

outstanding

Chris Coleman Puts PCS in the LEED

"It's kind of an amazing time to be working with PCS," said artistic director Chris Coleman. "We've just built the first LEED theater in the world."

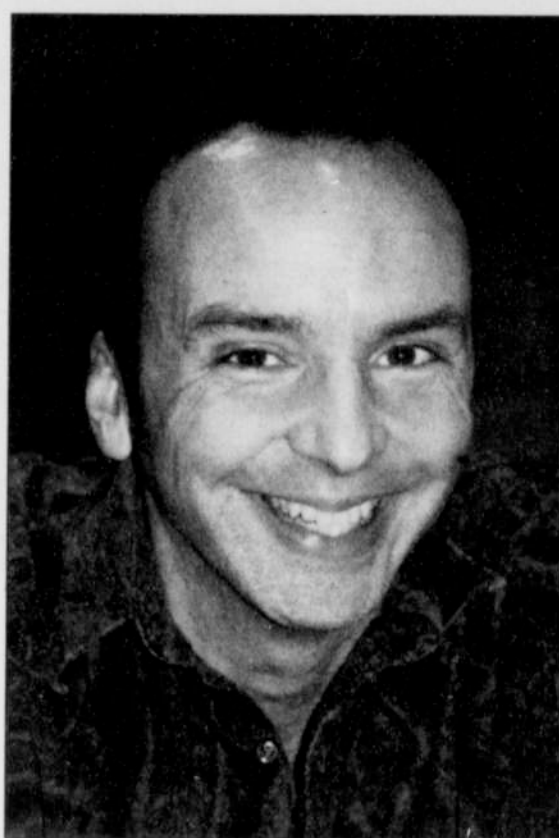
Portland Center Stage's new home is also the first structure on the National Register of Historic Places to achieve the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design status for green buildings.

PCS is now in the new Bob and Diana Gerding Theater at the renovated Armory building in the Pearl District. The theater boasts a 599-seat main stage with a direct line of sight from every seat.

"It's a space that feels much more expressive of the company's inner personality: warm, earthy, quirky," says Coleman. "The project has definitely been a team effort, but I asked the company to begin thinking about building a new home at my first interview for the job in 1999. I've been involved with senior leadership staff in every aspect of the design and have been on many, many, many of the fund-raising calls. I think the largest gift I got to ask for was \$5 million. They said no."

Coleman, a gay man who grew up as a "nice Baptist boy" in Atlanta, became the artistic director in 2000 and just had his five-year contract renewed. Before moving to Portland, he co-founded the Actor's Express in Atlanta and won numerous artistic and civic awards.

"We're getting a lot of financial support for the kind of work that I feel most passionate about," Coleman said. "For me, the draw is trying to create a conversation with a community through a body of work. I love doing a play that moves people, or



Chris Coleman is on board for five more years at Portland Center Stage.

gets them thinking, or makes them laugh, or gets them arguing. It's really quite rewarding. And I love living in Portland."

In the future, Coleman hopes to produce more new plays and curate more community events at the Armory. "And I'd love to raise funds for a big, fat endowment so cash flow [is] more consistent." 

—Malka Geffen

just asking

Just Out asked guests at Basic Rights Oregon's annual fund-raising dinner, "Which race concerns you most in the upcoming election?"



AIKLING COGHAN
Political Consultant;
Basic Rights Oregon
Interim Co-Director

"The governor's race because Ron Saxton would be very bad for the state of Oregon. It's the race that can have a sweeping effect on everything that we care about, from schools to civil unions."



BILL DICKEY
Commercial Printer

"Measures 41 and 48, because they further cap the ability of the Legislature to spend money for higher education, bridges, social services... bricks-and-mortar sorts of things."



VIRGINIA LINDER
Oregon Court of
Appeals Judge;
Candidate for Oregon
Supreme Court

"Measure 40, because of its detrimental impact on the appellate court system."



TIMM MCBRIDE
Real Estate Broker

"I'm really concerned about the governor's race. We stand on the threshold of losing so much progress that we've made if we elect Ron Saxton."

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