group of young leaders, national-level speakers, decision-makers and experienced civic activists will convene for the first-ever Zephyr Forum: Engage Oregon from Nov. 13 to 16 at the Hood River Inn, 1108 E. Marina Way in Hood River.

The goal of the conference is to set a positive vision for Oregon and beyond, and to determine what action is needed to move toward that vision. It was spearheaded by the New Progressive Network, a nonprofit dedicated to engaging young people in politics, dialogue and education; the Oregon Bus Project, a grassroots campaign that brought together hundreds of volunteers to knock on nearly 70,000 doors in one of the state's largest canvassing efforts; and *The Zephyr*, a quarterly online magazine.

The forum will consist of a series of workshops and policy debates and will feature several speakers, including lesbian Marcy Westerling, executive

director of the Rural Organizing Project. The nonprofit was formed to combat 1992's anti-gay Ballot Measure 9 but now addresses multiple justice issues involving human dignity and inclusive democracy.

The idea for conference arose when Bus Project members realized that "linking a broad host of progressive voices, perspectives and interests poses a unique challenge, especially in a state with as much geographic, ideological and cultural diversity as Oregon," said Sophia McDonald, Engage Oregon Conference Committee chairwoman. "Gathering members of the progressive community from across the state is a way to create the dialogue and the relationships needed for greater action."

For more information call 503-233-3018, e-mail [jennifer@secretplan.org](mailto:jennifer@secretplan.org) or visit [www.secretplan.org](http://www.secretplan.org).

## MONARCHS CROWNED

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court celebrated its new monarchs during Coronation 2003: On the Town, which was held Oct. 25 at the Crystal Ballroom.

The winners' official titles: The Radiance of the Rose, The Shining Dragon Rose Emperor 30 Scoty DeVore Foxx and the Vibrant Rose Empress 46 Lotta Marie Liquor. Scoty was selected over candidate Mark Hollywood, while Lotta ran unopposed.

The evening's highlights included the



Empress 46 Lotta Marie Liquor (left) and Emperor 30 Scoty DeVore Foxx reign supreme during Coronation 2003

appearance by decade monarchs Empress 6 Mame and Empress 16 Doni Lame, who celebrated the 40- and 30-year anniversaries of their coronations, as well as a huge production number by Emperor 20 Babalou and Empress 36 Maria. A memorial tribute honored Prince 28 Silas McGowen, who died of lung cancer June 6.

ISRC, the oldest queer social/fund-raising organization in the state, holds open board meetings on the first Monday of each month at Darcelle XV, 208 N.W. Third Ave., and open court meetings on the second Monday of each month at the Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway. Both start at 7 p.m. [E]

Compiled by JIM RADOSTA and TIMOTHY KRAUSE

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