

HOLIDAY Gift Guide

2006

Give it away like nobody's business
by Jaymee R. Cuti and Malka Geffen

Bah Bah Black Sheep, Have You Any Gifts?

Bella Stella
2635 N.E. Broadway • 503-284-4636

Give the softest, healthiest wool products to the babies in your life this holiday season. Bella Stella sells LANACare organic Merino wool items from Denmark.

"Merino wool is the closest you can get to cashmere for the price. It's very fine and soft. Perfect for preemies or babies with sensitive skin," says Bella Stella owner Laurel Ackerman. In addition to baby

mitten, kimonos, booties and aviator caps, you can get an adorable nelson hat, which covers the child's head, neck and upper chest and helps protect against respiratory infections. These items come in a natural crème color as no dyes or chemicals are used to make them.

When you walk into Bella Stella, you'll be greeted by a bright store with music playing and all the newest local mom-made and European import items up at the front. In the back of the store, you'll find resale clothes, gear, furniture and more. The store proudly features large, classic, wooden toys, such as train sets and tables, play kitchens and doll houses.

For more information visit www.bellastellaresale.com.



Nothin' says lovin' like ultra-soft baby wear.

The Gift of Chocolate

Cacao
414 S.W. 13th Ave • 503-241-0656

Cacao is a chocoholic's delight. This gay-owned retail chocolate store features some of the tastiest treats from around the world. The chocolate gnome by Michel Cluizel, a fancy French chocolatier, makes a quirky stocking stuffer. For \$8.50, you can give the special joy that only a gnome can bring in the form of milk chocolate with white chocolate detailing.

While you're shopping in this comfortable yet sophisticated chocolate space, slide up to the cafe counter. From shots to full-size cups, you can enjoy a traditional-style hot chocolate as well as espresso drinks.

Owners Jesse Manis and Aubrey Lindley might want you to "drink chocolate," but with more than 100 chocolate bars, individual chocolates and caramels from four renowned chocolatiers, it seems they would like you to eat a bit of chocolate, too. Gifts for your favorite



A chocolate gnome says "happy holidays" with a wink and a nudge.

chocolate lovers are available from \$2 to \$250, so give them what you know they want!

For more information visit www.cacaodrinkchocolate.com.

Trivia Nerd's Delight!

Homogenius
www.homogeniusthegame.com

You can relive the anticipation of coming out of the closet all over again when you play Homogenius, a new gay and lesbian trivia board game. Give the gift of gay culture when you present this simple but informative game to your favorite homo.

The object of the game is to be the first to move from the "in" position on the colorful closet game board to "out" by correctly answering questions about gay contributions to theater, music, movies, television, politics, etc.

Some questions, regarding *Will & Grace* or *Gomer Pyle*, are light and fun and will show you off as the TV hound you are. Many questions lean toward the esoteric but are informative and invite thoughtful conversation. For example, two separate questions asked about lesbian nieces of famous people. See if you're a Homogenius:

- What actress and star of *Family* was sued for palimony by Ina Liberace, niece of the flamboyant pianist?

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