

outstanding

The Common Good

Samantha Swaim has made her mark in Portland with focus and passion for event management and fund raising. After graduating from University of Portland with a degree in theater management, she put her studies to work in Los Angeles, where she spent six years working in theater and television production. Swaim began managing numerous charitable events for the Grammy Awards and realized event planning was her true path.

After moving back to Portland in 2001, she started volunteering with organizations and successfully built a new client base. Samantha Swaim Fundraising and Event Management is now one of the leading businesses in our city that hosts charitable events. For more information visit www.samanthaswaim.com.

My name is Samantha Swaim.

I am known as a fund-raising consultant and event planner.

My cause is to help organizations that make a difference raise more money to do more work.

I am 33 years old. I feel 33 years old.

My childhood ambition was to be a medical research scientist and cure all diseases.

My first same-sex crush was on my camp counselor.

I like to spend my down time camping and doing outdoor activities.

My proudest moment was getting married in 2004 at the Multnomah County weddings.

My biggest challenge was starting a new business in Portland after already establishing myself in Los Angeles.

A perfect day in Portland would be spent at breakfast with friends, hiking in Forest Park, spending the afternoon in Powell's, then a good beer at the Bridgeport Brewery.

My first job was working in the Costco bakery.



Samantha Swaim rarely gets the spotlight for the philanthropic events she helps produce.

My vice is great food and great wine.

My inspiration is the entire community of Portland and how people are, in general, so conscious and thoughtful to one another.

The last queer or philanthropic event I participated in was the Basic Rights Oregon holiday party.

My highest hope for the cause is that we begin to live in a more philanthropic community where people come together and take care of each other. 10

—James Maxwell

just asking

Just Out asked revelers at Gay Skate Night, "What do you consider to be the most important news story of 2007?"



AMY TYRELL-MEISCH
Human Transformer

"I think the natural disaster in Vernonia is important to us. A lot of my family was affected by it. The domestic partnership story is also important because Oregon is pioneering for equal rights, which is very cool."



ERIC STEINHAUSER
Arts Administrator

"That a woman is running for president and a black man is running for president and they both have a chance."



AVA-SKSTRIX
Rose City Roller Girl

"All of our rights being on the line with the constitutional amendment that the president wanted to pass and all of our rights that passed here in Oregon."



KEVIN COULSON
Portland Gay Men's Chorus Singer

"Warrantless wire tapping of American citizens and their attempts now to absolve American phone companies of their complicity."

OREGON'S DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP LAW MAY NOT PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS



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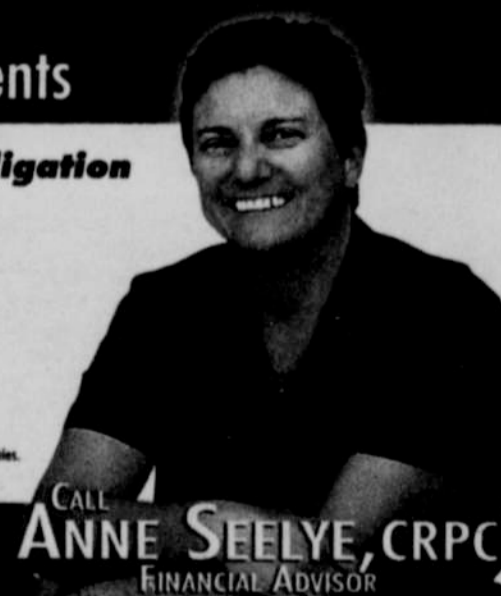
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