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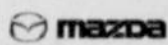


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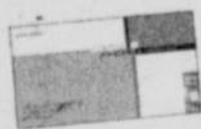


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Continued from Page 9

support queer members. The Rainbow Group organized Soka Gakkai's contingent in the 2007 Portland Pride Parade.

Larsen said the Rainbow Group is "a beacon for the gay community, but we don't want segregation."

During a 2006 national conference, leaders from Soka Gakkai publicly apologized for a lack of acceptance toward gays in the '70s, conveying the message, "It's so important for you to know we cherish you."

Soka Gakkai's Rainbow Group is planning an introductory meeting 2 p.m. Dec. 1 at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St., to help acquaint those curious about Buddhism with its basic principles. The next Introduction to Nichiren Buddhism meeting is 7 p.m. Oct. 4 at the Soka Gakkai Center, 1805 S.E. Ankeny St. Attendees can expect a basic introduction and an opportunity to ask questions. For more information visit www.sgi-usa-oregon.org.

Dharma Rain is holding its first fund-raising

event, called Watering the Roots of Peace, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 6. The event features live jazz from Boplicity, a light dinner buffet and a silent auction. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by calling 503-239-4846 or visiting www.dharma-rain.org.

Dharma Rain also hosts a monthly Gay Tea group, which meets from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. For more information e-mail keidogenko@gmail.com.

Pride of the Rose Scholars Announced

The Pride of the Rose Scholarship celebrated its 28th anniversary this month with the granting of \$25,000 in scholarships to 13 students.

The total given to more than 187 people during the past 28 years now exceeds \$250,000. The organization has also established an endowment fund with a balance of \$55,000.

The scholarship was founded in 1979 by Imperial Sovereign Rose Court Emperor V Frank Schreckenberger and Empress XXI Allison Grey (aka Curtis Meyers) and is administered through Equity Foundation. The fund is led by Frank, Curtis, Dwayne Witzel and Scot Bishop-Walker.

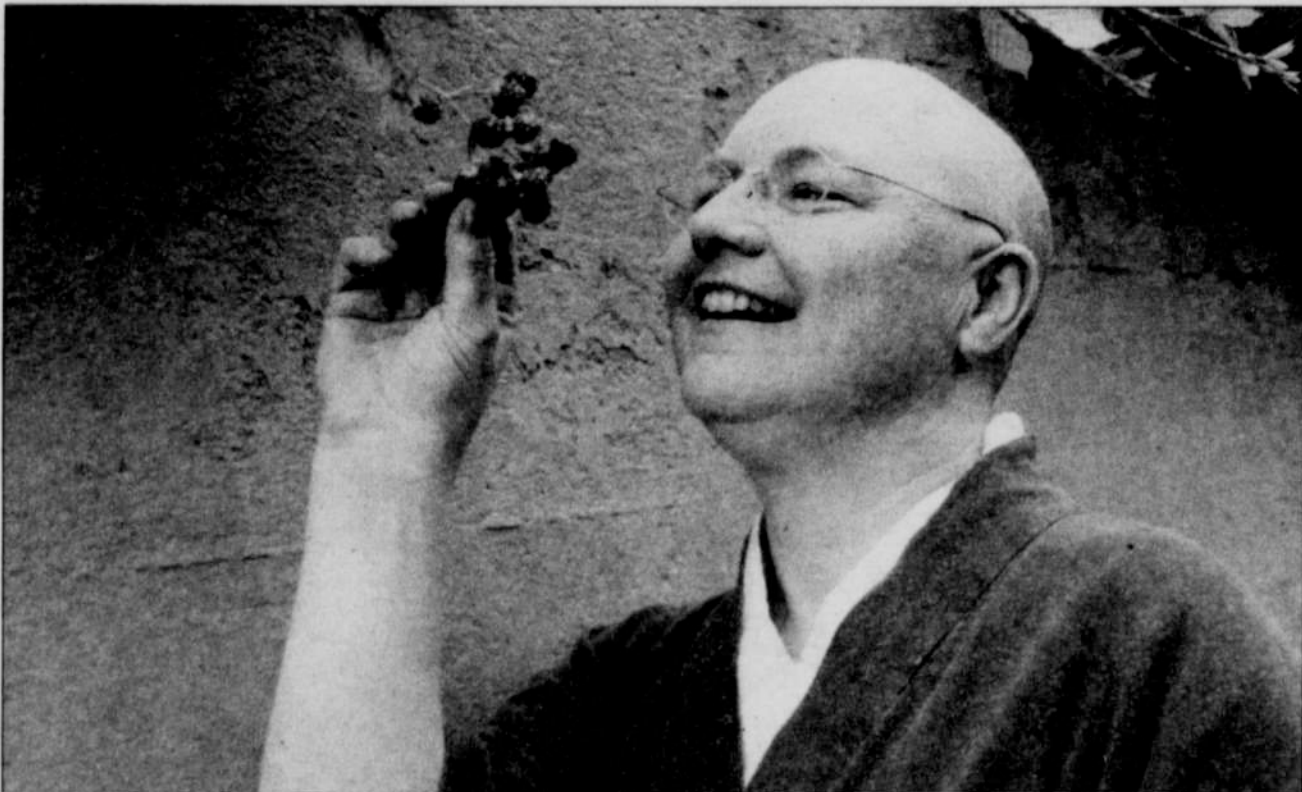
This year Pride of the Rose added the Mame Memorial Scholarship in honor of David Hamilton, who died June 4. The recipient, Ali Cotterill, received \$4,000. She is a student at The Art Institute of Portland studying digital film and photography. Cotterill is known as the founder of the Portland drag king troupe DK PDX. A music video she created was shown at Outfest in Los Angeles, one of the largest gay and lesbian film festivals in the country. After graduating, she plans to stay in Portland and continue to make shorts, working up to making a feature.

"It's totally a godsend, in terms of getting supplies for school," Cotterill said. "Scholarships are the biggest thing that allows me to continue to create."

This scholarship will help Cotterill continue to work on her thesis project, a documentary on her father.



MARTY DAVIS



MARTY DAVIS

Brad Larsen (above) of Soka Gakkai International and Sylvan Genko Rainwater, a priest at Dharma Rain Zen Center, demonstrate the wide variety of gay and lesbian people practicing Buddhism.