



Mary S. Marshall has been promoted to director of finance and operations at CAP.



Kathleen D. Saadat is now CAP's director of diversity and human resources.

Pride Talkback

You attended the weeklong celebration of Portland Pride in June. Now you get the chance to tell organizers what you thought.

Pride Northwest is conducting a public forum to provide an opportunity for members of the community to comment on the 2006 Pride Festival. The board of directors for Pride Northwest will invite comment, suggestions for improvement and recommendations for the 2007 festival.

The forum is 6:30 p.m. Sept. 8 in Room 258 of Portland State University's Smith Memorial Union, 1825 S.W. Broadway.

For more information call Stef-Anie Wells at 503-296-5595 or e-mail info@pridenw.org.

Q Center Calls to Seniors

Q Center is asking seniors and aging members of the sexual minorities community to help create relevant and meaningful activities and events.

Seniors are invited to an open house from 1 to 3 p.m. Sept. 10 at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St., for a brief presentation of senior programming at other community centers around the country to kick off the discussion.

Light refreshments will be served. For more information contact Q Center coordinator Gene de Haan at 503-234-7837 or visit www.pdxqcenter.org.

Wine for Equal Rights

Equal Rights Washington, a briskly up-and-coming force in Washington politics for gay and lesbian rights, is holding its first fund-raiser, a wine and cheese tasting.

The event is from 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 16 at a private residence in Clark County. Those wishing to attend will receive the address and directions when they RSVP to 360-727-7878.

Western Justice

Staff and leaders of grassroots community-based organizations from across the region gathered from Aug. 11 to 13 at Reed College for Western States Center's Community Strategic Training Initiative.



Attendees of Western States Center's Women and Trans People of Color Gathering reflect on common experiences.

The conference has provided intensive training and networking every summer for the past 16 years for people organizing for justice.

This year's "radical sabbatical" afforded almost 400 attendees skills training, the opportunity to build a shared political analysis and the opportunity to network for a stronger progressive movement.

According to trainer/organizer Moira Bowman, the majority of attendees were women, about half of the group were people of color and a third identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

The weekend began with the Women and Trans People of Color Gathering, which is part of the center's Family, Community and Sexuality Project. The gathering was an opportunity for participants to build skills for doing political education in their organizations around potentially divisive issues of sexuality and reproductive justice.

Field director Kalpana Krishnamurthy facilitated the gathering, which had 55 attendees from various ethnic and sexual minority communities. This year marked the first time the gathering was inclusive to trans people of color.

"It's important to engage in dialogue with communities who are not normally at the table when policy is being set," said Krishnamurthy. "We created a space where those who are often most affected could come together and discuss how they talk about these issues in their communities."

Bowman and Krishnamurthy presented a workshop titled "Across the Rift: Political Education for Gender Justice." According to Bowman, the workshop gave participants the tools and resources to talk about gender justice and sexuality issues within their organizations. She referred to the state's parental notification ballot measure as well as queer nondiscrimination policies as examples of what many participants will have the opportunity to weigh in on in the near future.

"The religious right has chosen LGBT issues to build their own base," said Bowman. "They're very effective at separating people who don't take on an issue that feels divisive."

Other workshops included "Margins to Center: Movement Building from the Intersections," which looked at the ways inequalities of sexuality, race, gender, nation, ability, class and age weaken progressive strategies and political goals. Another workshop titled "Trans Action: Exploring Gender Identity Issues" was designed to help participants become allies for gender-variant and transgender folks.

For more information on Western State Center's programs, contact Bowman at 503-228-8866, ext. 104.

By JAYMEE R. CUTI, MALKA GEFFEN and JULIE SABATIER

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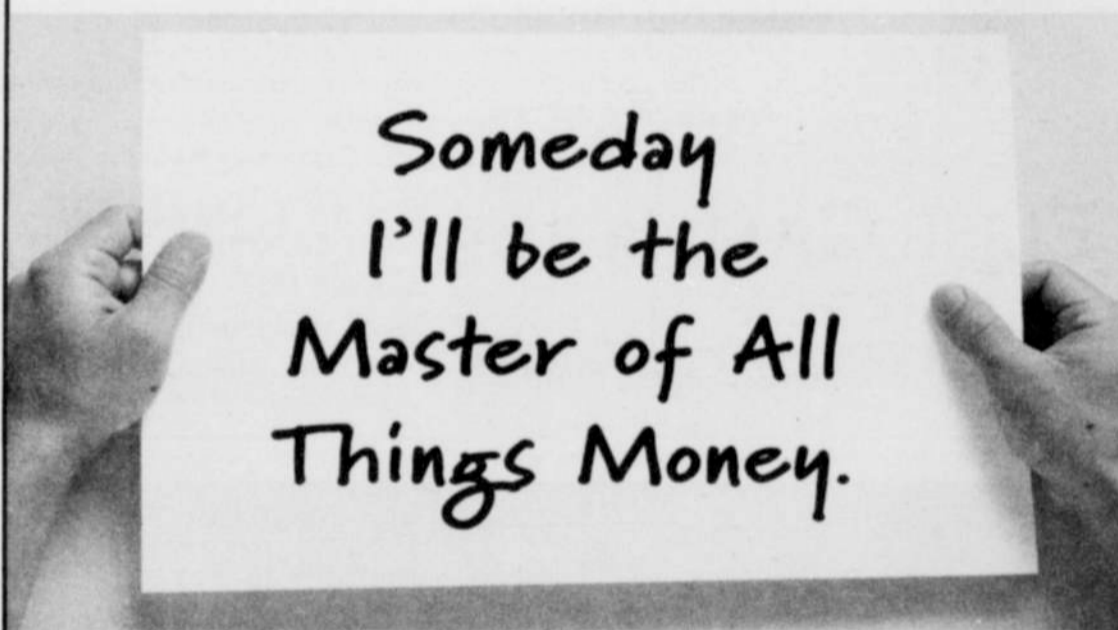
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