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Gretchen Miller Kafoury Award. Given for outstanding achievement for long-term work in the field of community development, the award is selected by former winners, including Kafoury herself.

In December 2005, DeMaster received the Advocacy Award from the National Alliance for Children and Families, honoring "her extraordinary 30-year support of low-income families," and she is the namesake for a local homeless shelter called Jean's Place.

"Jean is an incredibly inspiring leader who brings tireless energy and passion to her advocacy for our most impoverished," said Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso, chairwoman of the Human Solutions board. "Her efforts to draw attention to the lack of resources available have been one of the single greatest influences on the awareness of the rising issue of poverty in Multnomah County."

Prior to Human Solutions, DeMaster spent four years as executive director of the YWCA of Greater Portland and 11 years as executive director of Transition Projects. Since becoming executive director of Human Solutions, she has overseen the development and acquisition of 175 units of affordable housing as well as an 11-unit rehabilitation project and the creation of 32 units of permanent supportive housing. She is also leading Human Solutions in the pre-development of an additional 220 units in two complexes slated to be completed in 2010.

In addition to housing development, DeMaster has worked to improve access to and effectiveness of services for homeless families. She is working with Human Solutions staff to develop a multiservice center that will allow low-income and homeless families access to more than seven agencies under one roof.

"One of the greatest challenges that people in need face is having access to services. If we can create a centralized and convenient hub for access to a multitude of services, we can more efficiently stabilize lives and help people become self-sufficient," said DeMaster.

Trans People Remembered

Oregon State University's Queer Affairs Task Force is observing Trans Awareness Week through Nov. 19 to provide educational opportunities, create fun events that will start a dialogue around gender and raise awareness about the experiences faced by trans and genderqueer people. A variety of discussions, information sessions, films and presentations exploring transgender topics will culminate in a candlelight vigil from 8 to 9 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Memorial Union Quad on the OSU campus in Corvallis.

On Trans Day of Remembrance, allies from around the country will be gathering to honor people who have been violently targeted for their perceived gender identity.

A Wall of Remembering Lives will honor those who were murdered because of their perceived

gender identity through Nov. 19 at the Memorial Union Quad.

The Transcending Gender Film Festival is from 8 p.m. to midnight Nov. 16 in various locations, showing the films *Boy I Am*, *Two-Spirit People*, *Girl Inside* and *Black and White*.

For details call 541-737-6355 or e-mail queer.affairs@oregonstate.edu.

Entrepreneur Wins Business Owner of the Year

A Portland woman's entrepreneurial spirit has earned her a national award from the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and Wells Fargo. Noma Hanlon, president of Hanlon Brown Design in Portland, has been named LGBT Business Owner of the Year for 2007.

Hanlon Brown Design will be recognized and receive a \$5,000 cash grant at the chamber's 2007 dinner, "An Evening of Courage," Nov. 2 at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

"The contribution Hanlon Brown Design has made to the LGBT business community is truly remarkable," said Justin G. Nelson, the chamber's co-founder and president.

Chance Mitchell, the chamber's co-founder and CEO, added, "Noma has created a company that not only provides top-notch service to its clients but also is a key community leader."

Hanlon Brown Design has consistently ranked as one of the leading graphic design firms in the Pacific Northwest. As a certified queer business enterprise, it has excelled as a primary supplier to some of the top corporations in the United States. Hanlon is being recognized for her entrepreneurial spirit as demonstrated by her company's business performance, innovation, growth and personal service to the community.

"We are pleased to join the [chamber] in recognizing Hanlon Brown Design with this award," said Vincent Trombetta of San Francisco, senior vice president for Wells Fargo's small-business segment. "Noma and her team demonstrate the commitment to excellence, innovation and strong community focus that are the keys to entrepreneurship in America."



Noma Hanlon (left, with partner Gail Snow) was named LGBT Business Owner of the Year.