

# Pride In the Life

Portland's Black Pride offers a week of destinations  
by Jaymee R. Cuti

**B**rother to Brother offers a slate of activities during "In the Life," the fifth annual Portland Black Pride celebration, for a full week leading up to Pride.

Organizers have been working hard to engage communities of color and Portland's queer community in dialogues and hope to bring everyone together in celebration.

"We sit at a crossroads in these parts of the community," said Brother to Brother executive director Darryl Moch, explaining that his organization has a seat at black, gay, local and progressive tables. "We want to be involved, included, cared about, a relevant part of the dialogue in other communities. That's what Black Pride is really about."

Moch would like this event to set up relationships that last throughout the year.

"Because Pride is happening all across the city, it gives people an opportunity to go to 'In the Life, Portland' and say: 'I don't get enough opportunity to experience things from a black perspective. This is an opportunity for communities to come together, share from their own perspectives and build relationships that last way beyond Pride.'"

"In the Life" begins with House of Mocha's The White Party, a youth hip-hop night for teens 16 and older with DJ

Amanda. Attendees are encouraged to dress in sexy white attire. The event, sponsored in part by Luv Miss Duv Productions, is from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. June 10 at Q Center, 1028 S.E. Water Ave. Cover is \$4.

The Black Pride Film Fest is from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. June 12 in the Moriarty Arts & Humanities Building on Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St. Screening will be *Just Between Us*, documentarian Ken Jackson Jr.'s candid look at the state of the African-American gay community, and Faith Trimel's feature film *Black Aura on an Angel*, a psychological thriller that depicts the devastating effects of a woman's mental illness on a blossoming love affair.

A community forum, "Healing the Beloved Community: Bridging the Gap," is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 14 in the Multicultural Center at Portland State University's Smith Memorial Center, 1825 S.W. Broadway. The National Black Justice Coalition co-sponsors this bold, interactive conversation between the African-American queer community and the African-American community at large.

A panel discussion titled "Speaking the Truth, Healing the Lie: Confronting Internalized Homophobia in the Black Community" is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 15 in the Moriarty Arts & Humanities Building on Portland Community College's



Brother to Brother's Kourtnei Capree Duv poses at the Blackout party.

Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St. The event is sponsored in part by Equity Foundation. Then at 8 p.m. is *Late Night Garage Sale: The Show (Everything Must Go)* by Atlanta's only black gay male performance poet troupe, The Adodi Muse.

"Soul for Real Lounge" features the original works of some of Portland's finest black poets 8 p.m. June 16 at Crush, 1400 S.E. Morrison St. Groove to spoken word performances by Kathy Thompson, Rochelle D., Xavier, and Kaysha Jones as well as open mike performances. Music is by DJ Amanda.

The Blackout Party & Concert is from 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. June 17 at the Red Cap Garage, 1035 S.W. Stark St., with DJ Kris and performances by Mz Fontaine and Anthony Antoine. Cover is \$10 at the door or \$7 in advance from [www.brotobropdx.org](http://www.brotobropdx.org).

"It's a Family Affair," a barbecue and remembrance vigil, is from 3 to 7 p.m. June 18 at Wallace Park, 2033 N.W. Glisan St. Food is provided.

Black Pride joins Pride Northwest for Gay Skate Night from 7 to 9 p.m. June 19 at Oaks Park, 1 S.E. Spokane St. Cover is \$5.

For more information call 503-417-7991 or visit [www.brotobropdx.org](http://www.brotobropdx.org) or [www.pdxblackpride.info](http://www.pdxblackpride.info). 10



Barbecue revelers gather for the community cookout.

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Database, director Katherine Brooks writes: "Truth be known, I wanted to make a lesbian film that had great sexual tension with a good sex scene and was realistic to the situation. And I was tired of watching movies where they build up the sexual tension only to give me a kiss and nothing more." Sounds steamy.

The second film beginning at 9 p.m. is the much-anticipated *Strangers with Candy*. Written by and starring Amy Sedaris, Stephen Colbert and Paul Dinello, *Strangers with Candy* is the prequel to the critically acclaimed Comedy Central show of the same name. It is the story of Jerry Blank, a 46-year-old ex-junkie and ex-convict who goes back to high school. Matthew Broderick rounds out the hilarious cast of this twisted after-school special.

Tickets are \$10 per person per film and are available at [www.ticketleap.com](http://www.ticketleap.com).

## Bring on the Grand Marshal

Come welcome Col. Grethe Cammermeyer to Portland at this year's Grand Marshal reception. The hosted event will be held 6:30 p.m. June 16 in the Tuscan Room at Hotel Vintage Plaza, 422 S.W. Broadway.

Cammermeyer, a winner of the Bronze Star, made history in 1991 when she challenged the U.S. military for her expulsion because she is a lesbian. She chronicled her experience in the 1994 biography *Serving in Silence*, which was turned into a made-for-TV movie starring Glenn Close as Cammermeyer.

Cost of admission for this event is \$10, and tickets are available at [www.ticketleap.com](http://www.ticketleap.com). Cammermeyer will be signing copies of her book.

## Get Your Run (or Walk) On

Pride Northwest and Portland Frontrunners launch the 2006 Portland Pride Festival with the Pride Fun Run and Walk. All ages and all abilities are welcome to join in the outdoor morning fun June 17 at Waterfront Park.

Portland Frontrunners is predominantly a running club for queers and their friends in the metro area. It promotes good health through running, walking and other physical fitness training in a supportive, sexual minority running community.

The walk begins at 9:15 a.m., and the run starts at 10. The 2.7-mile course loops across the Steel Bridge, follows the Esplanade to the Hawthorne Bridge, then runs along the west side of the waterfront.

Registration is \$15 per adult and \$25 per family of two or more. Entry fees include a short-sleeved T-shirt, water bottle, water break along the course and a post-race breakfast of bagels, yogurt and fruit. The family rate includes individual race numbers and water bottles, plus one T-shirt. Additional shirts are \$10 each.



The Dyke March is a favorite annual event promoting lesbian visibility.

Register on the day of the race, starting at 8 a.m., or online at [www.pridenw.org](http://www.pridenw.org). For more information visit [www.portlandfrontrunners.com](http://www.portlandfrontrunners.com).

## Portland Pride Festival 2006

You spent Friday night in your underwear at Boxxes or in your evening duds at the grand marshal reception. In either case, you're slightly hung over and you really need to shop. Luckily for you, the vendor area of the Pride Festival opens at noon June 17 and stays open until 6 p.m.

What do you do when you've bought all the cute lesbigay stuff you can handle? The stage opens at 1 p.m. (and stays open until 11 p.m.—that's a lot of entertainment!), so now's the time to find your spot at Waterfront Park to lay your blanket down. Take a load off and enjoy the sights and sounds.

"There'll be even better entertainment this year," says Pride Northwest president Nicole Browning. "We're really embracing diversity, not just in musical styles but also for different age groups."

A kids' area sponsored by Equity Foundation will be open for you and your children noon to 6 p.m. Bring your tots by for face painting, balloon animals, clowns and crafts.

Hungry already? Pride Northwest knows Portland's queer community has diverse food tastes and has moved from the traditional festival vendor fare to restaurant vendors. No need to worry if you're vegan or vegetarian; there will be friendly selections for you among the Mexican, Thai, Greek, barbecue, pizza, bento and Philly cheese steak options.

The festival's walk-around liquor license allows you to grab a cold one from Deschutes Brewery or a Smirnoff cocktail and venture back into the vendor area. There you'll find the Dance Heads booth, where you and two friends can make a DVD with your lip-syncing heads superimposed on the bods of your favorite rich and famous. It won't be hard to miss Hewlett Packard's setup of ginormous screens and new ATM-like photo printers. Getting weary? Head to Hotel Vintage Plaza's booth, where a duplicate luxury

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Portland's 2006 Pride Cruise launches June 14 aboard the Willamette Star.

MARTY DAVIS