



Donors can help White Bird Dance founders Walter Jaffe (left) and Paul King feather their NEST

tive, started in 2002 to end homophobic harassment in schools. The initiative provides funding for programs such as the Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect; the Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition; curricula for administrators at James Madison High School in Portland; and efforts by Salem Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays to support Gay Straight Alliances in area

high schools.

Equity Foundation believes that if all put-downs and bias words are not tolerated or allowed in the school setting, children will feel safer and be able to focus on their education. We couldn't agree more. To donate, call 503-231-5759 or visit www.equityfoundation.org.

Dance card too full?

We know how you covet your White Bird Dance tickets. But once in a rare while, you can't make a show—Aunt Gertrude comes to town unexpectedly or you come down with the flu (human

flu, that is, not bird).

Don't waste your precious tickets—make use of White Bird's innovative NEST (No Empty Seats Today) program. Just call 503-245-1600, ext. 204, and the nonprofit organization will offer your seats to a school or charity that will use the tickets. You can even choose your favorite group to receive the gift.

The Dayton Contemporary Dance Compa-

ny will perform work by renowned African American choreographers 8 p.m. Dec. 9 to 11 at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall, 1620 S.W. Park Ave. A couple of tickets would make an inspired gift to, say, a homeless kid at prear or a resident at Our House. Heck, even if you are planning to use your tickets, you can still buy discounted tickets to donate to worthy organizations.

Give kids with AIDS a holiday to remember

Cuddle up with the Oregon Bears during their annual Teddy Bear Drive and Benefit Show 6 p.m. Dec. 12 at Darcelle XV, 208 N.W. Third Ave. Bring a clean, new teddy bear as your admission price (or \$5).

The big Bears will donate the little bears to Outreach Ministries and the Friends of People with AIDS Foundation.

Also on the roster at Darcelle XV is the La Femme Holiday Show, another benefit for Friends of PWA. The festivities start at 8 p.m. Dec. 5 and cost a mere 10 bucks. For twice the price, VIPs

can come at 6 p.m. and enjoy champagne and treats!

There is a reason Friends of PWA needs all the help we can muster this season. It had 175 requests for its Holiday for Children program, an increase of 70 requests from last year. The way it works is this: Kids infected or affected by AIDS make gift requests through their case managers, who send these "wish lists" to the foundation. It then allo-

cates \$50 a child to provide everything from practical gifts of shoes and clothes to fun stuff like computer games.

"It's my favorite thing to do every year," said Kevin Friends, the organization's vice chairman.

Since gift requests are up dramatically this year—not exactly good news—Friends of PWA needs your dollars to help make this holiday season bright for all the kids it has heard from.

To make a donation, call 971-244-3525 or send it to P.O. Box 4014, Portland, OR 97208. ☐



Share the love at Oregon Bears' annual Teddy Bear Drive and Benefit Show on Dec. 12

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