



BRO has brought Bryan Boyd on as new communications coordinator.

GLSEN Keeps Quiet, Makes Noise

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network joins with national collaborators in the Day of Silence and Night of Noise on April 26.

The Day of Silence is a student-led day of action in which those who oppose bias against sexual minorities take a daylong vow of silence to recognize and protest the discrimination and harassment.

After the Day of Silence, there will be a Night of Noise rally for youth to break the silence together. Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition and GLSEN Oregon are co-sponsoring this event from 5 to 9 p.m. at 1126 S.W. Park Ave.

For more information visit www.dayofsilence.org and www.glsenoregon.org.

BRO Welcomes New Hires

Basic Rights Oregon's new communications coordinator was drawn to the organization for one specific reason.

"Measure 36 did it for me," says Bryan Boyd. "It was at that point my eyes were opened to the scope and the straight-out hate of the anti-gay movement. From that point on I've been focused on what we have to lose, but more importantly, what we truly have to gain."

From his time as art director at eROI (Return on Investment), an interactive design firm based in Portland, Boyd brings a wealth of technology, e-marketing and online base-building knowledge to BRO's team. He has used this experience to run a blog called GayRightsWatch.com and to create most of the No on 36 campaign correspondence online.

Since March, Boyd has been busy preparing to launch the first-ever online voter guide for BRO's Equality PAC. The guide, which will be available soon at www.voteequality.com, will feature online commercials based on BRO's ad campaign "Vote Out."

Boyd doesn't find much time to sleep. He says, "I have not worked for another organization where I am this passionate about the work I am doing."

BRO also recently hired Karol Collymoore as house party coordinator. She raises money for BRO's candidate PAC through volunteer-organized house parties across the state. "I feel there are some wonderful candidates running for office, and I'm proud to help raise funds to assist in their races," she says.

Born in Panama and raised in New Mexico, Collymoore has always found it hard to understand why people are not allowed to exist equally. A straight woman, she feels a kinship to gay rights and has always wanted to help as much as she could.

Collymoore's political experience includes working for the Al Gore/Joe Lieberman campaign in 2000 and on a 2002 congressional race in New Mexico. Once she moved to Portland and began working as development director at Oregon's National Abortion Rights Action League, she knew that the BRO offices were a few floors above and that she wanted to get involved. She served on BRO's Equality PAC board but relinquished her seat to become a staff member. Collymoore says, "I'm thrilled to be able to meet more wonderful friends and share the importance of electing candidates to office who support equal rights for all Oregonians."

Portland Activist Wins HRC Award

A Portland activist has won the Human Rights Campaign's national award for federal club co-chairman of the year. Todd Canon, who has a family medical practice in Vancouver, Wash., was one of four volunteers recognized by HRC last month in Washington, D.C.

HRC is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equality. A federal club membership to HRC is a minimum of \$100 a month. While federal clubs around the country only make up 1 percent of total membership, they constitute 25 percent to 30 percent of HRC's funding. Canon has been a member of HRC for 10 years, but when he became a federal club member more than two years ago, there were no organized club activities in Portland, despite the area's 40 members.

As co-chairman, Canon organizes social events, such as annual holiday parties, wine tastings and theater nights. He also organizes meetings with politicians and visiting members of the national organization. In May 2004 he organized a meeting for federal club members with the four Multnomah County commissioners who supported marriage equality. His tireless efforts have definitely paid off. Since he became co-chairman, federal club membership has risen to 100 people in the Portland area.

Canon views the organization as doing an

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