



Naughty and Nice

Storm and the Balls
Holiday Cabaret benefits
Q Center.

Take your pick from these holiday outings
by Julie Sabatier

Whether the holiday season is your favorite time of the year or just something you resign yourself to getting through, there's nothing quite like a fun and festive event to get you in the spirit of things. That's why *Just Out* has put together this guide to help you through this year's gay and gay-friendly, secular and religious, naughty and nice holiday events.

Perhaps one of the most anticipated events of the season will be **Storm and the Balls Holiday Cabaret**, a variety show to benefit Q Center 8 p.m. Dec. 13 at Wonder Ballroom, 128 N.E. Russell St. The star of the evening is Storm Large, the beloved Portland rock star who is fresh from her theatrical debut in Portland Center Stage's production of *Cabaret*.

"It's a really great opportunity because she's out as a bisexual, so it's great to have someone who's part of our community give a per-

formance and just give her time like that," said Q Center executive director Kendall Clawson. "I am a huge, ridiculous, shameless fan, so nothing could be better."

According to Wonder Ballroom's general manager, Howie Bierbaum, the event will be styled after a 1960s variety show, with special guests and more than a few surprises. Openly gay Portland City Commissioner and 2008 mayoral candidate Sam Adams will join Large onstage to sing a duet ("Baby It's Cold Outside," according to his staff).

"There's a really killer special guest who will close the show and blow everyone away, but I can't say who it is," Bierbaum said coyly. "It's going to be quite memorable."

Bierbaum says 20 percent of the night's profits will go to Q Center along with money collected for a vanilla vodka holiday drink special. This is a 21-and-older show with a full bar. Tickets are \$17 for

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Ghosts of the Past

Portlanders share holiday memories
Compiled by Jaymee R. Cuti

"My memorable Christmas story is from when we moved from Los Angeles to Newberg in 1972. All the years before, we wore shorts and Santa Claus was always carrying a surfboard and wearing sunglasses. In California, we always had white flocked trees, so they looked like they were covered with snow. That year, there were 7 inches of snow before Christmas, so we had a real white Christmas in our house in the country."



MARTY DAVIS

MICHAEL LONG

Portland Area Business Association board member, Human Rights Campaign governor, intellectual property/business attorney

"This is our 12th year to celebrate Christmas in Portland. We have no biological family that lives here, so our Christmas family is made up of a great circle of gay friends. Our best friend, Tom Peters, plays host on Christmas Day, and we all gather at his house for food, fellowship and games. Our other wonderful Christmas memory is going to the Portland Gay Men's Chorus concert. They give us the gift of music every Christmas season."



MARTY DAVIS

MARY BETH BRINDLEY AND EVELYN HALL

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