

northwest

Moulin BRO!

Fund-raiser exceeds goals and expectations

by Jaymee R. Cuti • Photos by Marty Davis

Basic Rights Oregon's annual awards dinner exceeded its fund-raising goal Oct. 7, raking in more than \$200,000.

The focus on entertainment, costuming and spectacle made the event the most fun political party of the year. The theme was "Moulin BRO!"

"This event was so fun, so festive and unlike any political dinner anyone was accustomed to going to," said Rebekah Orr, spokeswoman for the organization. "It's because of people that are really creative and really generous that we're able to put on such a grand-scale event."

The "gay Paris" atmosphere was played out by performers and a technical staff that donated their time and talent.

The top donor was the Bailey-Gilliam family, a West Linn couple and their three children who matched every dollar donated to the agency that night.

"Being not only gay but interracial and having three kids on top of that, we had to take extraordinary legal steps to get even close to a legally recognized relationship. It's such an important and real thing to us, we would be fools for not being involved. With matching the funds, I really thought it would motivate people to give," said Alex Bailey-Gilliam.

Basic Rights Oregon presented awards to donor outreach coordinator Cathy Abbruzzese, board member Laura K. Lee Dellinger and former executive director Roey Thorpe. 10



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