

## NORTHWEST newsbriefs

### DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE COALITION SLAPPED WITH FINE

The Defense of Marriage Coalition, Oregon's foremost front of homophobia, has been fined nearly \$20,000 for failing to report \$58,000 in campaign donations by required deadlines.

The dastardly sponsors of Measure 36, which amended the Oregon Constitution to ban same-sex marriage, could have easily avoided paying the fine, had the treasurer paid attention to the reporting requirements, officials said.

The coalition will contest the fine before the Oregon Court of Appeals, according to its lawyer.

### CHARITABLE GIVING AT WORK

Federal employees in Oregon are showing support for queers by selecting Equity Foundation as the recipient of donations through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Equity, a philanthropic giving agency serving the sexual minorities community, is one of the most prominent queer-focused participants in the campaign. The agency has participated for several years, receiving gifts amounting to \$1,611 last year and \$2,500 the previous year.

"We are pleased to have Equity as a part of the campaign, as we are with all of our charities, and we encourage local charitable organizations to contact us and participate in the CFC application period from mid-March to mid-April," said Jeff Sargent, management analyst of the Oregon Federal Executive Board.

The Combined Federal Campaign is one of 15 workplace giving programs that Equity participates in, bringing \$200,000 to the agency this year. Approximately half of that money is earmarked directly to service organizations. The remainder is combined with other dollars in a granting and operating fund and awarded to various nonprofit organizations by a grants committee. The largest workplace giving campaign for Equity is the state of Oregon.

"The Combined Federal Campaign has a part in making employees aware of opportunities to give back to the community," said Linda Traeger, executive director of Equity.

The Combined Federal Campaign is the only organization authorized to solicit federal employees on behalf of a charity. Approximately 6,000 federal employees participate in the Columbia River/Willamette Valley campaign, including the military, postal workers and employees at the Social Security and Veteran Affairs offices.

Campaign dollars benefit approximately 400 local charities, including Earth Share, Children's Trust Fund, Black United Fund, Community Health Charities, Habitat for Humanity and McKenzie River Gathering Foundation.

Traeger said, "Equity Foundation would like to thank all of the employees who have given so generously to our community," including those at the state of Oregon; cities of Portland and Eugene; Multnomah County; Portland Public Schools; Metro; Nike; Oregon Health and Science University; Portland General Electric; Tri-Met; the Combined Federal Campaigns of the Columbia River/Willamette Valley and Douglas and Lane counties; United Way of the Columbia-Willamette; Port of Portland; Wells Fargo; and Sears.

For more information visit [www.oregon.feb.gov/cfc.htm](http://www.oregon.feb.gov/cfc.htm).

—Jaymee R. Cuti



Genny Nelson, co-founder of Sisters of the Road Café, will be one of the speakers at A World Beyond Capitalism 2005.

### FIRST-EVER DRAG KING AND QUEEN PAGEANT IN BEND

Bend will host its first-ever Drag King and Queen Pageant next month. "Surrender Your Gender!" will be held Sept. 17 at the Grove Restaurant & Lounge, 1033 Bond St. Dinner and drinks are served at 7 p.m., followed by the show and competition at 8. The cost is \$10-\$20 sliding scale. If you come in costume, you will receive two free raffle tickets, and performers get in free.

"Calling all drag Oregonians!" announced Derek Hanna, organizer of the event. "We welcome performers from all over the Beaver State to compete in our first-ever pageant. We Central Oregonians are eager to learn from our state's seasoned 'kings' and 'queens' and 'divas' and 'dudes' on how to do drag."

The performance will feature Portland faves DK PDX, who promise to "shatter gender performances through sex appeal and synchronized dance." The troupe promotes independent alternatives to mainstream corporate culture and addresses issues of sexism, racism, classism, sizeism, homophobia and transphobia on and off the stage.

The event is a fund-raiser for the Human Dignity Coalition, which works to promote and safeguard human rights, honor diversity and promote social justice in Central Oregon. For more information call Hanna at 541-990-9971.

### ACTIVISTS INVITED TO A WORLD BEYOND CAPITALISM 2005

Queers and people of all sexual orientations are invited to attend a volunteer meeting for A World Beyond Capitalism 2005, an international, multiracial alliance-building peace conference that will take place from Aug. 26 to 28 in Portland.

The meeting will be held 7 p.m. Aug. 24 at Laughing Horse Books, 3652 S.E. Division St.

This meeting is open to the public and is appropriate for all ages. Conference organizers are scheduling workshops, speakers and volunteers. They are also accepting advance registrations at this meeting. Free vegan refreshments will be served.

Conference keynote speakers are Genny Nelson, co-founder of Sisters of the Road Café, and Romeo Sosa, director of Voz. The speakers will address conference participants 7 p.m. Aug. 26 at St. Francis Hall, 1182 S.E. Pine St.

In addition, an International Grassroots

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## Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund

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Jeffrey Stumpf	\$1000.00	PSU	English/Writing

Thank you to all the volunteers, sponsors and donors who make it possible for the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund to continue to support the educational endeavors of the GLBT Community.

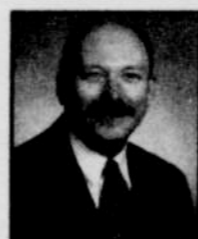
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