

Admission is \$5 with a can of food for Esther's Pantry or a stuffed bear (no stuffed animals other than bears, please). Proceeds from the show go to the Friends of People with AIDS Foundation and Esther's Pantry.

The Oregon Bears is a social and service club with more than 300 members. According to its Web site, [www.oregonbears.org](http://www.oregonbears.org), "Men of all types, trades and orientations all seem to enjoy showing off their masculinity and very often sport great facial hair as they go about their business in what we've come to call Bear Town." One of the group's goals is to raise money and give as much as possible to local gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender charities.

### Safety First

Giving to charity is a great way to show you care at the holidays. Getting a fabulous music CD in return only sweetens the deal. Local indie label Cherchez la Femme has just released *Safe Haven*, a rockin' benefit CD for Portland's Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center.

The compilation disc features songs from local artists such as Sneakin' Out, Ashleigh Flynn and Tara Jane O'Neil. It also includes tracks from nationally acclaimed musicians Pink Martini, Indigo Girls, The Decemberists and Sleater-Kinney.

For \$16, you get all this great music while you support an invaluable resource for queer youth. This is the definition of a win-win in the gift-giving season. The CD is available through [www.smyrc.org](http://www.smyrc.org), [www.cherchezlafemmeprojects.com](http://www.cherchezlafemmeprojects.com) and Music Millennium.

### Give a Dog a Bone

We all buy holiday gifts for our pets, and it's OK to be out about it. This year, when we're at our local pet shops, we have the opportunity to buy goodies for some dogs that aren't as lucky as the spoiled loves of our lives.

Family Dogs New Life is a no-kill shelter located at 9101 S.E. Stanley Ave. where dogs get the time and socialization they need to get ready for adoption. Giving Trees set up at six locations allow you to pick an ornament and donate an item to the dogs at the shelter.

According to shelter director Tasha Williams, adoptions slow down at this time of year, as do monetary donations. "It's a nice way to get the dogs supplies that the shelter is not able to afford on our own," she says.

You can find Giving Trees at Pets on Broadway, 2762 N.E. Broadway; Beauty for the Beast Grooming, 3832 N.E. Sandy Blvd.; Healthy Pets Northwest, 1408-A S.E. 39th Ave. and 2224 N.E. Alberta St.; The Pet Loft, 6333 S.W. Macadam Ave.; and Meat, 2250 E. Burnside St.

### Partridge in a pear Tree

Donations make excellent gifts for those friends or family members who have everything or are too difficult to buy for. Consider giving money to p:ear, a Portland nonprofit that builds positive relationships with homeless and transitional youth.

Teen homelessness is a huge issue for concerned locals, and we're lucky to have p:ear, which serves more than 350 youth through education, art and recreation programs. Through meaningful, long-term mentorships, young people build their self-esteem to exit street life and pursue healthier lives. To donate money online, visit [www.pearmentor.org](http://www.pearmentor.org), where you can give one time only or through p:ear core, the organization's monthly giving program. In-kind donations and your volunteer time are also always needed. 



*Safe Haven is the benefit compilation CD of the year.*



Rover, a temporary resident of Family Dogs New Life no-kill shelter, would love another holiday treat.



Imperial Prince Royale XXXI Craig Hollywood II and Imperial Princess Royale XXXVI Fiona Flash Foxx will celebrate a fantastic year at the Fire and Ice Prince and Princess Ball.



**Worship. Share.  
Celebrate  
the Season!**

**Holiday Events**  
Please join us at the  
**Metropolitan Community Church**  
for these spiritual and festive events:

|                                                     |                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>December 17</b><br>Christmas Concert<br>9 & 11am | <b>December 24</b><br>Christmas Eve Worship<br>11am & 11pm |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|

2400 NE Broadway 503.281.8868 [www.mccportland.com](http://www.mccportland.com)

### HEAR THE CONFLUENCE CHORUS ORIGINAL 2006 CHRISTMAS CHORAL PROGRAM

Come to the PFLAG Portland annual Holiday Potluck Party. A dish for all to enjoy is your price of admission.

Tuesday, December 12, 2006  
7 PM sharp to 9 PM

**First United Methodist Church**  
1838 SW Jefferson St.  
Portland, Oregon

• Follow the signs in the parking lot to



**PFLAG**  
Come celebrate the holidays with us.